

Lee Wardlaw's Presentations and Workshops for Adults

Lee Wardlaw swears that her first spoken word was 'kitty'. Since then, she's shared her life with 30 cats (not all at the same time!) and published close to 30 award-winning books for young readers - including picture books, easy-readers, first chapter books, novels, nonfiction, short stories and poetry – which have sold more than one million copies world wide.

Lee also wears an educator's hat: a former elementary and pre-school teacher, she has a B.A. in Education, an AMI-Montessori Primary Diploma from the Montessori Institute of San Diego, and is finishing her M.Ed. at Loyola University, Maryland. She has 35+ years experience presenting lectures and workshops (both on site and via Skype) to students, teachers, librarians, parents, budding writers, and others interested in children's literature.

Organizations that have hosted Lee include:

- Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators (SCBWI)
- California Reading Association
- California School Library Association
- Chapters of the National Association for the Education of Young Children
- First 5 California
- Santa Barbara Writers' Conference
- Oklahoma Writers' Federation, Inc.
- Cat Writers' Association
- Florida Association for Media in Education
- American Association of University Women
- Oregon Association of School Libraries
- Alpha Delta Kappa
- ...and more!

Lee is available for both on-site and Skype presentations. For more information regarding schedules, fees, hand-outs, etc., please contact Lee at <u>author@leewardlaw.com</u>

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From Shelter to Shelf: How an Abandoned Shelter Cat Became an Award-Winning Children's Book

A lively, interactive presentation for students, educators, parents, writers & pet-lovers! Join Lee on her life's journey as a writer and cat-lover: from her first spoken word ('kitty!')...to first written book (at age 7)...to award-winning author of 30 books and owner of 30 cats. Features tips on how to get ideas for stories from your own life; the writing/revision process; steps to publication, and more.



What Every Children's Author/Illustrator Should Know about Children, Tweens and Teens

How can a writer create books for young readers with great childappeal? Study child development. But what if you lack the cash, time, energy, and desire to pursue a child development degree? No problem! This workshop is a lively, informative crash course that

covers the dramatic physical, intellectual, emotional, and psychological changes children experience from infancy through adolescence. Knowing what these changes are, and when and how they appear, can help writers choose age-appropriate themes; construct believable, authentic character; and hook kid-readers from the very first sentence.



The Curse of Verse: Why Editors Hate Poetry in Picture Books (and How You Can Change Their Minds!)

If you've written a picture book in rhyme, is your manuscript doomed to a life of rejection? What if you wrote your picture book in free verse? Or haiku? Or a series of concrete poems? Is it cursed

to remain slush even before you've addressed and stamped that SASE? The answer to all the above: A resounding NO. This workshop covers the basics of writing great picture books in verse, focusing on the areas: the primacy of story and character; to rhyme or not to rhyme?; poetic structure, form, and style; setting mood and tone; rhythm, cadence and the musicality of language; developing your personal poetic voice.

Additional workshops include:

- Happily-Ever-After: Writing Picture Books for Children
- The Big Bad Editor vs. Little Red Writing Hood: How to

- Eight Things I Learned from My Cats about Writing Haiku: A Writer's Workshop for Teachers
- Everything I Know about Being a Children's Book Author I Learned from My Cats