SUMMER 2024

Dear Publishing Friends,

Welcome, summer—and welcome to the tenth volume of our Illustrator Lookbook. Inside you'll meet 26 of our artists, some newcomers and some returning to these pages to showcase their latest work.

Enjoy perusing the selection of talent within, and then don't forget to visit ABLA's Our Illustrators page to see the full range of artists we represent.

Please click the links if you'd like to:

- ★ See our past LookBooks!
- ★ Check out ALL the amazing artists we represent!
- ★ Visit us on Bluesky!
- ★ <u>Sign up for our mostly-weekly Illustrator Spotlight emails!</u>

Do pass this around to anyone on your teams we might have missed. And reach out to our agents if you have a specific question or need: we'd be delighted to see how one of our 150+ illustrators might be able to elevate your picture book, board book, graphic novel, spot art, jacket, or [insert amazing publishing project here].

From your friends at ABLA

Andrea Brown, Laura Rennert, Caryn Wiseman, Kelly Sonnack
Jenn Laughran, Jennifer Rofé, Jamie Weiss Chilton, Kathleen Rushall,
Lara Perkins, Jennifer March Soloway, Jennifer Mattson, Saritza Hernández,
Jem Chambers-Black, Paige Terlip, & Sally Kim



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Yaroslava Apollonova is an author-illustrator based in Berlin. After earning her BA in Graphic Design, Yara continued her career as a full-time illustrator with a bunch of useful skills, like lettering and adaptability. In her free time (thanks to her ADHD), she hyperfocuses on knowing everything about anteaters and sloths.

l'D LOVE to advocate for mental health, neurodiversity, and self-acceptance in my dream project. It would also feature a cat, for sure. Preferably, chonky, lazy, and with attitude.













Olivia Aserr is a half-Egyptian, half-Irish American illustrator and visual development artist, who specializes in background painting for animation studios. Olivia is passionate about telling stories that are fantastical and diverse. When she's not drawing, sewing, or leatherworking, Olivia swing dances all over Los Angeles and the rest of the world.

I DREAM OF illustrating stories about adventurers and would-be heroes are at the top of my dream list!





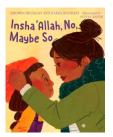












HOLIDAY HOUSE



VIKING





MIKEBOLDT.CA X MIKEBOLDT THATMIKEBOLDT

Mike Boldt is an award-winning author and New York Times bestselling illustrator from rural Alberta, Canada. When Mike is not working on new books, you can find him and his wife cheering on their three kids at their various sporting events, playing boardgames (and losing), walking his dog, or eating ice cream.

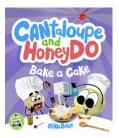
MY FAVORITE projects to illustrate are stories that have characters who inspire me to engage the reader with heart, laughter, big emotions, and ridiculous situations. Also, animal stories.





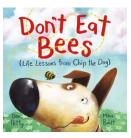


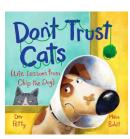




DIAL









DOUBLEDAY

DOUBLEDAY

DOUBLEDAY

DIAL

Emilie Boon is the illustrator or author-illustrator of more than 20 children's books. Born in the Netherlands, she spent her childhood daydreaming and drawing in California and Mexico. Emilie graduated from the Royal Academy of Art at The Hague and creates her work in an old mill near Boston.

I LOVE to illustrate heartfelt stories with brave, quirky characters. Whether I'm creating beguiling animals or children that tug at your heartstrings, expressing a character's emotions through color and just a few dots, lines, and squiggles is a challenge I enjoy!



















Jennifer Bower is an illustrator with a retro-modern style. She combines her passion for midcentury picture books and vintage animation with worldbuilding inspired by her studies in journalism and her BFA degree in Interior Design. Jennifer lives on a hobby farm in North Carolina with a menagerie of animals.

MY CREATIVE compass points toward stories that are delightfully silly, emotionally rich, subversively clever, or a tad irreverent. And I harbor soft spots for a well-crafted pun and potty humor.



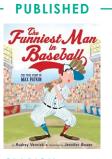












BLOOMSBURY

CLARION

Cait Brennan is an easily excited illustrator from Charleston, South Carolina. At an early age, she discovered that drawing was a great way to make people smile, even laugh. As a total ham, she found that very appealing. Her motivations remain the same today, and her work celebrates joyful moments, big and small.

My list of perfect projects would include a book about bonding time in the kitchen, a story featuring adventurous girls in a little bit of danger, and all the seaside stories!





















CALLISTO





JAMESBURKS.COM



James Burks has spent his life eating, breathing, and, mostly, drawing. In addition to writing and illustrating graphic novels, chapter books, and picture books, he's worked on animated feature films for Disney and Warner Brothers and television shows for Nickelodeon and Cartoon Network. He also loves tacos.

