

Discover the stories behind the stories.



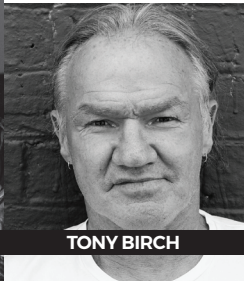

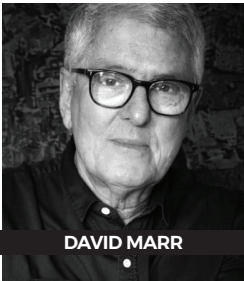

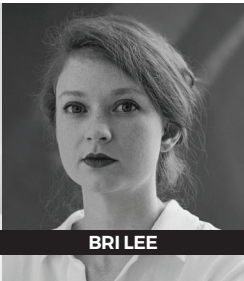

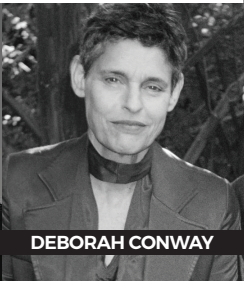

5 – 7 APRIL 2024



NEWCASTLE
WRITERS
FESTIVAL

newcastlewritersfestival.org.au

WEDNESDAY 3 APRIL	7.00pm - 9.00pm // Customs House LITERARY TRIVIA HOSTED BY NICK MILLIGAN Our literary trivia night is back! Hosted by Nick Milligan and we welcome teams of up to 8 people. Tickets \$20
FRIDAY 5 APRIL	10.00am - 4.00pm // NUspace, Q Building 211 WORKSHOP: CRAFTING NARRATIVE DRIVE WITH ASHLEY KALAGIAN BLUNT In this workshop, participants will learn why narrative drive is essential to storytelling and discover how properly structured, tension-filled scenes create story momentum. Snacks provided, but bring pen and paper or laptop for writing exercises. Tickets \$165 Limited to 15 places. Snacks provided.
FRIDAY 5 APRIL	10.00am - 2.00pm // NUspace, Q Building 210 WORKSHOP: THE EVERYDAY EPIC - A POETRY WORKSHOP WITH RICO CRAIG This workshop is all about bringing poetic vision to the everyday and learning how to expand a reader's perception of the worlds we share in our poetry. Bring pen and paper or laptop for writing exercises. Tickets \$120 Limited to 15 places. Snacks provided.
FRIDAY 5 APRIL	10.00am - 2.00pm // NUspace, Q Building 205 WORKSHOP: WRITING ROM-COM WITH MELANIE SAWARD Be a part of the rom-com boom by learning the rules of writing romance fiction and how to leverage the genre's tropes to gain the attention of publishers. Bring a pen and paper or laptop for writing exercises. Snacks provided. Tickets \$120 Limited to 15 places.
FRIDAY 5 APRIL	10.00am - 3.00pm // Watt Space Gallery ENTANGLEMENT: A DRAMA WORKSHOP Join Voices of Women artistic director Liane Clarke for an open drama workshop exploring storytelling through spoken word and sound. FREE, bookings essential. Supported by WH!P Collective
FRIDAY 5 APRIL	1.00pm - 2.00pm // Tomaree Library and Community Centre, 7 Community Close, Salamander Bay THINK GLOBAL, WRITE LOCAL Authors Joanna Atherfold Finn, Paula Morrow and Claire O'Rourke have spent their careers writing about global environmental topics. They share why they think it's important to contextualise global issues for local audiences and share examples of how their writing has mobilised people into action. Host / Alison Rogers FREE
FRIDAY 5 APRIL	3.00pm - 5.00pm // Back to Back Galleries, Cooks Hill COVERED: NEWCASTLE ARTISTS RESPOND TO FESTIVAL BOOKS Celebrate this annual exhibition, which features 18 Hunter region artists including Anne-Maree Hunter, Jane Kerrigan, Haylee Knight, Paul O'Brian, and Jerry Ray. The artists have responded to the work of authors featured in the 2024 Newcastle Writers festival program. The exhibition runs from 22 March to 7 April. FREE
FRIDAY 5 APRIL	5.00pm for 6.00pm start // Leda Gallery 850 Hunter Street, Newcastle West BOOK LAUNCH: THE NIGHTS BY HELEN HOPCROFT Celebrate the launch of <i>The Nights</i> by Helen Hopcroft with performance by actor Kelly Burke. Host / Dr Deborah Van Heekeren FREE
FRIDAY 5 APRIL OPENING NIGHT	7.30pm - 9.00pm // Newcastle City Hall OPENING NIGHT: NEWS MAKER - AN EVENING WITH LEIGH SALES Leigh Sales will discuss her most recent book <i>Storytellers</i> , about the art and craft of journalism in an increasingly divided world. Host / Indira Naidoo MC Dan Cox. Tickets \$55

