Bookaroo
Festival of Children’s Literature

 Entry on first come, first seated basis

contactus@bookaroo.in              www.bookaroo.in                        bookaroolitfest

85 SPEAKERS
9 COUNTRIES
120 SESSIONS

AGE 4-16

Date: November 30 & December 1, 2019
Time: 10:30 am to 5:30 pm
Venue: IGNCA, Dr Rajendra Prasad Road

ASSOCIATE

WORKSHOPS        STORYTELLING        DRAMA        ART & CRAFT

OTHER SPONSORS

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www.bookaroo.in
ABOUT IGNCA

The Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA), set up in November 1987, is visualised as a Centre for encompassing the study of arts, each form in its own integrity, yet within a dimension of mutual inter-dependence and inter-relatedness. Established under Ministry of Culture, Government of India, IGNCA serves as a major recourse centre for all the arts. It undertakes research, publications and documentations of various art forms and community specific studies.

ABOUT BOOKAROO

Bookaroo, a public charitable trust, endeavours to make books come alive through interactions between children and creators of books and storytellers.

The festival, which has travelled to 15 cities (14 in India and one in Malaysia) and has completed 35 editions in 11 years, focuses on ‘Reading for Pleasure’.

Bookaroo is also a winner of the Literary Festival Award at the London Book Fair’s International Excellence Awards, 2017 - the first time that an Indian children’s literature festival was recognised in the international arena.
10:30–11:30

KAHANI TREE

THE DRESS-UP MIX-UP | Karishma Mahbubani
It’s Showtime! Ramya is all set to dazzle her classmates with her costume. It’s going to be the best fancy dress competition ever. But little does she realise that a big surprise is in store for her.
Supported by the Book Lovers’ Program for Schools

STORIES UNDER THE SUN | Vasundhara Bahuguna
In a time not so long ago, in a place not so far away, were stories huddled in a corner, waiting to get away! We searched them up, we searched them down. And now they’re here, in your very own town!

12:00–13:00

AMPHITHEATRE

PACHAK, DHAMAAL AND BLOOSH! | Ashok Rajagopalan
Be ready for some seriously silly sounds as you join Gajapati Kulapati and Ashok in this session. What’s more, experience magic with moving pictures too.
Supported by Tulika

A. COVEN is a hybrid creature. She is a filmmaker, author, editor and philosopher.
15:00–16:00

CRAFTY CORNER

MAD ABOUT MASKS? | Mistunee Chowdhury
Make your own magnificent masks with a little help from Mistunee. (Limited Numbers)

THE STUDIO

AGE: 4–40
PICTURE THIS | Ruth Paul
Ever wondered what goes into the making of a picture book? Do the words come first or the art? See how Ruth makes a picture book from start to finish, then help her generate a story and cover illustration. Supported by the New Zealand High Commission

As a child, AREFA TEHSIN was often found trying to catch a snake or spin a yarn.

When ANUSHKA RAVISHANKAR is not chasing her own tail, she writes and edits books.
12:00–13:00

KAHANI TREE

MOTION IN THE OCEAN | Ruth Paul
Listen to some of Ruth’s stories from the deep blue, then help her act out ‘I Am Jellyfish’.
Supported by the New Zealand High Commission

THE GIRL WITH THE LAMP | Quek Hong Shin
Join Quek Hong Shin as he tells the story of Asha and her family moving to a new housing estate in Singapore. Discover how the brilliant oil lamp they own brightens the lives of many around them.
Supported by the National Arts Council, Singapore

THE AUDITORIUM

LET’S GO BIRDING | Devangana Dash
Listen carefully, the jungle is calling. Join the author of The Jungle Radio: Bird Songs as a junior birdwatcher in this colourful, and interactive storytelling session.
Supported by Puffin

ASHOK RAJAGOPALAN: main aim is to laugh and make people laugh.

