

#LitFest2444

9-10 April 2018

Pen Paper Pixels



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#LitFest2444
9-10 APRIL 2018 • PORT MACQUARIE

**Storytelling
Festival for
High School
Students**

Call 6583 2632 to get your tickets

Poetry | JournalWriting | PodCasting | StoryDevelopment
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www.litfest2444.com.au  



Who's Who



FAVEL PARRETT
Past the Shallows

Favel Parrett is an Australian writer who loves to surf. Her first novel, *Past the Shallows*, was shortlisted for the Miles Franklin Literary award 2012, and she was awarded the Antarctic Arts Fellowship to complete research for her second novel, "When the Night Comes".



WILL KOSTAKIS
How I got a book deal in high school (and other accidents)

Will Kostakis signed his first book deal in Year 12. Some people can have their wildest dreams come true at a young age and remain level-headed... Will learned very quickly that he was not one of those people. He would introduce himself as "Will Kostakis-Ihaveabookcomingout" and let's just say ...it didn't go to plan. So how did he get a book deal so young, what went wrong, and what did he learn?



OLIVER PHOMMAVANH
Author Talk

Oliver Phommavanh loves to make people laugh, whether it's on the page writing humour for kids or on stage as a stand-up comedian. He also shares his passion for writing with kids, using his experience as a primary school teacher. His books include *Thai-riffic!*, *Punchlines*, *The Other Christy* and his latest book is *Super Con-nerd*, the sequel to *Con-nerd*.



OLLIE BROOKE
How and Why to Deliver a TED Talk

Ollie Brooke is an entrepreneur based in Port Macquarie. His business 'Cloud Concepts' is a website development and software consulting agency servicing dozens of clients all over New South Wales. With a strong background in software development, Ollie is a firm believer in the power of a systematic approach to both his business products and services and life itself.

Over the years, his interest in philosophy and existentialism, coupled with a desire to figure things out, has led him to create a successful business which he uses to help him contribute to the wider community through both event sponsorship and public speaking engagements.



ALICE PUNG
Finding your Voice

Alice Pung is a writer and lawyer who loves teaching. Alice's books are studied in secondary schools and universities in Australia as well as the United States, and she has taught writing workshops to students from the ages of 8 to 80 in Australia, China and the States.

Often, young adults think their lives are boring and uneventful, so choose to write in a way that replicates older writers/television/popular fiction/the Twilight series. Her workshop encourages students to find their true voice by looking at their own experiences, families and feelings; and to use their writing as a tool of discovering more about their own worlds, and not the vicarious world of others.



CANDY BOWERS & LORIN ELIZABETH
Slam Poetry

Candy Bowers is an award-winning theatre-maker, playwright, actor, poet, speaker, activist and producer. The co-artistic director of Black Honey Company, Candy has pioneered a fierce sub-genre of multidisciplinary hip-hop theatre that produces work that stills hearts and provokes minds.

Lorin Elizabeth is a spoken-word poet, teaching artist and feminist who co-founded the Enough Said poetry slam and is published in *Going Down Swinging's* audio anthology. Lorin has toured the USA poetry slam circuit, featured at the Women of the World Poetry Slam in Albuquerque, New Mexico, and self-published an EP titled *Poems*.



JAMES PHELAN
Writing to Thrill: a writer's journey

Dr James Phelan is an award-winning and bestselling author of twenty-seven novels and one work of non-fiction. A full-time author since 2006, He has sold over five million copies world-wide. He wanted to be a novelist but first tried his hand at architecture before turning to writing, spending five years at *The Age*, and obtaining an MA (Writing) & PhD (YA literature). He has written five geo-political thrillers featuring ex-Australian Navy operative turned investigative reporter Lachlan Fox, as well as the *ALONE* trilogy of YA post-apocalyptic novels.