CONSERVATORIUM OF MUSIC CONCERT HALL	CIVIC PLAYHOUSE	NUSPACE X101	NUSPACE X321	NUSPACE X320	NUSPACE X207	NUSPACE X301	WATT SPACE GALLERY	OTHER VENUES
 <p>MELISSA LUCASHENKO</p>	<p>10.00am - 11.00am</p> <p>KILLING FOR COUNTRY: DAVID MARR IN CONVERSATION</p> <p>Host / Lyndall Ryan</p> <p>Tickets \$30</p>	<p>10.00am - 11.00am</p> <p>THE PAST AND THE NOW: MELISSA LUCASHENKO IN CONVERSATION</p> <p>Host / Keri Glastonbury</p> <p>FREE</p>	<p>10.00am - 11.00am</p> <p>STOP THE PRESS</p> <p>With Daniel Browning, Antony Loewenstein and Louise Milligan.</p> <p>Host / Kylie Morris</p> <p>Tickets \$30</p>	<p>10.00am - 11.00am</p> <p>COMING OF AGE IN MIDDLE AGE</p> <p>With Emily Perkins, Megan Rogers and Christos Tsiolkas.</p> <p>Host / Ashley Hay</p> <p>Tickets \$20</p>	<p>10.00am - 11.00am</p> <p>NEWCASTLE LIT: CELEBRATING LOCAL AUTHORS</p> <p>With Meg Gatland-Veness, Margaret McBride and Natalie Murray.</p> <p>Host / Nick Wasiliev</p> <p>FREE</p>	<p>10.00am - 11.00am</p> <p>SUSTAINABLE LIVING FOR A KINDER FUTURE</p> <p>With Kirsten Bradley, Claire O'Rourke and Thanh Truong.</p> <p>Host / Dan Cox</p> <p>Tickets \$15</p>	<p>10.00am - 11.00am</p> <p>SUNBIRDS: MIRANDI RIWOE IN CONVERSATION</p> <p>Host / Ashley Kalagian Blunt</p> <p>FREE</p>	<p>10.00am - 11.00am</p> <p>The Press Bookhouse</p> <p>BOOK LAUNCH: SEED TO SKY BY PAMELA FREEMAN AND LIZ ANELLI</p> <p>Launched by Melissa Luckman</p> <p>FREE</p>
<p>11.30am - 12.30pm</p> <p>CRIME WRITER IN PINK: SALLY HEPWORTH IN CONVERSATION</p> <p>Host / Amy Lovat</p> <p>Tickets \$30 / \$20 livestream</p>	<p>11.30am - 12.30pm</p> <p>THE RISE OF ROM-COM</p> <p>With Clare Fletcher, Jonathon Shannon and Saman Shad.</p> <p>Host / Melanie Saward</p> <p>Tickets \$30</p>	<p>11.30am - 12.30pm</p> <p>AUTHOR, ACADEMIC, ACTIVIST: BRI LEE IN CONVERSATION</p> <p>Host / Bridie Jabour</p> <p>Tickets \$25</p>	<p>11.30am - 12.30pm</p> <p>THINGS WE DON'T SPEAK ABOUT: CLASS</p> <p>Peter Polites and Jessie Stephens discuss reckoning with class in fiction.</p> <p>Host / Beejay Silcox</p> <p>FREE</p>	<p>11.30am - 12.30pm</p> <p>WOMEN & CHILDREN: TONY BIRCH IN CONVERSATION</p> <p>Host / Chris Flynn</p> <p>FREE</p>	<p>11.30am - 12.30pm</p> <p>WRITING THE LIVES OF WRITERS</p> <p>With Bernadette Brennan, Catharine Lumby and Brigitta Olubas.