All sessions on first-come-first seated basis. Some sessions can seat only limited numbers. Please cooperate with our volunteers.
15:00–16:00

THE WORKSHOP

LUCKY? THAT’S YOU! | Nalini Sorensen
Woof! Woof! That’s Lucky, the Cocker Spaniel puppy. But you’re lucky too! There is love, laughter, singing, artwork and more in this woofy session with Nalini and her latest chapter book series. Supported by HarperCollins

16:30–17:30

CRAFTY CORNER

SHARK ON THE PROWL | Neetu Sharma
A hungry shark is ready to gobble up everything that comes its way. Neetu can help you craft your way out. (Limited numbers)
THE STAGE

NAUGHTY BEAR, QUIET GIRL | Paro Anand

Two books, two animals, both with big hearts and bigger laughs. When they meet up with children, strange things are bound to happen. Watch an interactive storytelling session with performance storyteller and writer, Paro Anand.

Supported by HarperCollins

DOODLE WALL

A SUMMER SPECIAL | Shamika Chaves

What do you want to do next summer? Visit your grandparents’ or the beach? Learn a new recipe or master a game? With Shamika there is no end to the possibilities. (Limited Numbers)
KAHANI TREE

ARE YOU A-F-F-R-AID OF THE F-F-FOREST? | Deepti Ganesh
Lola’s pet dog Chacko has disappeared into the dark, scary forest. What horrors await him there? Is Lola’s love for Chacko greater than her fear of the forest? Will Chacko be found or will Lola be lost forever?
Supported by the Book Lovers’ Program for Schools

SABZIPUR VOTES | Sonia B Punhani
Paunchy Potato rules Sabzipur as a monarch. If elections were to happen, will Lazy Ladyfinger or Terrific Tomato or Cheeky Chilly stand a chance? Board the Pied Piper’s musical train to Sabzipur to find out.

THE STAGE

BULL’S-EYE! | Shumita Deveshwar
Follow the young Karna’s dream of becoming the world’s greatest archer in this unforgettable tale of bravery from Indian mythology. You can also take home a unique everlasting message.
(Limited Numbers)
Supported by Goodearth Publications

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Some sessions can seat only limited numbers.
Please cooperate with our volunteers.

DEEPTI AGARWAL feels that children are much more fun than grown-ups!

DEEPTI GANESH loves the beach and ice cream as much as she loves dancing.
16:30–17:30

KAHANI TREE

NEW TEETH FOR OLD | Bharat Shekhar
What does a crocodile do when he finds he has lost all his teeth? Hear how Dantu, with the help of his friend Chinchi Chirya, goes through many adventures and misadventures to get back all his teeth
Supported by Tulika

STORIES FROM THE BEAR | Bjørn Ingvaldsen
Did you know that Bjørn, means ‘bear”, the big white, sometimes brown, animal? In Norwegian tales you often meet animals, kings and mystical creatures. Here is a journey into some of these fairytales. Who will you meet today?

THE STAGE

KIDS JUST WANNA HAVE FUN! | Ken Spillman
From Jake to Daydreamer Dev, and Advaita to the feisty Jiyaa and Radhika, Spillman’s characters take on life’s challenges with imagination and humour. Get thinking and plotting with Ken.

DEVANGANA DASH
gets her inspiration from nature, picture books, music and tea.
10:30–11:30

STUDIO

THE MONGOL MONARCH

Nayanika Mahtani
Who was the real Genghis Khan? A bloodthirsty tyrant or a farsighted leader? Let’s take a closer look at this fascinating Khan. Supported by Puffin

AMPHITHEATRE

OF LIZARDS, BEES AND FUN

Khyrunnisa A
How attractive is a centipede? Or a lizard? ‘Ugh!? ’ ‘Yuck!? ’ Not any longer. Not after you have a hilarious time with Khyrunnisa and listen to how pests can easily become pets, at least between the covers of a book. Supported by Scholastic India

THE WORKSHOP

TRAVEL BACK IN TIME

Archana Garodia Gupta & Shruti Garodia
Take a trip back in time to experience a life of two great and fascinating Indian emperors. Imagine Akbar playing life-size chess and Krishna Deva Raya being guarded by women bodyguards... and much more! Supported by Hachette India
13:30–14:30

