

REGIONAL TOUR

The MWF hits the road!

From Monday 24th to Friday 28th of August, the MWF is taking four of Australia's best writers to five regional and outer-suburban venues.

Melina Marchetta, Margo Lanagan, David Metzenthen and Michael Hyde will participate in a range of events in Swan Hill, Kyneton, Moe, Frankston and Geelong, giving young readers the chance to quiz them on how and why they write.

Each venue will feature three events:

10am-10.45am

Fantasy and fiction

Join **Melina Marchetta** and **Margo Lanagan** as they explore the boundaries of what's real, and what's not. Do fantasy writers avoid reality or confront it more directly? Are fantasies just a matter of make believe, or do they say serious things?

11.15am-12noon

Bringing the past to life

Join **David Metzenthen** and **Michael Hyde** in this discussion about the subtle alchemy of combining research, personal experience and real stories into compelling and authentic fiction. How does the past give life to the present?

12.30pm-1.15pm

Characters with a difference

Join **Margo Lanagan, Melina Marchetta** and **David Metzenthen** as they discuss the art to creating characters that spring from the pages, how they get under their characters' skin and how it's through character that many elements of a story are revealed.

Please note that bookings must be made through the regional venue, and that ticket prices are different for each venue.

Monday 24 August - Swan Hill

Venue: Harrison Theatre, Pye St, Swan Hill

Bookings: 5036 2444

Price: \$5 per session

Tuesday 25 August - Kyneton

Venue: Kyneton Town Hall, 129 Mollison St, Kyneton

Bookings: 1300 88 88 02 or email khthickets@macedon-ranges.vic.gov.au

Price: \$7 per session

Wednesday 26 August - Moe

Venue: Moe Town Hall, 69 Albert St, Moe

Bookings: 5176 3559

Price: \$4 per session

Thursday 27 August - Frankston

Venue: Frankston Arts Centre, Corner Davey and Young Streets, Frankston

Bookings: 9784 1060 or email artscentre@frankston.vic.gov.au

Price: FREE

Friday 28 August - Geelong

Venue: The Courthouse Theatre, Little Malop Street, Geelong

Bookings: 5222 1212 or email

annmaree.harper@geelonglibraries.vic.gov.au

Price: FREE

Margo Lanagan is an acclaimed writer of novels and short stories such as the multi-award-winning *Black Juice* and *Red Spikes*, which was shortlisted for the Commonwealth Writers Prize. Her latest offering is the long-awaited novel *Tender Morsels*. Margo lives in Sydney.

Melina Marchetta is a Sydney writer and the bestselling author of *Looking for Alibrandi*. Her fourth novel, *Finnikin of the Rock*, was published in 2008, and Melina just won the prestigious Michael L Printz Award for Excellence in Young Adult Literature for *On the Jellicoe Road*.

David Metzenthen is a Melbourne-based writer creating works of Australian fiction for people of all ages, including books such as *Boys of Blood and Bone* and *Stony Heart Country*. Over more than twenty years, David has won numerous Australian Premier's Awards for his work.

Michael Hyde's recent novels include *MAX*, *Tyger Tyger* and *Hey Joe*, which was named as a Notable Book in the 2004 CBCA Awards. Michael recently edited two senior anthologies for the Australian Association of English Teachers (AATE), including *Hunger* (CBCA Notable Book 2004) and *The Girl who Married a Fly* (CBCA Notable Book 2002).

The MWF Regional Tour has been made possible through the generosity of:

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