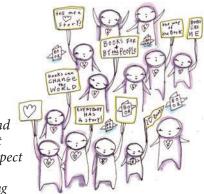
Overview of the Study Group Webinars

• These webinar recordings are shared as a helpful resource as you create your children's book. It can be helpful to witness others share their story and art and have it honed in community but just as a friendly reminder, all writing & art shared in these webinars belongs to the individual who shared it so please respect their copyright.

M = all webinars that deal with Mapping



1. June 5, 2014 - Welcome & Starting with the Heart

Brief Description: In this first webinar I focus on some of the basic philosophy including negotiating the unknown, listening to yourself, knowing what your priorities are, what is your intent and purpose for your book, negotiating tricky traps when getting feedback, and so much more.



Tags: Knowing Self, Knowing Book; Way of the Book Philosophy; Inclusion Inside & Out; Belonging

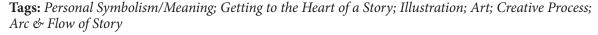


Related Docs/Files: Starting with the Heart Worksheet

2. June 19, 2014 - Top Secret Envelope! LIVE Manuscript Review for Thumbs

Brief Description: This was a fun one! A top secret envelope with a manuscript I never saw prior to the webinar! Matthew picked out a children's book from the library and ever so secretly transcribed the text so I never saw the finished book or the artwork. I do some manuscript review and begin to look at rough thumbnails directly on camera so you can get a sense of the process. Understanding the connection between art and word in children's books is highly beneficial whether or not you intend to do your own artwork for your story.





Related Docs/Files: Waking Dragons Manuscript Text, Maya's Notes & Thumbnail Beginnings from the Webinar

3. July 3, 2014 - Character Play & Story Structure

Brief Description: I believe play and free form thinking are some of our greatest guides when doing anything, but especially children's books! In this webinar we explore characters and negotiating story lines through making paper people and setting our imagination freee! Excellent work for artists and authors alike. I focus on some of my own work to show this play in action!!!!



Tags: Character Development; Free form Play; Developing Story; Mapping Story; Alternative Story Development



Related Docs/Files: Character Play! Handout, Maya's blog post on the Children's Book Academy Blog

4. July 17, 2014 - Discovering the Map of Your Story! Letting your writing rise from within

Brief Description: In the July 3rd webinar we explored character development through imaginative play and began to get a sense of the story that wanted to rise. This webinar we picked up where we left off, journeying into the terrain more deeply to explore story, find connections, make meaning, and get to know our characters further. I model this exploration as I continue to map out my story idea, "Ri Sees." I show you how I create "maps" to guide me as I allow a story to be "discovered" from within rather than "built" based on external models. By the end, I had lots of notes and maps to then create an initial (very) rough draft of my story.





Tags: Listening to Story; Developing Story; Mapping Story; Alternative Story Development; Moving Beyond the Conflict Model

Related Docs/Files: Exploring Story Worksheet, Maya's Mapping Example and Very Rough Draft

5. July 24, 2014 - Layering with Acrylics

Brief Description: Here I do a live painting demo showing how I layer acrylics. My plan is to complete the painting during a subsequent webinar so you can see the full development of a piece.



Tags: Acrylics, Underpainting, Live Demo

Related Docs/Files: *Rabbit Moon Face (in process)*

6. July 31, 2014 - Drawing Figures

Brief Description: In this webinar, I look at a number of children's books and their body forms. Not just the shapes and movement, but also what the stylization conveys. I also share some of my own developmental process of how my body forms have evolved over time and how the different styles convey different concerns and meaning.



Tags: *Drawing, Stylization, Body Shapes*

Related Docs/Files: *Some samples of figure development for my current book.*

7. August 14, 2014 - Drawing Hands and Faces

Brief Description: In this webinar, I focus on two things. Feeling sad and more quiet than usual about events in the news (Michael Brown's death in Ferguson) I took the opportunity to make room for my feelings and allow them into my work. I look at a number of children's books and some of my own art in relation to hands and then focus on some very basic elements of drawing hands. I then do the same with faces.