CRAFTY CORNER

AGAMOGRAPH | Neetu Sharma
Join in to craft an agamograph in which a dog actually gets his bone! (Limited numbers)

THE WORKSHOP

SMALL GODS | Anupam Arunachalam
There are many stories about Gods of big things like storms, fire and oceans. What if there were Gods for smaller things, like tiffin boxes and bad smells and making excuses? Hmmmm!
Supported by Hachette India

15:00–16:00

THE STAGE

THE ADVENTURES OF EMIL | Ruchira Das
If Mrs Tischbein had known the kind of adventures her son Emil would have in Berlin, she would never have let him go. Join Ruchira as she retraces Emil and the detectives’ footsteps in the classic novel by Erich Kästner.
Supported by Goethe-Institut/Max Mueller Bhavan

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10:30–11:30

THE PALMS

THE BICYCLE THIEF | Shruti Buddhavarapu
Did your mother steal bicycles? Or shut peacocks in a room? Do you want to tell your mother’s story? Imagine her childhood? Join up with author Shruti to find out more.
(Limited Numbers)

CRAFTY CORNER

POP A SURPRISE | Neetu Sharma
Surprise your best friend with a hand-crafted, neat, pop-up birthday card. (Limited Numbers)
15:00–16:00

KAHANI TREE

HARMONY HOUSE
Inês Pupo & Gonçalo Pratas
Imagine a house where everything is synchronised. The trust is unshakeable even in the face of adversity. How do the inmates react when the unexpected happens?
Supported by the Embassy of Portugal

PREMCHAND KE DO BAIL
Kapil Pandey
Listen up, humans!
Humaare jaanwar bhi kuch bolna chahte hain. Kya unhein sun paane ke liye kaan hain humaare?paas
(In Hindi and English)

16:30–17:30

THE WORKSHOP

A JOURNAL OF MEMORIES
Shamika Chaves
Memories have a way of getting lost sometimes. Come, let us gather them, stich together and tuck them away to savour later
(Limited Numbers)

LALITA IYER is being raised by two boys, one of whom is feline.

KARISHMA MAHBUBANI enjoys shooting balloons at the beach.
13:30–14:30

THE AUDITORIUM

OF WITCHES AND HAUNTED WELLS
Arefa Tehsin
Follow in the footsteps of renowned naturalist Raza H Tehsin, deep into the wilderness in the dead of night, hear the sounds carried on the wind. Are those anklet bells tinkling? Is that chattering laughter?

16:30–17:30

THE STUDIO

PENNING THE PAST: HOW TO WRITE HISTORY
Dr Devika Rangachari
Do you like to write? Do you like history? Do you want to write stories on history but don’t quite know how? Discover how to write about the past in this creative writing workshop on history.
(Limited Numbers)
Supported by Duckbill

NEETU SHARMA can spin magic out of paper, paste, waste and paint.

NALINI SORENSEN's inner child is insanely active and alive.
10:30–11:30

THE AUDITORIUM

THE CHASE FOR THE PERFECT CHILD  | Jane De Suza
Is our obsession with our children’s future backfiring? Are we unearthing potential or killing it? Join Jane De Suza, author of Flyaway Boy, for some tips and tricks on breaking stereotypes. (FOR PARENTS AND TEACHERS)
Supported by Puffin

13:30–14:30

AMPHITHEATRE

WATCH THE GATE, BUT DON’T LOCK IT  | Ken Spillman
Parents and teachers often act as gatekeepers, controlling the access of children to books by assessment of what is ‘good’ and ‘appropriate’. Ken Spillman explains why many ‘difficult’ subjects prove less than problematic for young readers. (FOR PARENTS AND TEACHERS)

CLUB ORIGAMI ORITAI
members practice this magical art that spreads love and peace.
10:30–11:30

KAHANI TREE

SARONG BY THE SEA | Quek Hong Shin
Nora and Adi are going to the beach and their mom passes them a sarong. They use the piece of cloth in many creative and unexpected ways throughout the course of the day.
Supported by the National Arts Council, Singapore

WOMAN OF THE MATCH | Ritika Subhash
Ramya wants to play cricket much more than colouring or playing with her dolls. But Pa thinks the sport is for boys. Is he right? Find out by joining the author, Ritika, for a fun storytelling session.
Supported by the Book Lovers’ Program for Schools

12:00–13:00

DOODLE WALL

SNIP! SNIP! | Canato Jimo
How would you like to style your hair today? Perhaps a crazy mohawk, some purple curls or a very high ponytail. Join Canato in creating your own characters with the craziest hair in town.