I LOVE creating heartfelt and humorous worlds where readers can forget their troubles and enjoy a few laughs. Friendship and adventure stories—YES, PLEASE.















RAZORBILL

GRAPHIX

TWO LIONS

Maddi Coyne draws inspiration from myths, legends, fantasy, and history—particularly medieval history and the Italian Renaissance. She's especially fond of adventure stories and gender nonconforming characters. When Maddi isn't drawing, you can find her learning new crafts, hiking, and playing tabletop RPGs.

I LOVE reimagined folklore tropes, swords and armor, and stories with supernatural and romance elements. I'd especially love to work on gueer, character-driven stories that deal with identity.









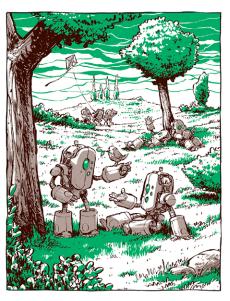






Jerel Dye lives in Boston with his partner and a menagerie of cats. Inspired by his love of science and technology, Jerel combines traditional materials and digital techniques to craft detailed scenes brimming with wit and wonder. He illustrated *Einstein*, a *Booklist* Top 10 graphic novel of 2022–23.

I ADORE projects that take place in elaborate new worlds that I can explore in ink and paint. Sprinkle in a bit of whimsy and I'm over the moon!













I LOVE to draw characters with BIG feelings and a lot of emotion. Stories where children are challenged to learn social-emotional skills















Norm Grock is an author-illustrator from the Pacific Northwest with a background in sequential art, video games, and character design. These days he spends most of his time dreaming up his next graphic novel or video game project. He enjoys time with his wife, raising their two sons.

I ENJOY infusing humor into my artwork. Crafting comical, memorable characters in fantastical scenarios is my forte. I dream of illustrating stories set in whimsical worlds, full of adventure and joy.















PUBLISHED

Mark Hoffmann is warmly off-kilter...in personality and aesthetic. As an award-winning author-illustrator and professor, Mark works on goofy books with goofy looks. Mark also has a fondness for textures, colors, and strange perspectives. He lives in New Hampshire with his lovely wife, sprightly son, and screwball pets.

Butts, boogers, and/or anything that would delight a cackling child are right up my alley. I may have gray hair on my head, but I still giggle when someone toots. If there is a book that lives in the absurdity of childhood, sign me up!



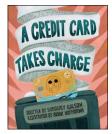




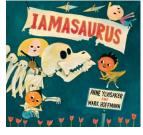


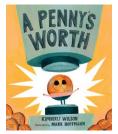














PAGE STREET

KNOPF

ABRAMS

PAGE STREET

ABRAMS



Danamarie Hosler is an autistic illustrator, fiber artist, and muralist with a BFA from Maryland Institute College of Art. She loves and relates deeply to the humble but mighty pigeon. She believes that art should be accessible to everyone, and considers her work to be equal parts art, education, and advocacy.

I'D LOVE TO illustrate meaningful stories with positive messages, animals, and kiddos. Also pigeons! Give me space to talk about pigeons, and I'm taking it!











Ginnie Hsu creates art that is informed by her Taiwanese roots and profound connection to nature. She finds inspiration in the magic of everyday interactions and loves small, cozy details. When Ginnie isn't creating, she enjoys teaching art at Syracuse University, adventuring with her dogs, or relaxing in her flower garden.

MY IDEAL project would explore the bonds within an adoptive family. I also love stories about shared adventures, eco-consciousness, and unspoken love.



















ROCKY POND CLARION

QUARTO

FEIWEL & FRIENDS



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As a child, **Colleen Kong-Savage** hopscotched from Hawaii to the Philippines, Zambia, Taiwan, Japan, Malaysia, then settled in New York City as an adult. She is a teaching mural artist, but as an illustrator her favorite medium is paper collage. This year Kong-Savage makes her authorillustrator debut with *Piano Wants to Play*.

New York City is my perfect home with its eclectic personalities, foods, and cultures. It butts its way into much of my work—its bustle, textures, and intensity.















PAGE STREET

LEE & LOW

Beno Meli is an author-illustrator based in Berlin. He has a background in animation and graphic design. Born into a mixed cultural background, his work is often centered around themes of identity, diversity, and family. When not illustrating, he can be found learning how to tattoo in his living room jungle.

I HAVE A PASSION for stories that are magical or celebrate Latin American culture. I'm also drawn to stories featuring mythology or horror elements, especially when you















THAISMESQUITA.ART X THAMESQUITAART THAISMESQUITA.ART

Thaís Mesquita is a Brazilian illustrator and mixed-media artist based in Germany and is particularly drawn to stories full of spookiness, mystery, humor, and heart. Holding a BA in Fine Arts and an MFA in Media and Design, Thaís blends this background to create pictures rich in textures, collages, and patterns.