</p> <p>Host / Susan Wyndham</p> <p>Tickets \$30</p>	<p>11.30am - 12.30pm</p> <p>I'D LIKE YOU TO MEET: VIDYA MADABUSHI</p> <p>Host / Shankari Chandran</p> <p>FREE</p>	<p>11.30am - 12.30pm</p> <p>ARE WE THERE YET? IT'S TIME FOR AN AUSTRALIAN POET LAUREATE</p> <p>With Nam Le, Kirli Saunders, and Michele Seminara</p> <p>Host / Yvette Henry Holt</p> <p>FREE</p> <p>Sponsored by First Nations Australia Writers Network.</p>	<p>10.00am - 11.00am</p> <p>NUspace X201</p> <p>BOOK OF LIFE: DEBORAH CONWAY IN CONVERSATION</p> <p>Host / Magdalena Ball</p> <p>Tickets \$30 / \$20 livestream</p>
<p>1.30pm - 2.30pm</p> <p>DARK PLACES: CHRIS HAMMER AND LOUISE MILLIGAN</p> <p>Host / Dan Cox</p> <p>Tickets \$30 / \$20 livestream</p>	<p>1.30pm - 2.30pm</p> <p>HOW TO CREATE A BETTER WORLD</p> <p>With Kirsten Bradley, Hannah Diviney, and Simon Longstaff.</p> <p>Host / Jane Caro</p> <p>FREE</p>	<p>1.30pm - 2.30pm</p> <p>THE IN-BETWEEN: CHRISTOS TSIOLKAS IN CONVERSATION</p> <p>Host / David Marr</p> <p>Tickets \$25</p>	<p>1.30pm - 2.30pm</p> <p>THINGS WE DON'T SPEAK ABOUT: DEATH</p> <p>Nadine J Cohen and Jackie Dent discuss reckoning with death.</p> <p>Host / Kylie Morris</p> <p>FREE</p>	<p>1.30pm - 2.30pm</p> <p>2023 MILES FRANKLIN WINNER SHANKARI CHANDRAN IN CONVERSATION</p> <p>Host / Ailsa Piper</p> <p>Tickets \$15</p>	<p>1.30pm - 2.30pm</p> <p>THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF WOMEN</p> <p>With Kate Mildenhall, Kylie Needham and Emily Perkins.</p> <p>Host / Anna Downes</p> <p>Tickets \$25</p>	<p>1.30pm - 2.30pm</p> <p>WRITING COUNTRY AND CONNECTION</p> <p>With Susie Anderson, Sara M Saleh and Rob Waters.</p> <p>Host / Magdalena Ball</p> <p>FREE</p>	<p>1.30pm - 2.30pm</p> <p>BOOK LAUNCH: PARIS LIGHT, A PERSONAL PLAN DE PARIS BY JEAN KENT</p> <p>Launched by Judith Beveridge. Host / Lindsay Knight</p> <p>FREE</p>	<p>12.30pm - 1.15pm</p> <p>NUspace Courtyard</p> <p>NERDS & MUSIC: FREE LUNCHTIME PERFORMANCE</p> <p>FREE</p>
 <p>SALLY HEPWORTH</p>	 <p>TONY BIRCH</p>	 <p>MIRANDI RIWOE</p>	 <p>DAVID MARR</p>	 <p>SHANKARI CHANDRAN</p>	 <p>BRI LEE</p>	 <p>CHRIS HAMMER</p>	 <p>DEBORAH CONWAY</p>	 <p>CHRISTOS TSIOLKAS</p>

