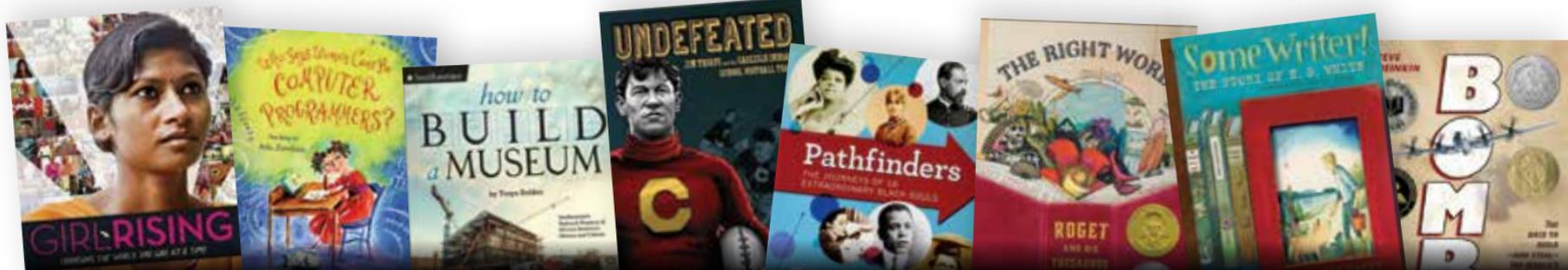


A Conference for Teachers of Grades 3 to 8 and School Librarians



THE NONFICTION WRITER'S TOOLBOX



May 9, 2018

John F. Kennedy Presidential Library
and Museum

For Exploring History and Other Subjects

THE NONFICTION WRITER'S TOOLBOX

“*Passionate nonfiction offers readers the tools that allow them to make sense of the world, to put the pieces of the puzzle together, form opinions, learn what has happened in the past, and ponder the future—their future and ours. . . . They challenge our teens to explore, to question, to think.*”
– Tanya Lee Stone

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High-quality nonfiction has the power to engage young readers with subjects across the curriculum. Introducing your students to the tools used in creating a nonfiction book can have great benefits as well. For experienced authors know how to work their way into understanding a subject *through* the process of writing. How does the sentence-by-sentence crafting of a story enable them to clarify their ideas? What strategies do they use for investigating sources and fact-checking? Can their books serve as mentor texts for helping students to develop their own ability to think and learn through writing?

Explore these and other questions with four of today's most outstanding authors of nonfiction for children and young adults. The program also features a pioneering educator whose approach to the teaching of writing in all subjects and grades has gained national attention.



Tonya Bolden writes richly documented narratives about the contributions of African Americans, both famous and little-known, that shed new light on US history for young readers. Her 2017 Orbis Pictus honor book, *How To Build a Museum*, tells the fascinating back story of the Smithsonian's National Museum of African American History and Culture. Other recent titles include *Pathfinders: The Journeys of 16 Extraordinary Black Souls*; and *Facing Frederick: The Life of Frederick Douglass*. Tonya received the 2016 Children's Book Guild Nonfiction Award for the body of her work.



Steve Sheinkin is a reformed textbook writer whose narrative nonfiction books read like thrillers. Three of his titles have been National Book Award finalists, including *Bomb: The Race to Build—and Steal—the World's Most Dangerous Weapon*; and *The Port Chicago 50: Disaster, Mutiny, and the Fight for Civil Rights*. His newest book is *Undeclared: Jim Thorpe and the Carlisle Indian School Football Team*. Steve also writes and draws the "Walking and Talking" cartoon series in *School Library Journal*, based on his conversations with other YA and children's authors.



Tanya Lee Stone was an editor of children's nonfiction before launching her own career as an author. With more than 100 titles to her credit, she is noted for writing "stories that are missing from our histories or little-told." Her award-winning books include *Courage Has No Color* and *Almost Astronauts: 13 Women Who Dared to Dream*, which received the ALA's Sibert Medal for most distinguished informational book. Tanya's newest title is *Girl Rising: Changing the World One Girl at a Time*.



Melissa Sweet is an illustrator and author who brings a sense of playfulness combined with in-depth research to her distinctive mixed-media collages and her writing. Two of her picture book biographies have won the NCTE Orbis Pictus Award: *Some Writer! The Story of E.B. White*; and *Balloons Over Broadway: The True Story of the Puppeteer of Macy's Parade*. Melissa has also garnered Caldecott honors for *A River of Words: The Story of William Carlos Williams*; and *The Right Word: Roget and His Thesaurus* (both written by Jen Bryant).



Keynote Speaker

Judith C. Hochman is the creator of the Hochman Method and founder of The Writing Revolution, a nonprofit dedicated to training teachers and school leaders in implementing this explicit set of evidence-based strategies for teaching writing. Dr. Hochman is the former Head of The Windward School in White Plains, New York for students with learning disabilities, and founder of the Windward Teacher Training Institute. Her book, *The Writing Revolution: A Guide to Advancing Thinking Through Writing in All Subjects and Grades* (co-authored by Natalie Wexler) was published in 2017.

Program at a Glance

- 8:00 Registration, Book Browsing
- 8:30 Introduction
- 8:45 **"Tools for Writing True Stories That Speak to Young Readers"**
Panel discussion with Tonya Bolden, Steve Sheinkin, Tanya Lee Stone and Melissa Sweet – moderated by Professor Mary Ann Cappiello, Lesley University
- 10:00 Book Browsing, Conversation with Colleagues
- 10:30 **"Constructing Knowledge—One Sentence at a Time"**
Presentation by Judith Hochman
- 11:30 Lunch
- 12:30 Concurrent Sessions I:
 - A. Meet the Author: Steve Sheinkin** (60 minutes)
 - B. Meet the Author/Illustrator: Melissa Sweet** (60 minutes)
 - C. The Writing Revolution: An Introductory Workshop with Judith Hochman and Dina Zoleo, Senior Faculty, The Writing Revolution** (70 minutes)
- 1:45 Concurrent Sessions II:
 - D. Meet the Author: Tonya Bolden** (60 minutes)
 - E. Meet the Author: Tanya Lee Stone** (60 minutes)
 - F. The Writing Revolution: An Introductory Workshop with Judith Hochman and Dina Zoleo** (70 minutes)
- 3:00 Conclusion, Book Signing

More detailed information on the program and speakers is available at www.jfklibrary.org/profdev

Registration Form

Registrations are accepted in the order in which they are received. *Conference space is limited—please register early.*

Name_____

Home address_____

City/State_____ Zip code_____

Phone_____

Email address_____

School/organization_____

Grade/position_____

List choices for Concurrent Sessions I (A, B or C):

1st choice_____ 2nd choice_____

List choices for Concurrent Sessions II (D, E or F):

1st choice_____ 2nd choice_____

Early registration: \$95 if received by March 21
Regular registration: \$115, deadline is April 12

Registration fee includes handouts, morning coffee and lunch. To reduce carbon footprint, we are sending confirmations via email. Help us by including your email address. Please make check or purchase order payable to **John F. Kennedy Library Foundation**, and mail with completed registration form to:

Sam Rubin
John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum
Columbia Point
Boston, MA 02125

For information, contact Sam Rubin, sam.rubin@nara.gov or Esther Kohn, esther.kohn@nara.gov.

Note: *The John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum does not sell or share your personal information or email address.*