Keynote Speaker: Gabriel Gale

JOURNEY TO OZ

Did you know that The Wizard of Oz was just one of fourteen Oz books written by L. Frank Baum over 100 years ago?

Did you know that Glinda was originally written to be a fiery red-head like Wonder Woman, not a blonde pink-dressed “Good Witch” floating in a bubble?

And, did you know that the ruby slippers were written to be silver?

Gabriel Gale will tell you all about it AND about his reimagining and expansion of the Oz universe in Ages of Oz. Mr. Gale is a Brooklyn, NY native and the creator of Ages of Oz, a new adaption and expansion of the Oz that we all know and love. Ages of Oz has been underway for about ten years and discussed with A-list directors, producers, and more! When he isn’t fighting rogue witches (like a certain noteworthy ancestor of his), Gabe is an artist, architect, writer, and above all, defender of the Good, attributes that serve him well as Royal Historian of Oz. Visit his website at www.agesofoz.com or check him out on Facebook @GabrielGale or Instagram @agesofoz!
**Master Workshop with Gabriel Gale**

1. **YOUNG MAGICIANS IN OZ**
   Lions, tigers and bears? Not quite. More like Fairies, Sphinx and the Underground Rock King! Do you think that you could overcome the challenges faced by 13-year-old Glinda and her friends in the *Ages of Oz* books? Or would you end up in a magical co-nunDRUM or COLLIDEoscope? In this workshop, you will learn how we developed our characters and challenged Glinda and her friends at integral points in each of our two books. You will then solve a riddle like the ones that Glinda and her friends solved! Once the riddle is solved, the Mythical Sphinx Beast, that we create together, will be released from the Underground Rock King’s control! All children will leave the workshop with the solved riddle and with a picture of our created Mythical Sphinx Beast!

   (see Keynote Speaker on page 1 for bio.)

**Adventure Writing**

2. **CHOOSE YOUR OWN ADVENTURE**
   What do all adventure stories have in common? Heroes! Quests! And problems! In this workshop, you’ll get to conjure up a hero or heroine of your own, imagine a quest for them, and find obstacles to throw their way. Whether it’s a flood, a fire-breathing dragon, or a car running out of gas, we’ll discuss ways to move our stories along, deepen characters, and bring our heroes home.

   *Sheela Chari* is the author of several books for young readers, including *Finding Mighty*, a Junior Library Guild Selection and Amazon Best Book of the Month selection; and *Vanished*, an APALA Children’s Literature Honor Book, an Edgar finalist for best juvenile mystery, and an Al’s Book Club Pick on the *Today Show*. You can visit her online at [www.sheelachari.com](http://www.sheelachari.com).
3. TURN YOUR VACATION INTO AN ADVENTURE STORY

Your next family trip can be better than ever! After this workshop, you’ll know how to pick up the best, funniest, or most awkward moments of a trip and write about them, adding a secret ingredient called sense of place. By the end of the workshop, you’ll have written your own short travel story, and you may be motivated to bring a little notebook with you on your next vacation. Traveling is not just fun and relaxing, it’s a wonderful way to expand our minds.

Ines Rodrigues is a journalist, teacher and writer. She grew up in Brazil, studied in Italy and lived in London before landing in Scarsdale. Her native language is Portuguese, but she teaches Italian and writes fiction and reviews in English. She traveled a lot as a journalist, edited a travel supplement at a daily newspaper and wrote for magazines such as Elle and Marie Claire. Ines just published her first novel, Days of Bossa Nova. She is one of the creators of The Scarsdale Salon, a literary event at the Scarsdale Library. You can visit her online at www.inesrodriguesauthor.com.

4. A PICTURE PAINTS A THOUSAND WORDS

In this workshop, you get the chance to flip through many types of curious and creative ART BOOKS, and then... you get to create your own! You will make an art appreciation “coffee table” book by selecting from thousands of images of famous works and adding your own interpretation. Share how you see a work of art: What painting inspires you? Makes you smile? Makes you wish to turn the page? Sometimes we look at a work of art and just feel something — there are no wrong answers in art, it’s all up to you!