Tags: Drawing, Live Demo, Hands, Faces

8. August 21, 2014 - Strengthening your Story, Mapping in CommUnity!

Brief Description: In the August 7th & July 17th webinars we talked a lot about using mapping as a way to step out of the conflict model of storytelling and source story from within. I've modeled mapping my own work to create an initial rough draft for my story idea, "Ri Sees." I showed examples of using it to prepare for thumbnails for someone else's manuscript. For this webinar I turn towards the commUnity and use mapping on a study group participant's manuscript, Aaron's Magic by Melina Mangal. We also touch in on creating a structure for a "commUnity mapping group" to allow you to practice mapping on your own and support each other in learning it, as well as learning how to map others' work.





Tags: Mapping Story; Alternative Story Development; Indigenous Knowing; Uncovering Symbology; Intuitive Guidance; Listening to Self; Editing through Mapping; CommUnity Mapping

9. August 28, 2014 - Slamming on a Deadline: an Inside Look!

Brief Description: In this webinar I bring you even deeper into my process of making a children's book. This time on a highly unusual book schedule! I share about the background of the current book project I'm working on, including my thumbnails and drawings, as well as the last moments I have before shipping final art in two days after creating everything in just one month! yikes!!!!



Tags: Scheduling Yourself, Deadlines, Creating Art for a Children's Book, Traditional Publishing

10. September 4, 2014 - Moving into Thumbnails, Mapping in CommUnity Deux!

Brief Description: In the August 21st webinar I modeled mapping with a study group member's manuscript to show how you can use this form to draw out the symbology already present and strengthen the structure of a story. In this webinar, we do commUnity mapping again on two study group participant's manuscripts, but this time in relation to thumbnails. This can be helpful whether or not you plan to illustrate your own story. It makes a huge difference in cutting down editing time, making your story structurally more sound and often helps bring out greater nuance because you understand the bigger picture of what's going on. To start, we look through the wordless picture book, Unspoken by Henry Cole, to see how a story is told through imagery. Then we jump right into the study group manuscripts. First, a wordless manuscript by Judith Nasse that deals with a child going through a challenging experience. We then start to look at another story, Outside In, by Lauraine Gibbons. We only get to touch in briefly on this one and will likely continue in the next webinar







Tags: Mapping Story; Alternative Story Development; Editing through Mapping; CommUnity Mapping; Wordless Stories; Thumbnails; Story Structure

11. September 11, 2014 - Layering with Acrylics Part 2

Brief Description: In this webinar I return to my Rabbit Moon Face painting from the July 24th webinar and continue to explore layering in acrylics. While painting I also talk about slowing down and dropping into the creative force.



Tags: Acrylics, Layering, Live Demo, Being in the Creative Process

Related Docs/Files: *Rabbit Moon Face (in process part 2)*

12. September 18, 2014 - The Journey so Far: Review, Overview, & a bit more Mapping of course!



Brief Description: In our last "regular" webinar for the Summer session, we return to Mapping a commUnity member's manuscript, Outside In, by Lauraine Gibbons. We then bring some closure to this first study group period by looking at an overview of the book creation process and what we've covered so far and then opened up for some questions, providing the opportunity to Ask Me Anything about the process from the technical to the more heart-based. I also touch on some next steps.



Tags: Mapping Story; Alternative Story Development; Editing through Mapping; CommUnity Mapping;



Book Making Process; Thumbnails to Final Art Overview; Photographing Art



M

Related Docs/Files: Closing Thoughts & Review Worksheet

13. September 25, 2014 - Assessing Your Project

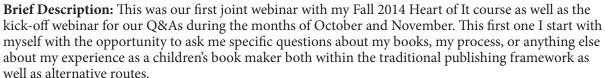


Brief Description: In this webinar we check in with the inside and the outside of how a book project progresses. As I work on my own projects I often check in with myself as I go. I also model pulling back to see that larger perspective, how to gauge your best next steps, how to project deadlines, etc... hands on, hearts on, the way of the book guides us on.



Tags: Scheduling Yourself, Deadlines, Overview, Path of a Book Project

14. October 17, 2014 - Q&A with Maya











15. October 23, 2014 - Q&A with Laura Atkins

Brief Description: The second joint webinar in our Q&A series for October and November. This time we're joined by Laura Atkins, freelance children's book editor who has worked in the children's book field for almost twenty years. Laura touched on a number of things including knowing what you want for your book and letting that guide you.





