

# Children's Book Guild News



CHILDREN'S  
BOOK GUILD  
of WASHINGTON, DC

## Monthly News

Authors • Illustrators • Children's Literature Specialists

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Sunday, January 2, 2022

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### About Me



#### Monthly News

The Children's Book Guild of Washington, DC is a professional organization of authors, illustrators and children's literature specialists promoting high standards in children's literature since 1945. Visit us at <https://childrensbookguild.org/>

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## January 2022

### Upcoming January Program

#### A Conversation with Award-Winning Author Brendan Kiely



This month, the Children's Book Guild Zoom Speaker Series will feature a conversation with award-winning author Brendan Kiely. In conversation with Guild member Monica Valentine, Brendan will discuss his career and his latest work at 1pm on Thursday, January 20.

Brendan Kiely is the *New York Times* bestselling author of *All American Boys* (with Jason Reynolds), *Tradition*, *The Last True Love Story* and *The Gospel of Winter*.

His most recent book is *The Other Talk:*

*Reckoning with Our White Privilege*. Kiely's memoir invites young people into a frank and honest conversation about race. It has received starred reviews from Kirkus, Booklist, and Publisher's Weekly.

Kiely's work has been published in over a dozen languages, and has received the Coretta Scott King Author Honor Award, the Walter Dean Meyers Award, and ALA's Top Ten Best Fiction for Young Adults. A former high school teacher, he is now on the faculty of the Solstice MFA Program. He admits he watches too much basketball and reads too many books at the same time, but he says, most importantly -- he lives for and loves his wife and son.

You can read more about Brian [here](#).

[Register Now!](#)

Also in This Issue:

1. President's Letter

## 2. Member News

# From Guild President Erica Perl

Happy New Year!

I hope everyone is having a healthy, happy and restorative holiday season. As I think about the coming year and the things I want to do differently (Drink more water! Turn off the wifi when writing! Resist the siren song of doomscrolling!), I am trying to also thinking about the things I want to keep doing. One is definitely staying connected to our incredible community. I'll be honest: I was reluctant about taking on the position of Guild president, especially during such a weird and challenging time. But it has actually proven to be a gift. It has allowed me to get to know some of you better, and to appreciate the Guild's role in keeping members connected. I want to take this opportunity to invite all of you to reach out to me – to catch me up on your lives, to make suggestions for strengthening Guild connections, or for any reason.



We have lots of great Guild events to look forward to in the coming year, starting off with our first meeting of 2022, featuring Brendan Kiely. He will be joining us (by Zoom) at 1 pm on Thursday, January 20th, so please RSVP and join us. In other – and less fun – news, after careful consideration and with input from our Guild leadership, I have decided to reschedule our Guild Holiday Gathering at Denizens Brewery in Silver Spring for a date in the spring. That way, hopefully, Covid numbers will not be so high, and we'll potentially be able to make use of their outdoor space. As much as we were all looking forward to being together, it seems much wiser to wait until it is safer to do so. And, as several Guild friends pointed out, it gives all of us something nice to look forward to in the spring. Date to come, so please keep an eye out.

My final word to you all: If you're struggling to write, or revise, or draw, or sell a book, or achieve something professionally or personally that used to be easy (and feels like it still should be!), please be kind to yourself. Appreciate your efforts, cheer your small victories, take joy wherever you find it, and curl up with a good book whenever you can. I raise a glass to all of you, my Guild friends!

Erica

## Member News

Mary Amato announces with both excitement and also sadness that she will be moving to the NJ/NY area in February of 2022. She'll remain a member and will be eager to connect with Guild members whenever she returns to the DMV area or when members visit the Big Apple. Please let her know if you have tips, advice, or contacts in the NJ/NY area and

she'll look forward to sharing her new connections with Guild members in return. She'll be continuing to offer her weekly online writing sessions every Friday from 1-1:30 pm EST in 2022 for writers and writer/illustrators. <https://www.maryamato.com/writers-studio/>

Fred Bowen will have a new book in January: *Hardcourt: Stories From 75 Years of the National Basketball Association*. Follow basketball from its humble beginnings through its evolution for 75 years of hardcourt history.



The NBA gained millions of fans through the introduction of rules such as the 24-second clock and the three-point line, and teams such as the Harlem Globetrotters, who paved the way for desegregated teams. Discover the stories of the Olympic Dream Team of 1992 and legendary players such as Larry Bird, Magic Johnson, Michael Jordan and LeBron James, along with early game-changers who made pro basketball the game it is today. Beautifully illustrated by award-winning artist James Ransome. It has received a starred review from *Booklist*.

Claudia Friddell's new narrative nonfiction picture book, *To the Front! Clara Barton Braves the Battle of Antietam*, will release on March 1, 2022, from Calkins Creek. Claudia blends her poetic verse with Clara Barton's own words to pay tribute to one of the world's great humanitarians. Christopher Cyr's realistic illustrations dramatically portray how Barton bravely earns the name "The Angel of the Battlefield" by delivering much needed supplies, comforting and feeding the wounded, and assisting surgeons on the bloodiest day in American history. Detailed back matter makes this picture book relevant and accessible for teachers, librarians, and readers of all ages.

Terry Catasús Jennings' *The Knight of the Cape*, the first of the *Definitely Dominguita Series*, was named among the Best Books of 2021 by both *School Library Journal* and *Kirkus Book Reviews*.

Kathy Crutcher won a Duke Alumni Award for founding [Shout Mouse Press](#), a nonprofit writing and publishing program committed to amplifying underheard voices. Kathy was honored in a new category called the Changemaker Award, which recognizes Duke University alumni who made extraordinary contributions during 2020's pandemic year and mobilized around COVID-19 efforts and the national spotlight on racial injustice.



Tammar Stein is thrilled to share that her novel, *Beni's War* has won the Middle East Book Award for Youth Literature. This award is given out by the Middle East Outreach Council, whose mission is to promote understanding of the Middle East.

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