RACHEL WATTS
Go with your heart: creativity and getting words out of your head

Rachel Watts is a writer from Perth, Western Australia. She has a Master's Degree in Media and Communication from Curtin University, with a focus on creative writing. A recovering journalist, she now writes fiction and creative non-fiction. She has been published in *Island*, *Kill Your Darlings*, *The Big Issue*, *Tincture Journal* and more. Her young adult novella *Survival* will be released in 2018.



ROB FELDMAN
Comedy in Comics - How I Think/Write/Draw Them

Rob Feldman is a Sydney-based comic artist, humourist, and author/illustrator who produces original comic-style books for all ages. His work ranges from the nonsensical and corny to the satirical and thought-provoking. Rob's comic book titles are published by *Comicoz* and *Mirthworks*. He is a member of the Australian Cartoonists Association and Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators. With a background in performing and teaching, Rob is passionate about inspiring a love of reading, writing, and drawing in young audiences.



MICHAEL WILKIE
Documentary Film Making-Documenting #LitFest2444

Michael Wilkie knows all about film production. He was awarded Young Australian Citizen of the Year in 2012, *LowePro Asia Pacific Ambassador*, *International Loupe Award* and was shortlisted in the *World Photography organisation- Photographer*, amongst others. Michael is returning to #LitFest2444 this year. His 2017 workshop was very popular and sold out quickly.



WILLHEMINA "WILLIE" WAHLIN
The Art of Visual Storytelling: using simple tools and collaboration to create great stories

Willhemina is a Graphic Design lecturer at CSU in Port Macquarie. She is passionate about the power of visual storytelling, and about education in visual literacy. Since 2009, she has been the Creative Director of *PROOF: Media for Social Justice*, a NFP based in New York that uses visual storytelling for social justice and human rights.



JAMES COQUILLAT
The Most Dangerous Game

James Coquillat is a writer, games designer, and translator from Melbourne. A graduate of the Victorian College of the Art's Bachelor of Screenwriting course, James specialises in new and interactive media, with a focus on video games, tabletop products, and virtual reality content. When not staring at a fumbled roll, James is furiously writing for projects like *League of Geek's Armello* and *Chaosium's "Reign of Terror."*

Who's Who



SHIVAUN PLOZZA
The Writer's Journey

Shivaun Plozza is the author of the critically acclaimed, award-winning Frankie. A darkly-funny tale about a girl's search for her missing brother, Frankie was a CBCA Notable book, was shortlisted for the Inky awards and won the YA category for the David Awards. Her second novel, Tin Heart, explores a young organ recipient's complicated 'happily ever after'. Shivaun's short fiction, flash fiction, essays and poetry have appeared in anthologies and journals including Where the Shoreline Used to Be, Above Water, Text, ELLE Australia, Vivid and The Victorian Writer. When she's not writing, Shivaun works as an editor and manuscript assessor.



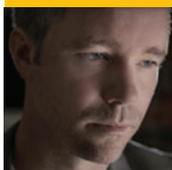
JENNA MYNOTT
Upcycling words through blackout poetry

Jenna thrives on creativity, curiosity and play, and is passionate about the positive impact these activities can have on well-being and academic achievement. Jenna's background sees an amalgam of over a decade in the corporate and education sectors across roles such as coach, facilitator, and teacher. She loves finding new ways of connecting individuals with knowledge and helping them discover their purpose. Jenna is co-founder of The Posify Group, an organisation dedicated to educating, inspiring and empowering individuals and their communities to boost optimism and improve wellbeing.



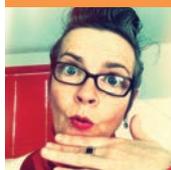
LOUISE SEYMOUR
From Pathology to Paper Art - How I found the courage to follow my passion

Drawing upon various paper art disciplines such as Origami, Papercutting and Paper Sculpture, Louise transforms the humble sheet of paper into bespoke pieces of art for a variety of audiences. She has worked with communities, libraries, galleries and well known craft brands to deliver site specific installations and custom workshops. Louise has collaborated with various creative agencies to design and deliver site specific work along with live demonstrations to assist in bringing an event to life. Louise's practice is deep rooted in her former career as a Medical Scientist and she attacks each project with the same precision and detail as her previous laboratory world.



