

**Biography For Young People  
and  
A Day with Russell Freedman**



**LITERATURE AND THE CHILD**

Literature and the Child is a special daylong conference offering stimulating discussion and idea sharing. Russell Freedman will inform and inspire with his speech, "Bring 'em Back Alive – Writing Non-fiction and Biography for Young People" and will answer your questions at noon. The day will conclude with Sandra Hansen's storytelling, bringing historic characters to life. Conference participants will join peers from across the state in provocative book discussions.

**Participants are encouraged to read all of the titles in their assigned discussion groups to ensure the most rewarding sharing of ideas.**

**DISCUSSION LEADERS**

- BRIDGET DIMMER,  
West Bloomfield Township Public Library
- MARIE FEILLMAN,  
Clinton-Macomb Public Library
- KEVIN KING,  
Kalamazoo Public Library
- CATHY LICHTMAN,  
Plymouth District Library
- CATHLEEN RUSS,  
Macomb County Library
- BETSY TELFORD,  
Bloomfield Township Public Library

**CONFERENCE QUESTIONS?  
Call Laurie Scott 248-848-4319**

**GROUP I**

**STRONG WOMEN**

- Fly High: The Story of Bessie Colman*  
by Louise Borden
- The Voice that Challenged a Nation: Marian Anderson and the Struggle for Equal Rights* by Russell Freedman
- Ten Queens: Portraits of Women of Power*  
by Milton Meltzer
- Restless Spirit: The Life and Work of Dorothea Lange* by Elizabeth Partridge
- Joan of Arc* by Diane Stanley

**GROUP II**

**FROM REVOLUTIONARY MEN  
TO REVOLUTIONARY FORMATS**

- George Washington, Spymaster: How America Outspied the British and Won the Revolutionary War* by Thomas B. Allen
- Martha Graham: A Dancer's Life*  
by Russell Freedman
- This Land Was Made for You and Me: The Life and Songs of Woody Guthrie* by Elizabeth Partridge
- Persepolis: The Story of a Childhood*  
by Marjane Satrapi
- Blankets: An Illustrated Novel*  
by Craig Thompson

**GROUP III**

**HOOK A RELUCTANT READER  
WITH A BIOGRAPHY**

- Eleanor* by Barbara Cooney
- King of the Mild Frontier: An Ill-Advised Autobiography* by Chris Crutcher
- It Came from Ohio!: My Life as a Writer*  
by R. L. Stine
- Langston Hughes, American Poet* by Alice Walker
- Orphan Train Rider: One Boy's True Story*  
by Andrea Warren

**Please read all of the titles  
in your assigned discussion groups  
before the conference.**

**GROUP IV**

**PERSPECTIVES OF THE HOLOCAUST**

- A Hero and the Holocaust: The Story of Janusz Korczak and His Children* by David Adler
- We are Witnesses: Five Diaries of Teenagers Who Died in the Holocaust* by Jacob Boas
- The Hidden Children* by Howard Greenfeld
- I Have Lived a Thousand Years: Growing Up in the Holocaust* Livia Bitton Jackson
- Passage to Freedom: The Sugihara Story*  
by Ken Mochizuki
- Fireflies in the Dark: The Story of Friedl Dicker-Brandeis and the Children of Terezin*  
by Susan Goldman Rubin

**GROUP V**

**BIOGRAPHY AS STORY:  
AUTOBIOGRAPHIES  
OF FICTION WRITERS**

- The Days Before Now* by Margaret Wise Brown,  
adapted by Joan W. Blos
- 26 Fairmount Avenue* and *On My Way*  
by Tomie DePaola
- My Life in Dog Years* by Gary Paulsen
- Bill Peet: An Autobiography* by Bill Peet
- Knots in My Yo-Yo String: The Autobiography of a Kid* by Jerry Spinelli

**GROUP VI**

**CHEERING FOR THE UNDERDOG:  
OVERCOMING ADVERSITY  
TO ACHIEVE GREAT THINGS**

- Through My Eyes* by Ruby Bridges
- Gifted Hands* by Ben Carson
- Babe Didrikson Zaharias: The Making of a Champion* by Russell Freedman
- Harvesting Hope: The Story of Caesar Chavez*  
by Kathleen Krull
- Starry Messenger: A Book Depicting the Life of a Famous Scientist, Mathematician, Astronomer, Philosopher, Physicist, Galileo Galilei* by Peter Sis

**Thanks to our Co-Sponsor,  
THE LIBRARY OF MICHIGAN  
for providing beautiful meeting spaces.**



**LITERATURE  
AND THE CHILD  
REGISTRATION  
FORM**

**Thursday, September 29, 2005**

Please choose **four** Book Discussion Groups and number 1 to 4 in order of preference. You will be assigned two of your choices, one for the morning session and one for the afternoon session. A confirmation of group assignments will be sent. Please read all of the books in your assigned groups.