NEHA J HIRANANDAN’S favourite places to visit are the imaginary ones in her head.

All sessions on first-come-first seated basis. Some sessions can seat only limited numbers. Please cooperate with our volunteers.
SESSIONS & VENUE

NEELANJANA SINGH is a dietician who is nutty about food!

NANDITA BASU can be a musician, artist, grouchy teacher and cool artist.

All sessions on first-come-first seated basis. Some sessions can seat only limited numbers. Please cooperate with our volunteers.
10:30–11:30

THE PALMS

NATURE’S MYSTERIES  |  Team DK
Come and explore nature the DK way! Discover amazing facts about animals, plants, and creepy-crawlies through exciting activities.
Supported by DK India

12:00–13:00

KAHANI TREE

MONSTER MUNCHIES  |  Karishma Mahbubani
Icky! Ooky! Bubbly! Shubbly! What’s the worst thing you ever ate? Join Karishma Mahbubani and get set for a lip-smacking story, served with dollops of humour that will make you quiver and shiver, ache and quake.
Supported by the Book Lovers’ Program for Schools

RAJA AUR MANTRI KI KAHANI  |  Sumit Joshi, Groove Gully
Pick up the shakers and jam along with Joshi as he sings the story of the Raja and wise Mantri. (In Hindi and English)
Supported by Groove Gully

INÊS PUPO
likes to have fun, travel and bring Portuguese words to life around the world.

GONÇALO PRATAS
likes to play everywhere to bring his music to everyone.

All sessions on first-come-first seated basis. Some sessions can seat only limited numbers. Please cooperate with our volunteers.
15:00–16:00

THE STAGE

SONGS OF CHILDHOOD | Inês Pupo & Gonçalo Pratas
Join Ines and Goncalo as they blend poetry with rhythm to create music that makes childhood days magical. Yours too!
Supported by the Embassy of Portugal

16:30–17:30

THE STAGE

STORIES NEVER DIE | Ken Spillman
Not only does Ken Spillman write stories, he also carries around thousands of others - not once getting charged for excess baggage. Learn how stories from the classics to the new will shape the person you become.

RITU KHODA gets children to discover the artist within them.
GOPA TRIVEDI’s favourite art form is Miniature.
10:30–11:30

THE STAGE

WATCH, WRITE AND DRAW A STORY  |  Ruth Paul
Join author-illustrator Ruth Paul in creating stories of your own as she tells you a few of her favourite stories and draws them too.
Supported by the New Zealand High Commission

CRAFTY CORNER

DAY AND NIGHT  |  Neetu Sharma
Come, turn the wheel and watch day turn into night. What happens next? (Limited Numbers)

RUCHIKA CHANANA  
RUCHIKA CHANANA nags people a lot to save water and trees.

RITUPARNA GHOSH  
RITUPARNA GHOSH discovered the child in herself and decided never to grow up!

All sessions on first-come-first seated basis. Some sessions can seat only limited numbers. Please cooperate with our volunteers.
15:00–16:00

CRAFTY CORNER

FISHAROO! | Ruth Paul
There is something fishy going on at the Crafty Corner. Care to dive into it to see what it is?
Supported by the New Zealand High Commission

DOODLE WALL

COMIC CUTS | Sekhar Mukherjee
Bring the wall to life with wild colours, crazy sounds, magical monsters, amazing animals, giggling ghosts. Chose a colour and let the fun begin. (Limited Numbers)
Supported by Puffin

SESSIONS & VENUE

MORNING SPECIAL
PRE-REGISTERED SESSION 9:30–10:15
A TREE WALK WITH KAVITA | Kavita Prakash
Trees protect, heal, offer a spiritual connect and some even house fairies and gnomes while breathing life into our world all the time! But are we doing enough for the ‘gurujan’?