M.J. HEARLE
Wordbuilding - How to create believable fantasy worlds

M.J. Hearle was born in Port Macquarie, a small coastal town on the Mid-North coast of Australia. Addicted to stories from a young age, it was somewhat inevitable that he turned to dealing them himself. His first novel, Winter's Shadow, was published by Pan Macmillan in 2011, Winter's Light followed in 2012, and Claudette in the Shadows in 2013. His new novel, Lüne, is due for release in 2018. M.J. Hearle lives with his wife, Greta, son, Bailey, and daughter, India, in Glebe, Sydney.



ERIN M'CUSKEY
Create a Transmedia World

Erin grew up in a large Irish emigrant family in regional Victoria. Her love for moving images grew from family films created by her father, and the gatherings to view them. She develops transmedia works in creative media specialising in film, photography, spoken and written word. Her current project Luxville is a transmedia fable and tells tales of artists who demand their town develop creativity! Her short films, installations and commissions have screened at White Night Ballarat, Museum of Australian Democracy at Eureka (MADE), Melbourne International Film Festival (MIFF), Flickerfest, Indiefest, Ballarat International Foto Biennale.



STELLA SCHOOL PROGRAMS PANEL
The Personal is Political

The Stella Schools Program was launched in late 2014 and is an exciting program for girls and boys Years 7-12 offering school visits by notable Australian writers and hands-on writing workshops, as well as free educational resources. The three panelists joining us for #LitFest2444 are Lorin Elizabeth, Candy Bower & Bec Kavanagh. Their 1 hour 'Panel Discussion - The Personal is Political' during session 1 will discuss how a lack of political voice can lead to disempowerment, disengagement and disadvantage. The panel will offer personal testimonies on the politics that affect them. These testimonies will be read live and followed by a panel discussion.



MATT CATO
Are we living in a Stop Motion Movies

Matt is passionate about multimedia and technology. He has been a high school teacher for 17 years and has had the privilege of teaching in the areas of visual arts, design and IT. He also spent a year in Canada teaching film production, animation and graphic design. Matt is currently the Leader of Learning Technologies at St Joseph's Regional College, Port Macquarie and oversees the implementation of iPads as tools for student engagement. He loves to explore new technologies and how they can be used to enhance student creativity.



FIONA SOLLEY
What is your story? Storytelling through creative illustration

Fiona Solley is an illustrator, designer, sewing enthusiast and teacher who sees colours, shapes and textures all around her. This has led to making patterns and creating stories through her illustrations. By combining delicate watercolours, bold colours and graphics and hand drawn illustrations, her work tells a unique story.

Fiona has worked in many different educational settings, teaching secondary school students and adults to draw, paint and design. She loves to create to connect people through teaching and her art.



JESS O'CALLAGHAN & LEONA HAMEED
Telling Stories with Sound

Jess and Leona have five years experience working together in radio production, producing audio features, conversation, fiction and poetry across a range of commercial, community and public radio. Together, they keep coming back to stories about the apocalypse, Timor Leste and politics, and have co-produced audio fiction workshops with the Footscray Arts Centre and Emerging Writers Festival. Currently they're both producers at ABC RN and Jess is program manager at Audiocraft Festival.