CONSERVATORIUM OF MUSIC CONCERT HALL	CIVIC PLAYHOUSE	NUSPACE X101	NUSPACE X321	NUSPACE X320	NUSPACE X207	NUSPACE X301	OTHER VENUTES	OTHER VENUES
3.00pm - 4.00pm THE CASE AGAINST MARRIAGE: CLEMENTINE FORD IN CONVERSATION Host / Maeve Marsden Tickets \$30 / \$20 livestream	3.00pm - 4.00pm THINGS WE DON'T SPEAK ABOUT: SEX Esme Louise James, Alecia Simmonds and Yumi Stynes discuss sex, taboo and relationships from the past to the present. Host / Elfy Scott Tickets \$30	3.00pm - 4.00pm THE PALESTINE LABORATORY: ANTONY LOEWENSTEIN IN CONVERSATION Host / Matt Bevan Tickets \$25	3.00pm - 4.00pm THE LONG HAUL Long Covid discussion with Dr Steven Faux and Tracey Spicer. Host / Rosemarie Milsom Tickets \$20	3.00pm - 4.00pm BRIGHT YOUNG LIVES: WRITING FIRST NATIONS YOUTH With Graham Akhurst, Kirli Saunders and Melanie Saward. Host / Yvette Henry Holt FREE	3.00pm - 4.00pm HAUNTED BY THE PAST With Winnie Dunn, Mirandi Riwoe and Lucy Treloar. Host / Cath Keenan Tickets \$20	3.00pm - 4.00pm CLOSING TIME: A CARER'S EXPERIENCE OF DEMENTIA With narrator Chillian Sullivan in conversation with poet Karin de Novellis. FREE	3.00pm - 4.00pm Watt Space Gallery BOOK LAUNCH: FLYING ISLANDS PRESS Celebrate the launch of <i>Tide</i> by Ivy Ireland, <i>Beautiful Flames</i> by Mark Mahemoff and <i>Nibs & Nubs</i> by Josh Stenberg. Host / Magdalena Ball FREE	4.00pm - 6.00pm Momo Wholefood Café BOOK LAUNCH: WEAR NEXT, FASHIONING THE FUTURE BY CLARE BOOKED OUT FREE <i>Booking required</i>
4.30pm - 5.30pm THE TEACHER'S PET: HEDLEY THOMAS IN CONVERSATION Host / Richard Glover Tickets \$35 / \$20 livestream	4.30pm - 5.30pm STONE YARD DEVOTIONAL: CHARLOTTE WOOD IN CONVERSATION Host / Ailsa Piper Tickets \$30	4.30pm - 5.30pm THE RISE AND FALL OF TOLERATION Russell Blackford discusses his book <i>How We Became Post-Liberal</i> . Host / Simon Longstaff FREE	4.30pm - 5.30pm LIFE ON THE PAGE With Jessica Kirkness, Sophie Matterson and Ben Mckelvey. Host / Fiona Murphy Tickets \$25	4.30pm - 5.30pm LOVE LANGUAGE: LINDA MARIGLIANO IN CONVERSATION Host / Maddison Connaughton FREE	4.30pm - 5.30pm ON ART AND DESIRE With Anna Kate Blair, Bri Lee and Kylie Needham. Host / Amy Sambrooke Tickets \$25	4.30pm - 5.30pm SETTLING THE SCORE: ELLEN VAN NEERVEN IN CONVERSATION Host / Beejay Silcox FREE	4.30pm - 5.30pm Watt Space Gallery POETRY SALON An evening of poetry performance featuring Susie Anderson, Deborah Conway and others Tickets \$15	5.00pm - 8.15pm The Wollotuka Institute GIYI PARA - THE CONVENING OF A GATHERING An evening of community, corroboree and celebration with Uncle Warren Taggart, Rob Waters, Brenda Matthews, Duane Hamacher and Krystal De Napoli. Tickets \$10 <i>Free for those who identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander but booking is required for catering purposes</i>
7.30pm - 9.30pm WORDS & MUSIC This special event celebrates music, literature and the nature of inspiration. Featuring Elijah Moss, Piper Butcher, Deborah Conway, Natalie Damjanovich-Napoleon, Dan Flegg and friends, Jim Moginie, Adam Newling, Nina Romeru and Sunbiirds Tickets \$50	6.30pm - 7.30pm WELCOME TO SEX: YUMI STYNES AND MELISSA KANG IN CONVERSATION Host / Maeve Marsden Tickets \$35 / \$20 livestream BOOKED OUT	 BRYAN BROWN	6.00pm - 7.00pm CELEBRATING MICROLIT With Emma Ashmere, Katharine Coles (USA), Sally Egan, Paul Hetherington, John Kinsella and Hazel Smith. Emma Ashmere, Katharine Coles and John Kinsella are appearing via Zoom. Host / Cassandra Atherton FREE	 ANTONY LOEWENSTEIN	 CLEMENTINE FORD	 CHARLOTTE REE	7.30pm - 9.30pm Local Connections University of Newcastle Callaghan Campus HEARTBAKE SUPPER CLUB: AN EVENING WITH CHARLOTTE REE Host / Bridie Jabour Tickets \$130	6.30pm - 7.30pm Performance Arts Culture Cessnock WENDY HARMER IN CONVERSATION Host / Ashley Hay Tickets \$35