RUTH PAUL
and her family live in a straw-bale house with her dog Teddy.

All sessions on first-come-first seated basis. Some sessions can seat only limited numbers. Please cooperate with our volunteers.
10:30–11:30

THE STUDIO

MEET, GREET AND EAT  | Neelanjana Singh
What do brinjal, carrot and pumpkin have in common? You guessed it! These are the foods we should eat but some of us hate to. And what do these foods have in common with burgers, pizzas and pasta? Let’s find out.
Supported by TERI

THE AUDITORIUM

ImagiNATION!  | Deepa Agarwal
There are so many kinds of worlds, but this one is oh-so-different! Because here girls are not allowed to... and boys have to... Ooooh, we can’t tell! Come and find out. And bring along your thinking cap too!

DOODLE WALL

WHICH BIRD IS THAT?  | Delphine Renon
Join Delphine to create your own bird. Make sure it does not fly away! (Limited Numbers)
Supported by Institut Francais

SHAMIKI CHAVES’ work is inspired by the simple joys of everyday life.

SHALINI BANSAL believes that stories open the doors of imagination and communication.

All sessions on first-come-first seated basis. Some sessions can seat only limited numbers. Please cooperate with our volunteers.
13:30–14:30

THE STUDIO

CLIMATE CHAMPION TO THE RESCUE
Bijal Vachharajani
Mumbai is reeling from the effect that Bhura Cloudus has unleashed. All are worried. Are you ready to tackle the global emergency of climate change? Come, find out in this eye-opening session. (Limited numbers)
Supported by Writer’s Side

THE AUDITORIUM

THE VOYAGERS
Arefa Tehsin
Some animals that travel the world with their wings and fins and feet can put our greatest travellers to shame. Want to know more about such creatures? Join in.
16:30–17:30

THE STAGE

GRITTY GIRLS | Neha J Hiranandani
From travelling to outer space to conquering peaks to swimming from Sri Lanka to India in the middle of the night, Indian women have done it all. Join Neha to discover these heroines like you’ve never seen them before!
Supported by Scholastic India

THE STUDIO

STORIES IN SHADOWLAND | Bhagirathy S
Let’s make colourful puppets and watch all the shadows come alive. (Limited Numbers)
Supported by the Book Lovers’ Program for Schools

THE AUDITORIUM

COMPLETELY CAFFALACIOUS! | Sampurna Chattarji and Eurig Salisbury
Join authors Sampurna Chattarji and Eurig Salisbury as they introduce you to the wondrous whimsicality and beautiful beastliness of words – invented, real, cultural. An adventure involving word-swaps and topsy-turvy terrains awaits you. (Limited Numbers)
Supported by Scholastic India

SWAGATA SEN PILLAI, a Bharatanatyam dancer and theatre practitioner, is a storyteller at heart.

All sessions on first-come-first seated basis. Some sessions can seat only limited numbers. Please cooperate with our volunteers.
10:30–11:30

AMPHITHEATRE

KALIDAS: FROM DUD TO DUDE | Nandini Sengupta
Supported by Goodearth Publications

12:00–13:00

THE AUDITORIUM

THIEVING FATHER | Bjørn Ingvaldsen
What does a boy do if his father is a thief, a crook? Should he run away from the angry world or fight it? How do you think he should react? Find out with Bjorn what happens next in his story.
Supported by NORLA

SHUMITA DEVESHWAR rediscovered children’s books thanks to her two boys.

All sessions on first-come-first seated basis. Some sessions can seat only limited numbers. Please cooperate with our volunteers.
THE AUDITORIUM

WRITING WITH PICTURES AND DRAWING WITH WORDS | Quek Hong Shin
Where do story ideas come from? How does a pencil line become a drawing? Young aspiring writers and artists can get some tips from Hong Shin as he talks about his creative journey as an author-illustrator.
Supported by the National Arts Council, Singapore

THE WORKSHOP

FRAMES OF FRIENDSHIP | Nandita Basu
Let’s draw a comic strip about the adventures in your friendship. Is your friend a secret superhero? An alien? Or a doggie?
(Limited Numbers)
Supported by Duckbill

SONIA B PUNHANi lures one into a world where one craves for story after story.