I'D LOVE TO illustrate a spooky story with a special touch of humor! Things that are always on my radar: whimsical settings, animal protagonists, imaginative characters, emotional stories.













Joelle Murray is an illustrator and character designer that lives in the Bay Area with her dachshund, Peanut. She graduated in 2013 with a BFA in animation/ Illustration from San Jose State University. Since then, she has worked in illustration and concept design at companies that include Disney Interactive and Khan Academy Kids. She loves creating fantastical and colorful images that really focus on character.

I AM OBSESSED with anything whimsical, mystical, magical, or silly. Hove creating fun character designs and cute creatures, and illustrating genres that are outside of reality (like solar punk or afropunk). I also love uplifting people of color in my work, and

















CARTWHEEL





GREENWILLOW





EBEPACIOCCOILLUSTRATION.COM @ EBEPACIOCCO





Ebe Paciocco uses gouache, acrylics, and colored pencils to create richly textured and whimsical illustrations for young readers. Based in Rome, Ebe also hosts creative workshops, inspiring kids to write their own stories and make handcrafted books with recycled materials.

I LOVE TO illustrate all kinds of children's books but especially those with humorous and charming characters or quirky and clever storylines from unexpected points of view.











I WOULD LOVE TO illustrate books that celebrate food, family traditions, nature, gardening, or environmental







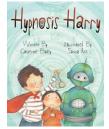












SKY PONY

PJ PUBLISHING

SKY PONY



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Kim Smith is a New York Times bestselling illustrator. She has worked on more than 40 children's books, including the Home Alone storybook and others in the Pop Classics series. She has also created art for children's games, puzzles, and animation. In her free time, Kim explores wild places to find inspiration.

I'D LOVE TO work on stories with high-energy, humorous characters (animal or human!). I'm particularly inspired by science, the natural world, and wild places, both real and make-believe.



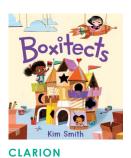








CLARION









QUIRK

PRH UK

LITTLE SIMON

Shelly Swann is a Filipino American author-illustrator based in Portland, Oregon. She is passionate about weaving art and stories into vibrant, whimsical paintings celebrating nature's beauty and cultural richness. Outside the studio, she enjoys exploring the lush forests of the Pacific Northwest, and cooking new recipes with friends and family.

I ADORE illustrating stories that make kids feel seen. Something heartfelt, humorous, and imaginative, with quirky characters, animals, unlikely friends, food, and nature-filled settings. Something like Pokko and the Drum or Manolo & the Unicorn.



















Katy Tanis illustrates children's books, puzzles, and games, and she also designs children's clothing and quilting fabric. She has an MA in Biology from Miami University and she has had her feet kissed by a sea lion, been pooped on by an orangutan, and woken up with a tarantula in her bed.

I'M DRAWN TO creatures of any kind: mythical, prehistoric, and modern-day. I'd love to illustrate newly imagined creatures, too.

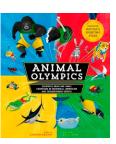






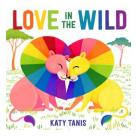


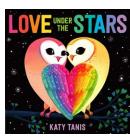












QUARTO

TOMMY NELSON

SOUNDS TRUE

MUDPUPPY

MUDPUPPY

Lesley Vamos has worked on more than 60 children's books, dabbled in board game illustration, and designed for animation, including Marvel's Moon Girl and Devil Dinosaur. She lives off hot chips and chai lattes and, when she's not drawing, she's probably hanging out with her boys and her doggo, Penny.

I'm all about stories with a lot packed in: comedy, drama, characters and building big worlds. (Also animals...any animals!)



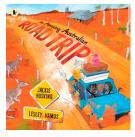








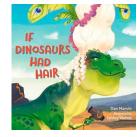




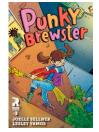




ABRAMS



ROARING BROOK



IDW



LITTLE, BROWN



LENOREWAN.COM DENORE.WAN

Lenore Wan grew up in the foothills of the Rocky Mountains, enchanted by high plains and open skies. After completing her Bachelor of Architecture degree, she found herself exploring the world of illustration. She works in mixed media, often recomposing images digitally, flowing between analog and digital space.

I am inspired by vibrant, playful, and curious characters, eager to expand their worlds and find a sense of belonging. Having an adventurous spirit, I enjoy depicting spontaneous interactions that bring life to the ordinary.













Lainey Williams is a Chicago-based cartoonist and illustrator. She makes art and comics about queerness, sweet romance, and strange horror. She's inspired by the high desert of her hometown and questions of identity and community. In her spare time, she bikes, bakes, and is learning to sew.

I'D LOVE TO work on graphic novels with complex queer a modernization of old folklore, or a twist on a western.









