



# HOLIDAY HOUSE



## OUR STORY

Since its beginnings in 1935 as the first American publishing house founded with the purpose of publishing only children's books, Holiday House has been proud to gather together talented authors and illustrators and to publish quality books that entertain, enlighten, and educate children. Known for having a deep list of timeless and award-winning books for children and young adult readers, Holiday House publishes the award-winning I Like to Read® series of picture books for emergent readers and launched its first eponymous imprints, Margaret Ferguson Books and Neal Porter Books, in 2018. The iconic logo of the Holiday House little boy is by Ernest H. Shepard, the renowned illustrator of *The Wind in the Willows* and the Winnie the Pooh books, from our original edition of *The Reluctant Dragon* by Kenneth Grahame.

## EDITORS

### **Mary Cash, Editor-in-Chief**

Mary Cash edits books for children in many genres, with a special interest in nonfiction, middle grade fiction, and graphic novels for all ages including I Like to Read Comics for beginning readers. Nonfiction topics that interest her include sustainability, social justice, and the arts. She is always up for humor of all sorts. She has edited a Newbery Honor book, Sibert Honor books, Coretta Scott King Award winners, and Orbis Pictus Award winners. Some books she has enjoyed editing lately include *Before She Was Harriet* by Lesa Cline-Ransome, illustrated by James Ransome; The Finding Langston trilogy by Lesa Cline-Ransome; the Star Striker series by Mary Amato; and the Horse and Buggy easy readers by Ethan Long.

### **Margaret Ferguson, Publisher, Margaret Ferguson Books**

Margaret Ferguson publishes books for children in all genres and looks for literary stories with strong storytelling voices. She has edited Newbery Honor Books, Caldecott Honor Books, and a National Book Award finalist book and a National Book Award winning book. Some of her recent favorite titles that she worked on are *The Adventures of a Girl Called Bicycle* (Texas Bluebonnet Award Master List); *A Place to Hang the Moon* by Kate Albus (An Indie Next title); *Pine Island Home* by Polly Horvath; *Enemy Child: The Story of Norma Mineta* by Andrea Warren (A California Reading Association Eureka! Nonfiction Gold Award Winner); *Salt Magic* written by Hope Larson and illustrated by Rebecca Mock; *Toasty* by Sarah Hwang; *Once Upon a Winter Day* by Liza Woodruff; *Field Trip to the Moon* by John Hare.

### **Neal Porter, Publisher, Neal Porter Books**

Neal Porter publishes primarily picture books (both fiction and informational), and occasionally longer illustrated works of nonfiction. He is interested in subject matter that challenges the conventional notion of what's appropriate for young children, and new and distinctive voices.

Books he's especially proud of include *A Sick Day for Amos McGee* by Philip and Erin Stead (Caldecott Medal), *First the Egg* and *Green* by Laura Vaccaro Seeger (Caldecott Honor Books), *Viva Frida* by Yuyi Morales (Caldecott Honor and Pura Belpré Award), and *Grand Canyon* by Jason Chin (Caldecott Honor, Sibert Honor, and Orbis Pictus Award) The first book published under his imprint at Holiday House was Yuyi Morales's *Dreamers* (Pura Belpré Illustrator Award) and other recent books include Candace Fleming and Eric Rohmann's *Honeybee* (Sibert Medal, Orbis Pictus Honor Book) and Jordan Scott and Sydney Smith's *I Talk Like a River* (Boston Globe-Horn Book Award).

### **Grace Maccarone, Executive Editor**

Grace Maccarone acquires picture books and nonfiction for the very young. She likes to publish accessible, kid-friendly books, often with an educational slant, that celebrate the joy of life. Easy readers are her passion. Five of her books (including *See Me Run*, *I See a Cat*, and *Noodleheads See the Future* for Holiday House) received Theodor Seuss Geisel Honor Awards.

At Scholastic, she published the first six books in Tedd Arnold's Fly Guy series, the bestseller *I Love You Through and Through* by Bernadette Rossetti-Shustak and Caroline Jayne Church, the I Spy series by Walter Wick and Jean Marzollo, and *Through My Eyes* by Ruby Bridges (Orbis Pictus Award, Jane Addams Children's Book Award).

### **Elizabeth Law, Backlist and Special Projects Editor**

While Elizabeth came to Holiday House with a focus on refreshing and revitalizing their superb, 80-year backlist, she is also enthusiastically acquiring original titles. Titles she has edited recently include Dan Gutman's *Houdini and Me* and debut novelist Polly Farquhar's *Itch*, and the forthcoming picture book about 5 families on the Lower East Side, *Five Stories* by Ellen Weinstein. Elizabeth loves contemporary middle grade fiction, anything funny, and picture books on unusual or interesting topics. Like the rest of the world, she is passionate about diverse representation in children's books. Finally, she always has a soft spot for doll and dollhouse books.

