

OELMA 2011 AUTHORS



Jamie McKenzie is the Editor of **From Now On - The Educational Technology Journal** as well as **The Question Mark** and **No Child Left**. In these journals, he has argued for an increased commitment to professional development to support student exploration and reasoning. Jamie has also been a contributing editor to **eSchool News** and the **Classroom Connect** newsletter.

Prior to devoting himself to full time speaking and writing in 1997, Jamie was the Director of Libraries, Media and Technology for the Bellingham (WA) Public Schools - a district of 18 schools and 10,000 students fully networked with 2000 pcs all tied to the Internet by 1994-95.

Jamie has published a new book to be released September 2011, *Lost and Found: A Guide to Discovery Learning through Purposeful Wandering*. In his new book, McKenzie provides an entertaining and enlightening guide to discovery learning that is sure to delight and surprise the reader.

New York Times bestselling author Cinda Williams Chima grew up with talking animals and kick-butt Barbies. She began writing romance novels in junior high school. Her Heir Chronicles young adult contemporary fantasy series includes *The Warrior Heir* (2006), *The Wizard Heir* (2007), and *The Dragon Heir* (2008), all from Hyperion, with two more books forthcoming.

Chima's best-selling YA high fantasy Seven Realms series launched with *The Demon King* (2009), followed by *The Exiled Queen* (September, 2010) with *The Gray Wolf Throne* scheduled for fall, 2011. There are four books planned.

Chima's books have received starred reviews in Kirkus and VOYA, among others. They have been named Booksense and Indie Next picks, an International Reading Association Young Adult Choice, a New York Public Library Book for the Teen Age, to the Kirkus Best YA list, and the VOYA Editors' Choice, Best Science Fiction, Fantasy and Horror, and Perfect Tens lists.



Originally from Cincinnati Ohio, Richard Cowdrey graduated from The Columbus College of Art and Design in 1981. After briefly working at Hallmark Greeting Cards, in Kansas City Missouri, he has been a freelance illustrator working with many distinguished clients. Richard believes that creating a successful illustration is a process of collaboration between illustrator and designer, a process of directing and taking direction, of conceiving and exchanging ideas, and completion of final artwork.



Phillip Hoose is the widely-acclaimed author of books, essays, stories, songs and articles, including the National Book Award winning book, *Claudette Colvin: Twice Towards Justice*.



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The fascination with books came early in Steven Kellogg's childhood. He spent many hours drawing and creating stories and learning how the pictures and text should work together.

Steven noticed early in life that not all grownups enjoyed their jobs and he was determined to choose a job that he really loved. After he honed his creative talents through high school he attended Rhode Island School of design where he majored in illustration.

Steven's determination to stick to his dream has brought many wonderfully illustrated books to children's literature. His first book was published in 1967 and he has gone on to illustrate over 100 books. Steven currently creates his whimsical illustrations and tall tales in an old farmhouse in Connecticut where he lives with his wife Helen.

Alex Flinn is a former lawyer and the author of seven books, which appeal to ravenous and reluctant readers alike. Her first book, *Breathing Underwater*, was an American Library Association Top-10 Best Book for Young Adults and was the only novel included in Liz Claiborne Corporation's curriculum on domestic violence, distributed to thousands of schools. Her books have received other honors including Publisher's Weekly Flying Starts, International Reading Association's Young-Adult Choices list, Junior Library Guild selection, American Library Association Quick Picks for Reluctant Young Adult Readers, Booklist Top-10 Youth Mysteries, and VOYA Editor's Choice. Her novel, *Beastly*, will be released as a major motion picture in July, 2010. She lives in Miami with her husband and two daughters. Visit Alex on the web at www.alexflinn.com.



Sarah Darer Littman, writer, mother, and unpaid chauffeur, is a living example of the cliché, "Life Begins at 40." After spending much of her adult life doing things she didn't really plan to, including such diverse occupations as financial analyst and farmer's wife, she at long last found her true calling as a writer. She indulges her adult voice as a columnist for the Hearst Newspapers in southern CT, and the political website CTNewsJunkie.com. Sarah lives in CT with her family and a fluffy white writing assistant named Benny.