Diane Greenwald is an active Scarsdale volunteer, but is also an art historian and graphic designer, and ran the marketing department for a major architecture firm. After completing coursework in museum education at Bank Street College of Education, Diane now enjoys sharing art with children and adults too!

5. FAMOUS POP ARTIST LEADS COLLAGE WORKSHOP

Words and letters are everywhere! On packages, signs and... everywhere you turn! Turn those letters and words into a picture story about yourself. With your imagination and creativity, recycled materials such as cereal boxes, (the artist’s trademark materials) will be used to create a modern picture word portrait. Pictures do tell stories — especially when words and letters are involved.

Michael Albert, a local modern pop artist, author, and founder of the Sir Real Fruit Juice Company, will lead this workshop. Posters of his colorful collage artworks can be found all over the USA and at Cosi Restaurants in Westchester and Fairfield counties. You can visit him at www.michaelalbert.com.

Big Ideas

6. CALLING ALL ENTREPRENEURS AND INVENTORS: TURN YOUR IDEA INTO A BUSINESS!

Do you want to own your own business one day? Do you hope to invent something great and make millions from it? In this workshop you will learn a few basic steps for turning a great idea into a business opportunity! Bring your most creative ideas and inventions and learn to write a simple business plan for how to advertise, price, and deliver your product or service to your future customers. Come away with a basic picture of what your future venture will look like— who knows, we may have a future Apple or Instagram founder in the room!

Lisa Tretler is a mentor and professional advisor to entrepreneurs and growing small businesses. She has developed curriculum and taught business strategy and entrepreneurship courses for the Wharton School, the University of Pennsylvania, and the Women’s Enterprise Development Center in White Plains. Lisa started her first business at age 8 – selling lemonade and crafts from her front yard. She currently is the CEO of a business strategy consulting firm she founded in 2002. For more about Lisa, visit www.businessboostersconsulting.com.
Character Creation

7. CREATURE CRAFTING - LET'S MAKE SOME MONSTERS!

Let’s make some MONSTERS! Why? Because it’s FUN! And because creating a fantastic story begins with creating exciting characters...and what’s more exciting than a monster?! In this program, students will learn and apply the secrets to producing fascinating creatures that make stories riveting, suspenseful page-turners. And they will even learn how to use these techniques to make compelling non-monster characters!

Jason Edwards is a writer, artist, storyteller, producer of educational enrichment programs, and an authority on children’s anxieties. He has more than 30 years of experience developing innovative ways to entertain, instruct, and inspire children. His talent for addressing children's issues in a non-threatening manner has been featured in all forms of media and has earned him the Mom’s Choice Award for Family Friendly Media and an endorsement from the Anxiety Disorders Association of America. Jason lives in New York with his wife, daughters, and a rabbit named Bunniford, who never comes when he is called. Learn more at www.roguebearpress.com/about.html.

8. SHOW YOUR CHARACTER!

Imagine a fairy, troll, dragon or gnome that might live in a magical world. Or perhaps a 4th grade soccer player or star of the school play. In this workshop, you will create characters and place them in a story. Learn how to brainstorm story ideas and pace a plot. Write your own adventure or typical day with your character as the star!

Helen Perelman is the author of the Candy Fairies chapter book series and the Royal Sweets series. She worked in a children’s bookstore and was a children's book editor... but, sadly, she never worked in a candy store. She has written several books for young readers — and not all about candy. She writes full time in Westchester, NY, where she lives with her husband and two daughters. Visit her online at www.helenperelman.com and www.candyfairies.com.

9. DIARY OF A BUNNY: STORYTELLING FROM A FURRY PERSPECTIVE!

Ever wonder what a bunny (or other pet) would write about in their very own diary? Get ready to hop into their paws and create your very own bunny journal! Each day brings whatever activity and entry you choose. And don’t forget the illustrations! Participants will learn to draw bunnies and have REAL RABBITS, Acorn and Oatmeal, attending for some serious inspiration. Everyone leaves with their own mini storybook.