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10.00am - 11.00am RESTLESS DOLLY MAUNDER: KATE GRENVILLE IN CONVERSATION Host / Ashley Hay FREE	10.00am - 11.00am SH*TTY FIRST DRAFTS: ON CREATIVE PRACTICE With Emily Perkins, Christos Tsiolkas and Charlotte Wood. Host / Kate Mildenhall Tickets \$30 / \$20 livestream	10.00am - 11.00am THE LAST DAUGHTER: BRENDA MATTHEWS IN CONVERSATION Host / Melissa Lucashenko Tickets \$15	10.00am - 11.00am WHEN WORLDS COMBINE: SHELLEY PARKER-CHAN IN CONVERSATION Host / Chris Flynn FREE	10.00am - 11.00am 36 WAYS OF WRITING A VIETNAMESE POEM: NAM LE IN CONVERSATION Host / Michele Seminara Tickets \$20	10.00am - 11.00am EARTH, SEA AND SKY With Krystal De Napoli, Duane Hamacher and Sophie Matterson. Host / Amy Sambrooke Tickets \$15	10.00am - 11.00am FINDING IT IN THE FAMILY With Tony Birch, Andre Dao and Laura Elizabeth Woollett. Host / Bernadette Brennan Tickets \$15	9.30am - 11.15am Watt Space Gallery WORKSHOP: SHORT STORIES IN CYANOTYPE In collaboration with WHIP Collective's exhibition, photomontage workshop on the photographic printing process of cyanotype. FREE <i>Booking required</i>	9.00am - 11.00am James Fletcher Hosp THE JAMES FLETCHER HOSPITAL SITE: SOUNDS OF THE PAST A historical walking tour. Tickets \$25
KATE GRENVILLE	HANNAH DIVINEY	WENDY HARMER	SHELLEY PARKER-CHAN	NAM LE	JAZZ MONEY	ANDRE DAO		
11.30am - 12.30pm LIES MY MIRROR TOLD ME: WENDY HARMER IN CONVERSATION Host / Jane Caro Tickets \$33	11.30am - 12.30pm ADVOCACY, ACTIVISM AND COMING-OF-AGE: HANNAH DIVINEY IN CONVERSATION Host / Fiona Murphy Tickets \$25 / \$15 livestream	11.30am - 12.30pm REIMAGINING COLONIAL HISTORY With Sharlene Allsopp, Jane Harrison and John Morrissey. Host / Kirli Saunders FREE	11.30am - 12.30pm THE LOVE LANGUAGE OF FOOD With Reece Hignell, Linda Marigliano and Charlotte Ree. Host / Yumi Stynes Tickets \$30	11.30am - 12.30pm AN AFFAIR TO REMEMBER With Anna Kate Blair, Madeleine Gray and Amy Lovat. Host / Maeve Marsden Tickets \$20	11.30am - 12.30pm THINGS WE DON'T SPEAK ABOUT: MENTAL ILLNESS With Elfy Scott, Jessie Stephens and Nick Wasiliev. Host / Maddison Connaughton Tickets \$20	11.30am - 12.30pm THE VERSE MEMOIR: ENGAGING WITH TRAUMA THROUGH POETRY With Magdalena Ball and ali whitelocke. Host / Jenny Blackford FREE	11.45am - 12.45pm Watt Space Gallery ON REMEMBERING, ON FORGETTING: A POETRY PERFORMANCE With Jazz Money, Ellen van Neerven, Sara M Saleh, Rob Waters and Iona Winter. FREE	10.00am - 10.40am NUspace X402 THE FRUIT NERD Join Thanh "The Fruit Nerd" Truong as he talks you through fruit and veg with your very own fruit-matching game! Gold coin donation
1.30pm - 2.30pm BRIGHT SHINING: JULIA BAIRD IN CONVERSATION Host / Cath Keenan Tickets \$33 / \$20 livestream	1.30pm - 2.30pm MAN-MADE: TRACEY SPICER IN CONVERSATION Host / Beejay Silcox Tickets \$30 / \$20 live stream	1.30pm - 2.30pm I'D LIKE YOU TO MEET: ANDRE DAO Host / Nam Le FREE	1.30pm - 2.30pm LIFE, INTERRUPTED With Steph Lentz, Ben McKelvey and Jeanne Ryckmans. Host / Anna Downes Tickets \$25	1.30pm - 2.30pm RAGE AND RESISTANCE With Daniel Browning, Sara M Saleh and Lucy Treloar. Host / Jackie Dent Tickets \$20	1.30pm - 2.30pm COMPLEX COMMUNITIES With Amal Awad, Peter Polites and Laura Elizabeth Woollett. Host / Winnie Dunn FREE	1.30pm - 2.30pm BOY CONQUERS UNIVERSE: BHARAT NALLURI IN CONVERSATION Host / Rosemarie Milsom Tickets \$20	1.30pm - 2.30pm Watt Space Gallery BOOK LAUNCH: JIM MOGINIE Celebrate the launch of <i>The Family Lot, Made And Found</i> . FREE <i>Booking required</i>	10.50am - 11.30am NUspace X401 IDEAS EVERYWHERE Read, draw and imagine with children's author and illustrator Sara Acton. Gold coin donation

