

Kevin Miller



Kevin Miller is a prolific author, filmmaker, and educator. Over the course of his 25-year career, he has written pretty much everything, from ad copy to feature films. These days he specializes in documentary films that make adults angry and fun adventure novels and comic books that make middle-grade readers happy.

Originally from Foam Lake, Saskatchewan, Kevin makes his home in Kimberley, BC, with his wife, their four kids, a dog named Peanut, and a budgie named Flo. When he's not writing, you can find him on the ski hill, hiking, fishing, playing hockey, or injuring himself on his skateboard.

Workshop: *Your Story Is Only as Good as Your Villain*

Everybody loves a good villain, but how do you create one? This workshop looks at some classic villains from books and movies, explains why villains are so important to creating a good story, and reveals the key traits that all villains have in common. Then the class will collaborate to create a unique villain based on a story premise that Kevin shares with the group.



Jeremy Tankard

Jeremy Tankard is the bestselling author and illustrator of several picture books for children, including the GRUMPY BIRD series with Scholastic Press.



For the last couple of years he has been working on graphic novels in collaboration with his teenage daughter. These books, modern day Shakespearean drama's, are a dream come true allowing Jeremy to return to his childhood love of comic books.

As an illustrator Jeremy has worked in a number of industries contributing drawings to the likes of Time magazine and the New York Times. A career highlight, other than his many books, was a chance to work with Sesame Street as a character designer.

Workshop: One Creator, Many Hats - Creating Graphic Novels

Everyone loves graphic novels but what is involved in making one? You might think that it's all about good drawings, but in fact graphic novels involve doing a number of tasks all at once: writing; directing; acting; drawing; storytelling; etc. And most of us aren't very good at doing all of these things. In this workshop we will learn a few drawing tips and tricks and a few writing tricks then use them to illustrate some simple scenes.



Kenthen Thomas & Susep Soulle

Kenthen Thomas and **Susep Soulle** are members of the Secwepemc Nation and both reside in the Kamloops-Chase area. Kenthen and Susep are a father-son duo and practice the traditions of the Secwepemc ancestors.



Susep is quickly becoming one of the best handdrum and stickgame singers all along the West Coast and into the Interior.

Kenthen is a traditional storyteller. Together they will be certain to teach in a good and kind way.

Workshop: *Stsepetkwll* - "Secwepemc Legends that Teach"

We will explore how we all have the tools to teach others and ourselves - by sharing the stories of our surrounding world and from within.



Tamara Vukusic

Tamara Vukusic is a writer, former TV show host, and Founder of Spark Your Imagination (a series of games and apps to spark creativity in kids). She has three boys aged 12, 14 and 49 and is the guardian of quirky second-hand dogs.



This past Fall Tamara organized the first-ever Kamloops Word Walk and she continues to collect and repair old typewriters as a way to lasso others into spilling ink.

Find her poetry blog at HumanitySoup.com.

Workshop: *Poetry from the Senses*

What do jellybeans, an airplane and a bucket of sand have in common? They all wake up our senses (smell, taste, sound, sight and touch) so that we can write from a place of feeling rather than thinking. Warning: jellybean-tasting is part of this poetry workshop.