Laura Schaefer is the published author of the hit chapter book series, The Crumbles Chronicles: Tails of a Nervous Dog, as well as the owner of Scattered Books Bookstore, where Acorn and Oatmeal roam free as store mascots. For more about Laura, please see www.LauraScottSchaefer.com and www.scattered-books.com (and Facebook sites, too).

Food Reviews

10. FOOD FOR THOUGHT: WRITING HELPFUL PRODUCT REVIEWS

How does your family decide what computer or TV to buy, what movies to see, or even where to go on vacation? Most people read reviews to help them make the best choices. In this workshop, you’ll learn how to write great reviews by conducting your own taste test and writing your own review of three leading potato-chip brands! You’ll leave the workshop with your original article, new insight into how writers craft reviews, and a nice, full belly! (Parents please note: Store-bought potato chips will be served during this workshop.)

11. FACT IS SCARIER THAN FICTION

Learn how to write a great story that sends chills down your friends’ spines! This workshop will focus on how to write bone-chilling stories that frighten friends and relatives alike. Mr. Meyer is an expert on crafting a great historic tale with countless chilling twists and turns. Get ready to write your very own ghost story!

Bill Meyer is the author of *The Secret of the Scarab Beetle* and *The Search for the Lost Prophecy*, the first two books in the *Horace and the Time Keeper* series. He is also a former history teacher at Scarsdale High School and currently finishing his Ph.D. at NYU. When he is not studying ancient history, teaching his students about the ancient world, or writing his next book, you can find him with his wife and son eating a cone of “Cookie Monster” ice cream at Longford’s in Rye. Learn more at [www.horaceandthetimekeepers.com](http://www.horaceandthetimekeepers.com).

12. BREAKING NEWS

News is breaking, and it’s your beat! Learn how to make observations at the scene, interview eyewitnesses and police, get comments from the mayor or the school principal, and dig up all the facts you need to write a local news story that all your neighbors will want to read.


13. PUBLISH YOUR OWN ONLINE NEWS SITE

Here’s your chance to publish your own edition of a weekly community website! In this workshop we will brainstorm ideas for articles, come up with captivating headlines and write drafts of content for a website targeted to Scarsdale kids. Together we will take the stories that interest you and turn them into your own edition of Scarsdale10583.

Joanne Wallenstein is the publisher of Scarsdale10583.com, one of Scarsdale’s well-known community-based websites. Founded in 2009, the online website covers news from the village, the schools, people, food, entertainment and more.
Music

16. THE ART OF MUSIC JOURNALISM
What role do music journalists play in artists’ careers? How can music journalists and critics not just report on culture, but also influence and change culture? In this workshop, we will unpack the anatomy of a great music profile, collaboratively write a review of a live concert video, and discuss some of the most interesting trends in the music industry that any young writer can start reporting on today.

Cherie Hu is an award-winning journalist and researcher, focusing on the intersection of music, media and technology. She has written for outlets like Billboard, Forbes, Pitchfork and Variety, and received the Reeperbahn Festival’s inaugural award for Music Business Journalist of the Year at age 21. Beyond her journalistic work, she also studies media business models and membership programs at NYU’s Arthur L. Carter Journalism Institute. Previously, Cherie spearheaded a research project on music business models with Harvard Business School’s Digital Initiative, and worked at Interscope Records and Ticketmaster in roles spanning A&R and product marketing. She has spoken about entertainment and tech at over 20 international conferences to date, and has given guest lectures at institutions including NYU, Cornell Tech and the University of Kristiansand in Norway.

17. SONGWRITING
Would you like to express yourself and affect other people’s emotions? Songwriting is a creative, rewarding process where you bring something beautiful and meaningful into the world. In this workshop, we will break down a popular song in order to figure out the choices that songwriters make. Then you will have an opportunity to write your own song and start on your own musical journey! No musical experience needed.