CONSERVATORIUM OF MUSIC CONCERT HALL	CIVIC PLAYHOUSE	NUSPACE X101	NUSPACE X321	NUSPACE X320	NUSPACE X207	NUSPACE X301	OTHER VENUES	OTHER VENUES
3.00pm - 4.00pm BEST WISHES: RICHARD GLOVER IN CONVERSATION Host / Dan Cox Tickets \$30 / \$20 livestream	3.00pm - 4.00pm FAMILY, FAME AND FINDING WHO YOU ARE: PIA MIRANDA IN CONVERSATION Host / Elfy Scott Tickets \$30 / \$20 livestream	3.00pm - 4.00pm BITING BACK: HANNAH FERGUSON IN CONVERSATION Host / Maddison Connaughton Tickets \$25	3.00pm - 4.00pm BLURRING GENRE, BUILDING WORLDS With Sharlene Allsopp, Kate Mildenhall and Shelley Parker-Chan. Host / Chris Flynn Tickets \$25	3.00pm - 4.00pm LAUGH OR YOU'LL CRY: WRITING FOR PAGE, STAGE AND SCREEN With Nadine J Cohen, James Colley and Jane Harrison. Host / Nick Milligan Tickets \$25	3.00pm - 4.15pm TEXT MESSAGES FROM THE UNIVERSE WITH RICHARD JAMES ALLEN Join us for this immersive, hybrid, interactive screening of the multi-award-winning film. FREE	3.00pm - 4.00pm DATE WITH A DEBUT AUTHOR With Rosemary Lewis, John Morrissey and Megan Rogers. Host / Nick Wasiliev FREE	1.30pm - 2.30pm The Press Book House BOOK LAUNCH: ZENY GILES Dael Allison will launch Castellorizo to Woolloomooloo by Zeny Giles. FREE	FAMILY FUN 10.50am - 11.30am NUspace X402 EWG GROSS WITH DAN MARSHALL Get busy illustrating your own disgusting facts with author and illustrator Dan Marshall. Gold coin donation



RICHARD GLOVER

4.30pm - 5.30pm
IF YOU'RE LISTENING LIVE WITH MATT BEVAN
The ABC's award-winning podcast and TV show If You're Listening returns to the festival with a live event, looking at the historical context of current news events. With Matt Bevan.
FREE



PIA MIRANDA

4.30pm - 5.30pm
POETICS AND PRACTICE: JAZZ MONEY IN CONVERSATION
Join Jazz Money as they speak about their poetry, practice and contribution to Newcastle Art Gallery's upcoming collection publication.
Host / Peter Johnson
FREE
Supported by Newcastle Art Gallery.



RICHARD JAMES ALLEN



DAN MARSHALL



LUCY BELL


11.40am - 12.20pm
NUspace X401
FOOD WISE WITH LUCY BELL
Join author Lucy Bell to learn simple ways you can be a food-waste warrior, become a whiz in the kitchen and try out some fun ways to experience food.
Gold coin donation

11.40am - 12.20pm
NUspace X402
BRINGING A FOREST TO LIFE
Join in as award-winning illustrator and writer team Liz Anelli and Pamela Freeman describe and draw a scene from the Daintree rainforest.
Gold coin donation




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