### **Sally Morgridge, Senior Editor**

Sally Morgridge loves working on books for children of all ages. Recent highlights include the epistolary chapter book series *Dear Beast*, by Dori Hillestad Butler and Kevan Atteberry; Edgar-nominated middle grade mystery series *Ra the Mighty*, by Amy Butler Greenfield; and middle grade debut novel in verse *The Places We Sleep*, by Caroline Brooks DuBois, which was an Indies Introduce and Indies Next selection. A new project that she's excited about is *Welcome To Feral*, a forthcoming graphic novel by Mark Fearing. Sally's list is mostly middle grade fiction with a select handful of picture books, nonfiction, and YA. The best submissions to send her way will have distinct, memorable voices and unusual characters. She's also a big fan of sneaky mysteries, heart-stopping plots, funny writing, and beautiful imagery, and she is forever looking for literary novels with properly shocking twists.

### **Mora Couch, Editor**

Mora works primarily with YA, MG, and graphic novels. She is most interested in fantasy, historical, contemporary, and horror projects. She looks for strong voices, convincing settings, and emotional *oomph*, and has a not-so-secret fondness for ghost stories and animal fantasy. Some recent projects she has enjoyed editing include *Fat Chance*, *Charlie Vega* by Crystal Maldonado (a *Cosmopolitan* Best New Book and a POPSUGAR Best New Young Adult Novel); *Brother's Keeper* by Julie Lee (a

Freeman Award Winner and a Jane Addams Children's Book Award Finalist); *The Liar's Daughter* by Megan Cooley Peterson (a YALSA Quick Pick); *Daughter of the White Rose* by Diane Zahler (a Junior Library Guild Gold Selection); and the forthcoming novels *The Star That Always Stays* by Anna Rose Johnson, a heartfelt middle-grade novel about an Ojibwe girl in turn-of-the-century Michigan, and *Nightrender* by Jodi Meadows, the first in a lush, commercial teen fantasy duology. Some of her favorite books generally include *The Midwife's Apprentice*, *Six of Crows*, *Guardians of Ga'Hoole*, *Witchlight*, and *I Am Not Your Perfect Mexican Daughter*. She is a graduate of the Columbia Publishing Course.

### **Della Farrell, Associate Editor**

Della is always on the lookout for can't-put-down, well-researched children's and YA nonfiction. If there is almost as much back matter as there is main text, she wants to read it. She is particularly interested in projects on labor history and climate change. Della is also interested in middle grade, YA, and graphic novel fantasy, mystery, and contemporary realistic fiction. She loves stories with thoughtful world building, a touch of humor, and characters who are questioning their place in the universe. Some forthcoming projects she has enjoyed editing include *Breaking the Mold* by Dana Alison Levy, an intellectually stimulating look at scientists working on climate change solutions for middle grade readers, and *Stories of the Islands* by Clar Angkasa, a rich graphic novel retelling of three Indonesian folktales emphasizing female relationships and empowerment. Some of her favorite reads include Somaiya Daud's *Mirage*, Juan Felipe Herrera's *Jabberwalking*, and Alice Faye Duncan's *Memphis, Martin, and the Mountaintop: The Sanitation Strike of 1968*.

### **Drew Seeger, Editorial Assistant**

Previously an intern at Folio Literary Management and a producer for AmpLit Fest, Drew is primarily interested in fantasy, speculative, and horror projects for young adult, middle grade, and graphic novel readers; he is also seeking nonfiction picture books about ecology and biology. In fiction, he enjoys sophisticated voices, dry wit, and work steeped in the absurd, surreal, and uncanny. In nonfiction, he likes unusual subjects and titles that encourage new perspectives. Some of his favorite books include *Coraline* by Neil Gaiman, *The Milk of Dreams* by Leonora Carrington, *Un Lun Dun* by China Mieville, and *Bug Boys* by Laura Knetzger.

### **Laura Kincaid, Editorial Assistant**

A graduate of the Columbia Publishing Course, Laura is drawn to MG, YA, and graphic novels with unique voices, immersive worldbuilding, and character-driven stories regardless of genre, but has a soft spot for fantasy, speculative fiction, and horror. She is passionate about supporting diverse authors and stories, especially LGBTQ+ representation. In picture books she loves humor and uplifting themes. She also enjoys nonfiction that highlights unusual topics, untold parts of history, or the environment. Some of her favorite books include *Here in the Real World* by Sara Pennypacker, *Inkmistress* by Audrey Coulthurst, *The Magic Fish* by Trung Le Nguyen, *Cemetery Boys* by Aiden Thomas, and *Bone Gap* by Laura Ruby.

We look forward to seeing your work!

Thank you for thinking of Holiday House.