Tags: Editing, Self-publishing, Rhyming Text, Telling a Good Story, Subtext, Way of the Book

16. October 28, 2014 - Q&A with Robert Trujillo

Brief Description: The third joint webinar in our Q&A series for October and November. This time we're joined by author/artist Robert Trujillo who's fresh off of a successful Kickstarter campaign to publish his first children's book as well as beginning to illustrate at least 3 other books! Robert's on fire and has a lot of great wisdom to share!



Tags: Self-publishing, Independent Publishing, Creating your own way, Developing a portfolio, Following your Heart, Kickstarter, Crowdfunding



17. November 13, 2014 - Q&A with Zetta Elliott

Brief Description: The next Q&A in the series, this time with author/publisher Zetta Elliott. Zetta is a fierce, feminist voice crafting stories with magic and meaning for today's children. She's facing the imbalanced children's book statistics and creating her own reality by mobilizing her books herself. There is much to be learned here! Don't miss Zetta!





Tags: Self-Publishing, Being your own Art Director, Styles of Writing, Children's Book Publishing Industry

18. November 19, 2014 - Q&A with Carl Angel

Brief Description: Our final Q&A in the series, this time with illustrator/art director/book designer Carl Angel. Carl has a very artistic, intuitive way of describing the design/layout process! He even knows how to art direct ME! Check it out!





Tags: Mythology, Symbolism, Art, Fine Art, Craft, Book Design, Symbolic Design

19. February 12, 2015 - The Mapping Approach: Looking at Children's Books from the Inside Out

Brief Description: In our very first webinar of the 2015 study group, I give a little intro to the group and then start by taking a look at three of my own books, Call Me Tree, I Know the River Loves Me, and My Colors, My World. I review art and text using what I like to call, "mapping," to see the deeper connections, explore symbology, the interconnectedness of text and image and more as we continue to open up to a new way of thinking about and seeing children's books. For some this may be a continuation of work already begun, whereas others it may be introductory. Through continued modeling of this approach, I hope to support you looking at your own work in a new way and seeing the magic that is always present if we open up to it.









Tags: Mapping Story; Mapping Art; Holistic Approach; Whole Person-Body, Mind, Spirit, Heart, Unknown; Inclusion Inside & Out; Confidence in Relation to Editors; Trusting Voice; Intention; Way of the Book Philosophy

Related Docs/Files: Starting with the Heart Worksheet, The Path of the Book Handout

20. February 26, 2015 - Thumbnails: Mapping in CommUnity

Brief Description: For our first "Mapping in CommUnity" Webinar we take a look at thumbnails. I briefly review what thumbnails are and their purpose in the book creation process. I then review some of my own thumbnails and compare them to the final art in the books. Then we jump right into reviewing some CommUnity members work with thumbnails provided by Judtih Nasse and Iris Biran.





Tags: Illustration; Thumbnails; Flow; Consistency; Symbolism; Meaning; Mapping Art Related Docs/Files: The Path of the Book Handout

21. March 12, 2015 - Adding Depth: Negotiating the Space of Your Spread

Brief Description: For this webinar, we look at how to enter the page and negotiate bringing connections and depth to our visual expression. I gather a few children's books to look at how other artists have created space within their spread as well as use my own book, My Colors, My World. In my book we look at the function of the bird character and how its presence functions in relation to perspective. Practical as well as holistic perspectives touched on.



Tags: Illustration; Depth; Perspective, Translating Internal Awareness onto the Page; Color; Lighting; Developing own Stylization

22. March 26, 2015 - Design & Layout: Mapping in CommUnity with **Green Eggs and Ham**

Brief Description: For this webinar, we take a look at design and layout. I'll explore a classic and one that's popular in our house right now, Green Eggs and Ham by Dr. Suess. We explore what makes a good spread and why these books have been so timeless. I also do a little demo on using masking fluid when painting and then review CommUnity members work.