Jordan Copeland is a musician, singer, songwriter, elementary school teacher, and former lawyer who has written and performed dozens of original songs. He has attended workshops with major label recording artists and helped numerous songwriters improve their work.

Nature & Science

18. NATURE-INSPIRED WRITING
Do you love to climb trees, collect seashells, and go on grand adventures? Bring the outdoors in during this sensory workshop. Use all your senses to experience elements from nature and write engaging prose about your experience. We will talk about how observing nature can make us better writers and reporters.

Michelle Levy brings her experience exploring the Amazon jungle and the Andes Mountains, as well as the nature of Westchester County, to this workshop. She is a naturalist at Sheldrake Environmental Center in Larchmont, as well as an experienced book editor and writing teacher. Michelle edited science textbooks for McGraw-Hill and architecture textbooks for Condé Nast. She helps authors in all subjects polish their manuscripts and pitch literary agents. She also teaches writing and mindfulness practices in Westchester County. Visit her web site, www.michellesydneylevy.com and her and her Facebook group, The Windcatchers.

19. WRITE YOUR WONDER! A SCIENCE WRITING WORKSHOP
What would happen if gravity disappeared? Why does ice float? How do lizards climb walls? Why do leaves change colors? What does an owl do at night? What do you wonder about? Questions drive science and also drive writing! This workshop will use curiosity about the world to teach science writing. How we find answers to scientific questions is also journey into storytelling. We will explore what happens when we do not know which direction to take next.

Summers Scholl is a science textbook editor with 15 years of experience coaxing stories out of chemists, biologists, engineers, and physicists. She has a background in zoology & physiology, an MA from NYU in science studies, and a penchant for puns, drawing, and running.
Poetry & Performance

20. PERFORMANCE POWER!
In this workshop, we will take inspiration from issues that are important to you, current events, social and environmental justice, and personal concerns, then we will create performative poetry! Together we will breathe life into our written words, turning our feelings into actions, and creating a performance, where we dramatically speak our written words! We will create our own poetry slam that breaks rules of traditional theatre, poetry and composition.

Autumn Kioti is an interdisciplinary artist who combines improvisational movement, aerial arts, choreography, narrative, installation, sound and visual arts, activism and social justice. Finding value in society’s discards, she builds masks, puppets, installations and environments from recovered items, then, merging subconscious narrative with mythic and folk impulses, Autumn scavenges bits of everything from history and literature, science and mathematics, to David Attenborough animal documentaries, in the creation of participatory performances centered on intuitive movement and pure emotion.

Sports Writing

21. WRITE ABOUT THE MOST EXCITING SPORTS EVENT IN HISTORY
Maybe you weren’t there when the Yankees won the 2009 World Series — but you can write about it just like you were on the field! Through video clips of baseball, football, basketball, Olympic events, and more, watch some of the most exciting and surprising events in sports history. Then recount what you saw — just as a sports journalist would — telling about some of the amazing plays, as if you were right there witnessing history.

Jordan Goodman, Scarsdale resident and professional journalist, is an author and broadcaster, and owner of JG Financial Communications.

Story Crafting

22. IF YOU KNOW IT, WRITE IT!
What makes an exciting story? Often, our favorite stories come from authors who have drawn on their own experiences to create characters and settings that we can relate to. In this workshop, we’ll figure out how to take an experience that was meaningful to you and translate it onto the page.

Wendy L. Brandes is the author of the realistic, humorous middle grade series Summer Camp. Tiger Beat stated that once you start reading the Summer Camp series it “is going to be your new obsession... four exciting, yet relatable books about different summer camp experiences at Camp Mon Mon Lake!” Wendy is currently working on her fifth book about a blended family. www.capstonepub.com/consumer/authors/brandes-wendy-l/

Theatre/Film

23. LIGHTS...CAMERA...ACTION!
USING READERS THEATER TO CREATE DIALOGUE
Casting call! In this interactive workshop, you will explore the art of, and the need for, writing effective dialogue through a Readers Theater experience. You will perform short scenes from the author’s works-in-progress and then create and perform your own scenes using your dialogue writing skills. Let the show begin!