All sessions on first-come-first seated basis.
Some sessions can seat only limited numbers.
Please cooperate with our volunteers.
10:30–11:30

THE WORKSHOP

MY ZINE. MY STORY  |  Debasmita Dasgupta
Let’s tell a story with pictures! (Limited Numbers)
Supported by Scholastic India

12:00–13:00

THE WORKSHOP

THE ART IN CALLIGRAPHY  |  Qamar Dagar
Is it writing? Is it art? Come discover the joy in calligraphy with Qamar Dagar as she takes you through the creative process of this delightful visual art. (Limited Numbers)

13:30–14:30

AMPHITHEATRE

LIGHT AT THE END OF THE TEEN TUNNEL  |  Himanjali Sankar
Meet Irfan, Uma and Rishi, characters from Himanjali’s book The Lies we Tell. How real are their anxieties and insecurities? Come let’s talk about all this and more. (Limited Numbers)
Supported by Duckbill

All sessions on first-come-first seated basis. Some sessions can seat only limited numbers. Please cooperate with our volunteers.
13:30–14:30

KAHANI TREE

OF WALKING TREES AND TALKING PUMPKINS | Deepa Agarwal
What’s the most wonderful thing about stories? The people or the possibilities? The adventures or the emotions? So listen closely and find out for yourself.

MAKDI MAUSI TO THE RESCUE | Kapil Pandey
People of the Earth - Wake up! It is time to act now. Our good old makdi mausi will not keep coming back to save the day.

15:00–16:00

AMPHITHEATRE

FEAR FEAR NO MORE | Debasmita Dasgupta, Eva Sanchez, Richa Jha, Tanu Shree Singh
What would you do if your child was scared? How do you answer her queries? Do you also feel scared sometimes? A panel discussion.

(FOR PARENTS AND TEACHERS)

16:30–17:30

KAHANI TREE

WHOSE LINE IS IT ANYWAY? | ‘String’ Quintet
An unfinished race. The eternal conflict between good and evil. Dreams come true. Dare to soar and touch the sky. Are these just lines? Or is there something more to it than meets the eye?
LOOK WHO’S HERE!

Many moons ago, **Bharat Shekhar** bid adieu to the 9 to 9 grind that made him bald, drained and de-brained. He now thanks his stars as he can write when he wants to, and doodle when he doesn’t.

When **Bijal Vachharajani** is not reading Harry Potter or worrying about climate change, she can be found traipsing around the jungles of India. When you meet her, ask her why she is known as Editor Scissorhands.

**Bjørn Ingvaldsen** has been a writer for as long as he can remember. A majority of the 60 books that he has written are for children. He lives by the sea in the south of Norway. He has three girls and three grandchildren, all of whom love listening to stories.

**Canato Jimo** comes from Nagaland. He loves singing, travelling and, as part of his day job as an Art Director, watching picture books come to life.

**Debasmita Dasgupta** is a Singapore-based, internationally-published picture book illustrator and graphic novel artist. As an art-for-change advocate she is telling stories of changemakers. She is also the co-founder of Picture Book Matters in Asia.

**Deepa Agarwal** has written over 50 books. She’s a habitual eavesdropper, finding inspiration for her stories from overheard snatches of conversation. She adores the company of little people. They are much more fun than grownups, she feels!

**Deepti Ganesh** is a ballet dancer, storyteller and editor with Ms Moochie Books. She loves the beach and ice cream almost as much as dancing and reading. A diehard editor, she will correct your language in a beat.

**Delphine Renon** lives and works in Paris. She has been working in children’s publishing for about 20 years. She is now working through different media such as illustration and ceramics.

**Devangana Dash** is a designer, illustrator and book maker. The Jungle Radio: Bird Songs of India is her first picture book. She gets inspiration from nature (especially birds and sea turtles), picture books, music and a cup of chai.