Tags: Illustration; Layout; Art Mediums; Creativity; Color & Design; Masking Fluid Demo; Visual Understory; Impact of Illustrations; Mapping Art

23. April 21, 2015 - Q&A with Maya

Brief Description: This was our first joint webinar with my Spring 2015 Heart of It course as well as the kick-off webinar for our Q&As during the months of April and May. This first one I start with myself with the opportunity to ask me specific questions about my books, my process, or anything else about my experience as a children's book maker both within the traditional publishing framework as well as alternative routes.











Tags: Self-Publishing; Traditional Publishing; Independent Publishing; Becoming a Publisher; Writing Outside your Experience; Spanish Translations; Submitting to a Publisher; Self-editing through Storytelling; Mapping

24. April 23, 2015 - Q&A with Laura Atkins

Brief Description: The second joint webinar in our Q&A series for April and May. This time we're joined by Laura Atkins, freelance children's book editor who has worked in the children's book field for almost twenty years. We talked a lot about the state of the publishing industry, some basic editing tips, and more.





Tags: Editing; Self-publishing; Agents; Independent Publishing; Traditional Publishing

25. May 5, 2015 - Q&A with Jamie Campbell Naidoo

Brief Description: Our next joint webinar in our Q&A series for April and May. Jamie Campbell Naidoo joins us this time. Jamie has done a great deal of research and advocacy for both the Latino and LGBTQI communities through children's books, has sat on several award committees and basically come into contact with countless children's books.





Tags: Getting your book into Libraries; Library Cataloging; Bilingual Books; Book Reviews; Independent Publishing; Self-publishing

26. May 20, 2015 - Q&A with Carl Angel

Brief Description: Our final joint webinar in our O&A series for April and May. This time joined by illustrator/art director/book designer Carl Angel. Carl has a very artistic, intuitive way of describing the design/layout process! He even knows how to art direct ME!!







Tags: Self-Publishing; Traditional Publishing; Elevate the text through Imagery; Art Directing; Graphic Design; Acrylic & Pencil; Underpainting; Collaboration between Art Director and Artist; Understanding the Book Process for Illustration

27. June 11, 2015 - Summertime Play! Series: Getting Our Creative Juices **Flowing**

Brief Description: Summer time play!!! In this webinar we do a quick review of the community spotlights from the SPRING and attend to any comments or questions still lingering about. Then we begin the serious PLAY of SUMMER! To start we go to the heart and pay some good holistic attention there and how our inner terrain impacts our creative expression and getting our work up and out into the world. With that as our constant foundation, we expand out for reflection, support and some awesome inspiration from artist/educator Lynda Barry. Finally we do an introductory review of how paper doll/puppet play can enhance our creative process and strengthen our work in children's books. This summer our play focuses on paper dolls as a developmental tool and Lynda Barry! A potent combo to free our hands, our minds and our hearts. A chance to deepen and develop. View the child paper doll/puppet template in related docs below. Begin play NOW! There is never a right or wrong way to make art!





Tags: Paper Doll History, Lynda Barry, Holistic Approach; Paper Dolls as a way to explore: Art Mediums, Character Development, as a Drawing Reference, Layout & Design, Storyteller Persona, and more

Related Docs/Files: to read a little bit more about Lynda Barry and her work: http:// thenearsightedmonkey.tumblr.com/ & http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lynda_Barry; Paper Doll Template

28. June 25, 2015 - Summertime Play! Series: The Storyteller Paper Doll & Mapping in CommUnity

Brief Description: In our first CommUnity Mapping webinar for the Summer Session, we look at 3 community members' work. A nice combination of text, thumbnails, finished drawings and final art from 3 different projects. We also begin looking at THE STORYTELLER PAPER DOLL project. This paper doll is geared more toward self awareness and creating an imaginative way to listen to the stories within you. We look at creative construction ideas for our paper dolls that support a holistic and healing perspective for our goodhearts and our ever strengthening voices in the world. My doll has been teaching me a lot already and she's not even finished! Bring your dolls and your materials. If you haven't watched the last webinar from June 11th, take a peek to get hip to the summer of play!