Jennifer Wolf Kam began writing stories as soon as she could hold a crayon. Devin Rhodes is Dead is her first novel and winner of the National Association of Elementary School Principals Children’s Book of the Year Award. Jennifer is a four-time finalist for the Katherine Paterson Prize for Young Adult and Children’s Writing. She lives in New York with her husband, two sons, a kitty name KitKat, and a love of chocolate. Visit her at www.jenniferwolffkam.com.
**24. ACTING FOR WRITERS**

Are you a performer, who loves to write? Or are you a writer, who loves to act? Either way, this workshop is for you! Many of the techniques an actor must use to understand a play and to create a character are techniques a writer must use to fully imagine a world and to create believable characters. In our workshop, we will explore how to use acting to become better writers and how writing can make us better actors. We will explore ways to breathe real life into our imagined worlds by playing improvisation games and doing exercises that enhance everyone’s ability to think quickly, create easily, and react spontaneously.

Carla Stockton, writer, grandmother, editor, filmmaker, and teacher, is an old neophyte constantly aware of how very much she has yet to learn. Currently teaching at Lehman College, she taught high school Drama and English for many years and has been teaching Creative Writing in the Columbia Summer High School program for four years. She earned an MFA in Creative Writing and Literary Translation at Columbia and is currently at work on Jewish Family Robinson, a memoir of growing up in the shadow of the Holocaust. Her work has been published in The Columbia Journal Online, Sweater Weather, The Guardian, Toast, and Grief Diaries. Visit her at www.carlastockton.me.

**25. HOW TO WRITE A SUPER BOWL COMMERCIAL**

Commercials can be the worst part of watching a show. But sometimes they can be the best part! Learn how to tell a story, entertain an audience and sell a product — all in 30 seconds or less! If you’ve ever said, “I hate this commercial,” now’s your chance to make one you’d actually like to watch!

Chip Rich is an Executive Creative Director at Campbell-Ewald, an advertising agency in NYC.

**26. THERE IS MORE TO FILMMAKING THAN MEETS THE EYE: STORYTELLING THROUGH IMAGES**

Have you ever watched Tom and Jerry with the sound shut off? Imagine watching a dramatic TV show like Law and Order or The Walking Dead without music — not so dramatic right? When it comes to TV shows, cartoons and movies, there is a lot more to telling a story than simply the screenplay. This workshop will explore how shot types, lighting, sound, and editing tell just as much of a story as the dialog. During this workshop, you’ll view great examples of how important all of these factors are in captivating an audience, and you’ll create a storyboard complete with shot list, sound effects choices, music choices, and more to tell the story the way you want to tell it! After this workshop you’ll view video in an entirely different light!

Josh Colon is a SUNY Oneonta graduate who studied various aspects of the media production realm. While at SUNY Oneonta, he cultivated his love of storytelling through the use of sound. Josh was an interviewer and editor of an award-winning podcast, Oneonta Voices. He has also worked with numerous up-and-coming bands/artists, producing and recording their tracks. Through his work with podcasts and in recording studios, he developed an infatuation with sound’s role in storytelling.

**Word Play**

**27. PLAYING WITH WORDS**

Anyone can
Create acrostic
Riddles by writing the letters
Of a word vertically, then
Starting each line of
The poem
In this way, like a
Crossword Puzzle
Have fun with words by creating acrostic poems, magic squares, and Haikus.

Steven Schnur is returning for his 24th YWW! He is an author of many books, including the award-winning The Shadow Children.

**DONATE NEW AND GENTLY USED BOOKS!**

Please bring new or gently used children’s books, suitable for Kindergarten through 5th Grade, to the Young Writers’ Workshop on November 17th. Donations will support children’s programming at JCY-Westchester Community Partners, a Division of the Family Service Society of Yonkers.

The JCY - Westchester Community Partners’ mission is to enhance the educational experience of children in Westchester County through effective learning initiatives and the engagement of volunteer mentors.