\_\_\_ GROUP I    \_\_\_ GROUP II    \_\_\_ GROUP III  
\_\_\_ GROUP IV    \_\_\_ GROUP V    \_\_\_ GROUP VI

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

MLA/MAME 2005

Membership #: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Library or School: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

**REGISTRATION:**

(includes continental breakfast and box lunch)

\$85 CSD & ARLD Unit Members & MAME Members  
\$90 MLA Members • \$115 Non-Members

**Register early to ensure your Discussion Group choices.**  
.5 CEU credits earned

MAIL REGISTRATION FORM AND CHECK (made payable to MLA) by September 19, 2005 to: Michigan Library Association, 1407 Rensen, Suite 2, Lansing, MI 48910, 517-394-2774

or PLEASE CHARGE MY:

Visa     Mastercard     Discover

Card #: \_\_\_\_\_

Security Code (back of card): \_\_\_\_\_

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Online Registration Form available:  
<https://orders.mlc.lib.mi.us/mla/2005registration.htm>

## PRESENTERS

### RUSSELL FREEDMAN

Russell Freedman, the most celebrated author of biography and nonfiction for young people today, will present the keynote address “Bring ‘em Back Alive: Writing Biography and Nonfiction for Young People.” Later Freedman will participate in a question and answer session. Books will be available for purchase and signing.

Freedman’s biographies reflect meticulous research presented in skillfully crafted narrative non-fiction. A fascinating selection of photographs helps bring the text to life. Freedman chronicles his subject’s complete life with a balanced view, beginning with descriptions of childhood that help explain the subject’s character and demonstrate the basis for later decision-making.

Born in San Francisco, Freedman’s parents instilled in him the love of stories. He attended San Jose State College and in 1951 graduated from the University of California at Berkeley with a B.A. Following college, Freedman spent two years serving with the U.S. Counter Intelligence Corps, with combat time in Korea in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Division. His writing career began at the Associated Press.

Widely acclaimed and honored, Freedman received the Laura Ingalls Wilder Medal for substantial contributions to literature for children (1998); and the Arbuthnot Honor Lecture Award (2005). He has also been the recipient of eight Golden Kite Awards, a Boston Globe-Horn Book Award and others.

*ALA Awards for specific titles:*

- *Lincoln, A Photobiography*, Newbery Medal 1978
- *The Wright Brothers: How They Invented the Airplane*, Newbery Honor 1993
- *Eleanor Roosevelt: A Life of Discovery*, Newbery Honor 1994
- *The Voice the Challenged a Nation: Marian Anderson and the Struggle for Equal Rights*, Newbery Honor, Siebert Award, 2005

Other titles by Freedman include *Kids at Work: Lewis Hine and the Crusade against Child Labor*; *The Life and Death of Crazy Horse*; *Out of Darkness: The Story of Louis Braille*; *Martha Graham: A Dancer’s Life*; *Babe Didrikson Zaharais: The Making of a Champion*; and *Confucius: The Golden Rule*.

### SANDRA HANSEN

Bringing history ALIVE is the passion of Sandra Hansen. Hansen travels around the country, sharing the stories of women in history through her original one-woman plays. A graduate of Hope College in Holland, Michigan, with a double major in Women’s Studies and Psychology, Hansen offers a variety of workshops and will perform her “Chewing Gum Junk Shop”, an introduction to twentieth century women.

Visit Sandra’s website at <http://www.wmol.com/whalive>.

## PROGRAM SCHEDULE

### Biography for Young People *and* *A Day with Russell Freedman*

- 8:30 a.m. Registration and Continental Breakfast
- 9:00 a.m. Welcome
- 9:15 a.m. RUSSELL FREEDMAN  
Bring ‘em Back Alive – Writing Non-fiction and Biography for Young People
- 10:15 a.m. Break
- 10:30 a.m. Book Discussion Groups Morning Session
- 11:45 a.m. Break
- 12:00 p.m. RUSSELL FREEDMAN Q & A
- 1:00 p.m. Lunch  
Book Sales/Autographing
- 2:00 p.m. Book Discussion Groups Afternoon Session
- 3:15 p.m. Break
- 3:30 p.m. Storytelling with SANDRA HANSEN
- 4:00 p.m. Wrap-up, Evaluations and CEUs

### NEW LOCATION OF CONFERENCE:

THE LIBRARY OF MICHIGAN  
702 West Kalamazoo Street  
Lansing, MI 48909

Parking is 75 cents per hour

For directions, see web site  
[www.michigan.gov/libraryofmichigan](http://www.michigan.gov/libraryofmichigan)  
and click “Visit Us”

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MLA

# LITERATURE AND THE CHILD

presents



## Biography for Young People

*A Day  
with  
Russell  
Freedman*



*A Celebration of Children’s Books & Authors  
For Librarians, Educators, and Adults  
interested in Children’s Literature*

Thursday, September 29, 2005

Sponsored by:

MLA

MICHIGAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION  
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Conference Facilities Generously Provided  
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