Tags: Mapping: Manuscripts, Thumbnails, Final Drawings; Lynda Barry; Play; Paper Doll Construction; Paper Dolls as a way to explore: Storyteller Persona, Understanding Deeper Elements that can contribute to a story

29. July 9, 2015 - Summertime Play! Series: Scribbles and Shapes and Paper Dolls

Brief Description: Summer time play continues!!! Many of us have a particular doodle/scribble bit that we find ourselves doing over and over when we're spacing out or what have you. Similarly there are often particular shapes that we are drawn to like circles or squares. We look at some of these compulsive creative expressions and tendencies as resources for our paper dolls for this webinar. I whip out some of my old favie tools and explore shapes as a doorway into a paper doll. I also continue checking in with the storyteller paper doll!



Tags: Creativity within limitation; Working with Shapes; Paper Doll Construction; Play; Developing an Environment based on Stylization of Paper Doll; Using Materials you have on hand from your life

Related Docs/Files: *the paper doll I created from the webinar*

30. July 23, 2015 - Summertime Play! Series: Creativity on the Go & Mapping in CommUnity

Brief Description: In this webinar I'm traveling! And I've got myself all rigged out to create on the go. I share how I am developing a series of stories simultaneously with my storyteller paper doll in tow. Sometimes getting out of our usual routine triggers extra creative flow. I also share about using intuition to develop picture books with more "edgy" content. And then a good portion is spent playing and mapping a manuscript submission from a CommUnity member, Shanimarie.





Tags: In-depth Mapping; Exploring how to be in the center of a story and expand out from there; Keeping track of story "seeds" using index cards; Traveling and Creativity; Intuition; Mapping Manuscripts

31. August 13, 2015 - Summertime Play! Series: Intuitive Guidance and Practical Application

Brief Description: Our last month of Summer Play begins! In this webinar we continue looking at Shanimarie's manuscript and continue with our mapping started in the last webinar on June 23rd. We looked at mapping the key elements, creating an internal structure and touched on using the intuition to develop stories that touch on experiences that are deep and challenging for children. We looked at half the story in this one and will continue in the next webinar. I also share another paperdoll creation and cut paper collage and how it's helping me explore the art for my next book project illustrating poems by Francisco Alarcon.







Tags: In-depth Mapping; Intuition; Mapping Manuscripts; Cut Paper Collage; Paper Doll Construction; Play; Practical Application

32. August 27, 2015 - Summertime Play! Series: Changing Seasons, Paper Dolls & Mapping in CommUnity

Brief Description: The last webinar for our Summer Play! series. To start I touch on a box of paper dolls I unearthed while upgrading my studio space. Exploring the content gives insight into how paper dolls have informed my current work and how they could inform yours. We talk about the power of play and how paper dolls are a great way to access that play within ourselves and how through play we often plant seeds for work that we may not fully understand for a few years. And then I map, map, map, but this time I approach through the use of voice!!! Through reading 3 very different manuscripts while paying attention to voice and a sense of presence within myself, I model how we can use our own bodies as instruments to find what we long for in the text and how to make our work stronger. I also looked at the continuing development of a beautifully stylized set of illustrations.



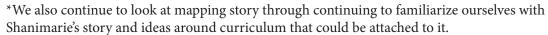




Tags: In-depth Mapping; Intuition; Mapping Manuscripts; Play; Voice; Paper Dolls; Voice as Instrument; Presence; How a strong sense of self can inform your work

33. September 10, 2015 - Beyond the Book: Developing Curriculum

Brief Description: In our first webinar for the Fall session, I share some of the process of developing curriculum for Whaleheart, published by my independent press, Reflection Press. (For those that may not know, this book is the first from the Heart Of It Collection series an anthology of work by students of my Heart of It course- www.reflectionpress.com/whaleheart) Just like when authors allow their understanding of the art process to inform their writing, everyone's work can benefit from exploring what and how their art or story can be useful in the classroom, library or even at home. This also opens up new possibilities for how you can share your book and support its meaning in the world. I even use 'mapping' as a tool in my curriculum development. All around, looking at curriculum has supported me as an artist and author and deepened my work. When I am making a book I always hold this in my mind. I think it could lead to some interesting conversations too about the meaning of your work and how that is conveyed through your word and image--EVEN IF YOU DO NOT PLAN ON GOING INTO THE CLASSROOM.