Thankyou Sponsors



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Festival **Timetable**

9.30am Registration and Welcome. All participants must have their names marked off when they arrive so the workshops can start at 9.45am

PRESENTERS	STORYTELLING TOPIC	STORYTELLING MEDIUM	VENUE	SESSION 1* 9.45am - 10.45am	SESSION 2* 11.15am - 12.15pm	SESSION 3* 1.00pm - 2.00pm
SENIOR SECONDARY PRESENTATIONS & WORKSHOPS						
Key Note Presentations						
Favel Parrett	Past The Shallows	LITERATURE	St Joseph's Regional College			
1 Hour Workshops • Choose 2 X 1 Hour Workshops						
Ollie Brooke	How and Why to Deliver a TED Talk	PUBLIC SPEAKING	St Joseph's Regional College			
Alice Pung	Finding your Voice	CREATIVE WRITING	St Joseph's Regional College			
Lorin Elizabeth & Candy Bowers	Slam Poetry	POETRY & PERFORMANCE	St Joseph's Regional College	N/A		Performance
Stella School Programs Panel	The Personal is Political	IDEAS GENERATION	St Joseph's Regional College		N/A	N/A
3 Hour Workshops • Choose 1 X 3 Hour Workshop Only						
Rachel Watts	Go with your heart: creativity and getting words out of your head	CREATIVE WRITING	St Joseph's Regional College			
SECONDARY PRESENTATIONS & WORKSHOPS						
Key Note Presentations						
Will Kostakis	How I got a book deal in high school (and other accidents)	LITERATURE	Grace Auditorium			
1 Hour Workshops • Choose 2 X 1 Hour Workshops						
Rob Feldman	Comedy in Comics - How I Think/Write/Draw Them	COMIC DRAWING	CSU			
James Phelan	Writing to Thrill: a writer's journey	LITERATURE	CSU			
James Coquillat	The Most Dangerous Game	VIDEO GAME WRITING	CSU			
Shivaun Plozza	The Writer's Journey	LITERATURE	CSU			
Jenna Mynott	Upcycling words through blackout poetry	POETRY	CSU			
Louise Seymour	From Pathology to Paper Art - How I found the courage to follow my passion	PAPER SCULPTURE	CSU			
M.J. Hearle	Wordbuilding - How to create believable fantasy worlds	STORY DEVELOPMENT	CSU			
3 Hour Workshops • Choose 1 X 3 Hour Workshop Only						
Erin McCuskey	Create a Transmedia World	STORYTELLING	CSU			
Michael Wilkie	Documentary Film Making - Documenting #LitFest2444	FILM MAKING	CSU			
Willhemina Wahlin	The Art of Visual Storytelling: using simple tools and collaboration to create great stories	PHOTOGRAPHY	CSU			
Matt Cato	Stop Motion Movies	POETRY	CSU			
Leona Hameed & Jess O'Callaghan	Telling Stories with Sound	PODCASTING	CSU			
Fiona Solley	What is your story? Storytelling through creative illustration	ILLUSTRATION	CSU			
STAGE 3 PRIMARY PRESENTATION				ONE SESSION ONLY • 12.30pm - 1.30pm		
Oliver Phommavanh	Author Talk	LITERATURE	St Peter's Primary School			

Festival **Events**

Pen Paper Pixels

#LitFest2444

**THURSDAY 9 APRIL
6.00PM-7.30PM**
HASTINGS LIBRARY
GRANT STREET,
PORT MACQUARIE

Meet the
Authors and
Presenters of
#LitFest 2444

Your chance to meet with the Festival Presenters who have travelled across Australia to share their talents and inspire our hungry students from across the Mid North Coast.

There literally is something for every student at #LitFest2444. Don't just tell your story, come along and start living it!

...a storytelling festival for young moderns

**FRIDAY 10 APRIL
9.30AM-2.00PM**

#LitFest 2444 is a festival like no other. A festival just for teens that encourages and inspires young minds to break the mould of creativity and explore conventional and revolutionary ways to tell their story.

Over two days and four venues, you'll be surrounded by storytelling trailblazers, published authors and other creative teens. Festival presenters will share their favourite way to tell stories through sound and poetry to comics and fantasy writing. An eclectic mix of presenters will explore both digital and traditional mediums. They'll also unravel the skills needed to take your creativity and passion to the next level and make it your career.

All teens on the Mid North Coast, in years 7-12, who love to tell stories, write, draw or talk are invited. There's a lot to explore and you'll get a peek inside what's new in the evolving digital world of storytelling.