



KARL BECKSTRAND

Karl Beckstrand is the freckle-faced author of 10 books and more than 20 online titles. Raised in San Jose, CA, he received a B.A. in journalism from BYU and an M.A. in international relations from APU. His work has appeared in: Barnes & Noble, Border's Books, Deseret Book, Costco, Kindle/Nook/iBooks, Amazon, The Children's Miracle Network, *U.S. Congressional Record*, and *Papercrafts Magazine*. A speaker/workshop facilitator, Beckstrand has presented to Taiwan's Global Leadership for Youth, city and state governments, library and humanities organizations, festivals and schools. He has lived abroad and enjoys volleyball and kayaking (usually not at the same time). Beckstrand's nationally-lauded activity books, Spanish & bilingual books (with pronunciation guide), ebook mysteries, and nonfiction stories feature characters of color and usually end with a twist. <http://KarlBeckstrand.com>



JAN PINBOROUGH

The 2014 featured book is **Miss Moore Thought Otherwise** by Jan Pinborough. We are in for a treat as we learn all about Anne Carroll Moore and her love of children and books. This is the true story of how Miss Moore created the first children's room at the New York Public Library, a bright, warm room filled with artwork, window seats, and most important of all, borrowing privileges to the world's best children's books in many different languages. She did this while many felt that children did not belong in libraries.



KATE COOMBS

Kate Coombs has written four picture books and two middle grade novels as well as a poetry collection, *Water Sings Blue*, that won the Lee Bennett Hopkins Poetry Award. Her most recent books are *The Tooth Fairy Wars* and a *Pride and Prejudice*-themed parody of *Goodnight Moon* called *Goodnight Mr. Darcy* (both 2014). A former teacher of every grade from kindergarten through college in Los Angeles, Kate now lives in Utah, where she is curriculum director for Gibbs Smith Education. She is embarrassed to admit that she does not ski. Instead she is on an endless quest to plant things in her garden that the deer won't eat.



KRISTYN CROW

Kristyn Crow is the author of numerous picture books for children, including *BEDTIME AT THE SWAMP* and *ZOMBELINA*, which will soon be a series. She publishes with HarperCollins, Bloomsbury, and Random House /Knopf. She has received starred reviews and a blue ribbon from the Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books. Kristyn is also the screenwriter for a new Clark Planetarium movie for kids, to be released in January 2015. She is the mother of seven creative, musical children and is married to a Highway Patrolman.



CHAD MORRIS

Chad Morris grew up wanting to become a professional basketball player or a rock star. (Inspired by Animal from The Muppets, he has been banging on drums since he was eight years old). Neither of those plans quite planed out. After high school, he left the Rocky Mountains to live in Brazil for a few years then returned home to write and perform sketch comedy while going to college. He graduated from BYU with a couple of degrees and became a teacher and a curriculum writer.

Chad would love to teach at Craggbridge Academy. Unlike Oscar Craggbridge, he hasn't really invented anything, though his young son once sketched out blueprints for a machine that would turn celery into cookies.

GUY FRANCIS

Guy began illustrating at the age of 9. His first projects included his 4th grade bulletin board and numerous cartoon characters commissioned by his friends for 25¢. It wasn't until high school that Guy realized a person could make a living being an artist, and while attending Brigham Young University, he got his first children's picture book job illustrating Showdown at Slickrock by Pat Bagley. Since then he has published a variety of work including book covers, children's games, early chapter books and picture books. He is thrilled to be making a living doing what he loves.

Guy was born and raised in Provo, Utah. He lived in the city, but was raised on a farm. As a child, he spent many summers working and playing on his family ranch, where he and his dad, brothers designed and built a cabin. Now it's a place they all go to relax. Guy has always liked building, fixing or creating things. His current projects range from fixing up his rusty old '46 Chevy pickup truck to remodeling a studio in his home. Guy also enjoys his model trains, flying RC airplanes, camping and rock climbing. His wife, Lorien, and their four children, Calvin, Samantha, Madeline and Max, are pretty good art critics and often visit the studio in his home to help out.



SCOTT BRYAN

Scott Bryan is the author of the Night Children series. He loves stories about the strange and unusual. His passions include his family, fantasy, science fiction, super hero and monster stories (be they novels, comics, movies or TV shows), animals and the occasional action figure.

Scott has always loved the classic Universal monsters. It's his goal to create his own personal spin on those concepts, mixing them with adventure. The Night Children is about two vampire children battling the evil vampire Dominic (i.e. Dracula) and his army of monsters as well as experiencing history's most important events from the Salem Witch Trials to the present day.

You can read Annabelle's adventures, along with her brother Roland, in NIGHT CHILDREN: DARK THREATS and NIGHT CHILDREN: DARK BIRTH, both available in paperback and ebook formats on Amazon, Barnes & Noble.com and iBooks. Coming Soon: Night Children: Dark Changes, full of vampire pirates and the Hunchback of Notre Dame!

Scott is a member of the League of Utah Writers and loves to appear at schools and book signings because he enjoys meeting and talking with fellow readers and writers.

You can find him on the web at...<http://night-children.blogspot.com/>