Tags: Curriculum; School Visits, Mapping; Lesson of the book for the maker; Different areas to Develop Curriculum; Art Lessons; Writing Lessons; How to make a living as an ArtistAuthor

34. September 24, 2015 - Beyond the Book: Back to School & Mapping in CommUnity

Brief Description: Building on the conversation the webinar on September 10th, we look at three different ways to develop and share curriculum: Art with a message, understanding identity through play and the long dance, transforming our culture through empowerment. I use my Claiming Face and Gender Now curriculum as examples as well as current curriculum pieces I'm working on related to my children's books. Thinking about how your book (or books) will eventually be used in a classroom setting is valuable wherever you are in the book making process. We also have community mapping time with Judith and a continuation of looking at Shanimarie's manuscript.









Tags: Curriculum; School Visits; Mapping; Lesson of the book for the maker; Different areas to Develop Curriculum; Art Lessons; Play; Structuring Curriculum

35. October 8, 2015 - Beyond the Book: Curriculum Essentials

Brief Description: In this webinar we get down to some curriculum "brass tacks." We look at some ideas on how to develop a fun and effective worksheet; what makes a good set of directions and how and when to engage different kinds of media to support your curriculum. I show some examples from my own Claiming Face and Gender Now curriculum as well as some other examples and look at how the actual design of the page can effect your curriculum. We discuss the importance of understanding what your own philosophical intentions are so you can embed that in every aspect of your curriculum. We're often teaching ourselves something when we create children's books so creating curriculum is an opportunity to really tease out what it is yours to learn so you can teach it clearly and effectively. I touch on some of the influences on my own work: Authentic Movement and the witnessing effect, Waking the Tiger by Peter Levine, Parenting from the Inside Out by Daniel Siegel, Summerhill by A. S. Neill, Pedagogy of the Oppressed by Paolo Friere, Donaldo Macedo to name a few.



Tags: Curriculum; School Visits; Lesson of the book for the maker; Different ways to Develop Curriculum; Art Lessons; Play; Structuring Curriculum; Curriculum Design

36. October 22, 2015 - Beyond the Book: Books in the Classroom & Mapping in CommUnity

Brief Description: In this webinar we look at how we can take our ideas and projects into the classroom through our books. What makes a successful project? What makes a successful process? How are you in the classroom? How to develop work in the classroom? Is the classroom the right place for you? What age to work with, assemblies, community gatherings, and more are touched on. I believe our kids need contact with community artists. How do we make those in roads? And we also have community mapping time with Victoria and Amanda.





Tags: Curriculum; School Visits; Volunteering and Getting Paid; Connecting with Librarians; Supplemental Materials-what Kind of Materials make it easy to show what you do; How to bring Big Lessons in through Simple Activities; Lesson of the book for the Maker from Your own Childhood School Days; Confidence and Honesty; Mapping

37. November 17, 2015 - Returning to the Heart: Anchoring Your Work in a Holistic Frame

Brief Description: In this webinar we return to our origins. The heart. I look at a series of different books with very different intents (Nana's Big Surprise, Otter and Odder, Ish, The Dot, What Makes a Baby, Sex is a Funny Word) and how their creation, curriculum and buoyancy in the world are rooted in their maker's heart journey. We then explore a little bit about how anchoring our work in a holistic frame can support our work getting out into the world and make us stronger at the same time.







Tags: Sourcing Story Within, Curriculum, Holistic, The Way of the Book, The Heart of It

38. November 19, 2015 - A Year in Review & Mapping in CommUnity

Brief Description: In our very last webinar for the 2015 study group, we have community mapping time with Amanda and Shanimarie. And then we do a year's review of what we've covered in the webinars. This not only serves to remind you what we've done, but also provide a framework to look for areas that you might want to return to. We also take the time to review our own creative expression and productivity from the last year. Again, this doesn't have to mean completed manuscripts or art, it can include conceptual and imaginative work as well. You can also use the provided worksheet for you to look at your own work further and take an inventory of where you stand with your projects. And as always we also talk about some next steps to take based on where you're currently at.







Tags: Closure, Review, Mapping, Acknowledging Conceptual Work, Intention, Lessons of the Maker

Related Docs/Files: Closing Thoughts & Review Worksheet