**Dorling Kindersley (DK)** is the world’s leading illustrated reference publisher of high-quality books and online resources for children and adults. Established in 1974 in London, DK produces content in over 87 countries, and in 62 languages.
As a boy, Ken Spillman imagined becoming a professional sportsman or musician, little imagining that imagination was his greatest gift. The author of 80 books, he lives in Australia but sometimes wishes he didn’t.

Khyrunnisa is a storyteller who loves animals... from a great distance in real life, but she becomes one with them in her fun stories and makes even a termite loveable.

Lalita Iyer writes for little people and big people and the little people in big people. She is being raised by two boys, one of whom is feline.

Likla is Art1st’s resident writer. From a past life as a dancer, she retains her love for movement. She is an absolute bibliophile, laughs at all jokes, believes kindness is quintessential and lives for ideas!

A restless explorer, Rohina Thapar’s design is a self-reflective process, a quest to understand the bigger picture. She often finds unexpected bits of herself in the lively illustrations that she makes.

Freelance illustrator, animator, painter and sculptor Mistunee Chowdhury loves to play with colours, styles, paper, clothes and clay. She grew up in Shantiniketan where she developed her creativity in art. Eraser sculpture is her current hobby.

Nalini Sorensen is an award-winning author whose inner child is insanely active and alive. She loves children, dogs, and books - in no particular order. She’s laughing, mostly at herself, and is ever the optimist.

The only thing Nandini Sengupta loves more than time travelling through her stories is doing so while being dog-licked to distraction. Psst: here’s a secret, dog slobber is actually good for your imagination.

Nandita Basu can be a lot of things - sometimes a musician, sometimes a comic book artist, sometimes a grouchy teacher, sometimes a really cool artist, and sometimes the most uncool, boring human on earth.

Nayanika Mahtani once harboured dreams of being a stage actor but became an investment banker instead. She is now an author and screenwriter. She lives in London with her family and their goldfish named Sushi and Fishfinger.

A dietician who is nutty about food, Neelanjana Singh is one who knows the secret to being super energetic and fighting fit without losing out on good taste. She can convince you to eat just about anything!
Gopa Trivedi is fascinated by tiny things like details in everyday spaces and, of course, her favourite art form - Miniature. She is an artist, illustrator as well as a mentor.

Rituparna Ghosh caught the oral bug when she started telling stories to her son. A professional storyteller, trainer and consultant, she has discovered the child in herself and has decided never to grow up again!

Ruchika Chanana spends her time writing, editing, acting, conducting workshops and making up stories to fill the bottomless appetite of her son. She also nag people a lot to save water and trees.

Ruchira Das wears many hats but she loves the ThinkArts hat the most since it allows her to create and explore imaginative experiences for children through storytelling.

Ruma Ghosh’s journey has been a long, long walk through the dales and vales of storytelling - on stage, radio, television and film - ever since she was six. She has not tired yet.

Ruth Paul is an award-winning writer and illustrator of children’s picture books and a recent New Zealand Arts laureate. She and her family live off-grid in a straw house on a farm with her adorable dog, Teddy.

Sampurna Chattarji writes books, teaches writing, wears silver, talks fast and is actually pronounced Shompurna.

Eurig Salisbury writes books, gives lectures, plays football, tires quickly and is actually pronounced Eirig.

A design educator, animation film designer and graphic novelist, Sekhar Mukherjee is currently the director of NID, Andhra Pradesh. He is also the art director of Chitrakatha - a biennial International Student Festival of Design Stories.

Shalini Bansal, the founder of The Magic Tree, is an early childhood education specialist and a professional storyteller. She believes that the best way to open doors of imagination and communication is through stories.

Shamika Chaves is an illustrator and graphic designer based in Mumbai. Her work is inspired by the simple joys of everyday life. Shamika’s first book is Your Journal of Memories.

Shruti Buddhavarapu is a writer and editor currently living in New Delhi. She loves listening to and telling stories - especially if they involve fantastical creatures.
In Collaboration with Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts

ASSOCIATE

OTHER SPONSORS

SUPPORTERS