



Mid-Level Career Committee Speaker Series

Guest Speakers and Event Dates

SESSION 1: TUESDAY, AUGUST 22 @ 12pm ET

Join **Carmela Iaria**, VP, School & Library Marketing & Creative Marketing Director at Penguin Random House, as she talks with **Ann Marie Wong**, Editorial Director of Henry Holt Books for Young Readers, an imprint of Macmillan Children's Publishing Group.

Carmela Iaria is currently VP, School & Library Marketing & Creative Marketing Director at Penguin Random House. She has worked in children's book publishing for over twenty years, all of those years in the school and library space. Her career began at Scholastic in the Book Club/Book Fair division where she learned not only about children's books but also about the pivotal role educators play in readers' lives. She worked on bestsellers such as Harry Potter, Hunger Games and Captain Underpants before moving to PRH to head up the School & Library Marketing and Marketing Design groups for Penguin Young Readers. Carmela lives in New Jersey, vacations in Maine, and reads anywhere and everywhere.

Ann Marie Wong is the Editorial Director of Henry Holt Books for Young Readers, an imprint of Macmillan Children's Publishing Group, where she oversees a list that spans a variety of age levels and genres, covering everything from board books through YA, fiction and nonfiction. Prior to her role at Holt, Ann Marie spent over 15 years at Scholastic Book Clubs where she led a team responsible for the selection, acquisition, and curation of books sold in elementary, middle school, and high school markets. She launched a partnership between Scholastic and non-profit organization We Need Diverse Books, and continues to be involved with WNDB and dedicated to elevating the voices and stories of underrepresented communities. Ann Marie lives in the lower Hudson Valley with her husband, son, and bottomless TBR pile.

SESSION 2: WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 30 @ 12pm ET

Tune in for the chat between **Taylor Norman**, Executive Editor at Neal Porter Books, an imprint of Holiday House and **Mabel Hsu**, Executive Editor at HarperCollins Children's Books.

Taylor Norman is the executive editor at Neal Porter Books, an imprint of Holiday House. She publishes picture books, chapter books, middle grade novels, and graphic novels, and aims to make books that are highly attentive and without condescension to the kid reader. She devotes her energy to helping her creators make each book the best possible version of itself. And she cares very deeply about publishing books that are welcoming and friendly to as many types of

kids as possible, in hopes of making it easy for any child to consider herself a reader—no matter how often, when, or why she chooses to pick up a book.

Mabel Hsu is an executive editor at HarperCollins Children's Books and co-chair for the children's committee of the Brooklyn Book Festival. She publishes picture books through young adult novels, including graphic novels, and focuses on narratives that explore character drama, feature intersectional representation, and transform genre tropes. Mabel was previously a mentor through POC in Publishing and Representation Matters, and currently authors works for select clients like Disney, Pixar, and more.

Future Guests in This Series Include:

Coming Soon!