



Except where otherwise indicated, events take place in the National Library and Old Fire Station, Abercromby and Hart Streets, Port of Spain.

All events (except workshops) are free and open to the public — no tickets are required.



WEDNESDAY 23 APRIL

FESTIVAL ON CAMPUS

Bocas writers visit the UWI campus at St. Augustine to share their words and ideas
Featuring Zee Edgell, Lauren Alleyne, Gaiutra Bahadur, Amanda Smyth, Mervyn Taylor, and Esther Figueroa. MC'd by Geraldine Skeete
11.30 am–12.30 pm • AV Room, Main Library, St. Augustine Campus

WORKSHOP

Introduction to crime writing
A special daylong workshop on the ins and outs of the popular genre, with prize-winning Scottish crime writers Allan Guthrie and Denise Mina. *In partnership with Bloody Scotland and the British Council*
10 am–12 pm, 1 pm–3.30 pm • 1st Floor Seminar Room

FESTIVAL WARMUP

Poets Malika Booker and Anthony Joseph perform at a rousing lunchtime curtain-raiser. MC'd by Melanie Abrahams
12–1.30 pm • Old Fire Station

ONE-ON-ONE

Neil Bissoondath
The Canada-based writer talks to Kenneth Ramchand about his life and work, and “coming home” to the Naipaul family residence
4–5 pm • Naipaul House Museum, 26 Nepal Street, St. James

THURSDAY 24 APRIL

FESTIVAL WELCOME

The 2014 NGC Bocas Lit Fest officially kicks off!
Portraits of the city
with Lincoln Douglas, Janelle Commissiong-Chow, Earl Lovelace, and Patricia McIntosh
To mark the 100th anniversary of Port of Spain's city charter, local luminaries read excerpts depicting the urban scene from classic works by Yselt Bridges, Derek Walcott, Earl Lovelace, and Ismith Khan.
9–10 am • Old Fire Station

WORKSHOP

Introduction to Young Adult fiction
A special workshop on writing for readers aged 12 to 18, with Keith Gray. One in the series of annual free workshops for writers of fiction for children and young adults held across the Caribbean as part of CODE's Burt Award for Caribbean Literature programme.
10 am–12 pm, 1 pm–3.30 pm • 2nd Floor Seminar Room

SECRET STORIES

Bernardine Evaristo and Amanda Smyth
chaired by Colin Robinson
Readings from two novels on subjects the Caribbean would rather ignore
10.30–11.30 am • Old Fire Station

DISCUSSION

What do readers want?
The CaribLit 2014 readers' survey is launched with a discussion featuring librarian Gerada Holder, publisher Jeremy Poynting, and writer Roland Watson-Grant. Chaired by Kellie Magnus, CaribLit coordinator
10.30–11.30 am • AV Room

WORKSHOP

What is a book review, and what does it do for you?
with Boyd Tonkin
The former literary editor of the UK *Independent* explains the fundamentals of good criticism
10.00 am–12.30 pm • 1st Floor Seminar Room

FILM

Poetry Is an Island: Derek Walcott, dir. Ida Does
This moving portrait of the Nobel Laureate grounds his words and ideas in the landscape and culture of his home island, St. Lucia
11.30 am–1.30 pm • AV Room

WHO'S NEXT?

Readings by eight promising new writers from T&T: Zahra Gordon, Anna Levi, Ayanna Gillian Lloyd, Erica Mapp, Ira Mathur, Gilberte O'Sullivan, Colin Robinson, and Desiree Seebaran. Introduced by Shivane Ramlochan
12–1 pm • Old Fire Station

LUNCHTIME JAM

Some of T&T's best young spoken word poets take their vibe to the streets of Port of Spain
12.30–1.30 pm • Brian Lara Promenade, Independence Square

FICTION

Zee Edgell and Lorna Goodison chaired by Rose-Ann Walker
Beloved writers from Belize and Jamaica read from their recent works of fiction
1.30–2.30 pm • Old Fire Station

WORKSHOP

How to turn experience into fiction
with Monique Roffey
The winner of the 2013 OCM Bocas Prize shows you how to identify your own real-life story and turn it

into a fictional narrative
1.30–4 pm • 1st Floor Seminar Room

CONVERSATION

How to Read in Indian
with Nilanjana Roy and Padmini Mongia
One of India's leading literary critics talks about her upcoming collection of critical essays, and the current state of Indian literature
1.30–2.30 pm • AV Room

FILM

Magic Realism and After: Indian English Fiction, 1981–2011, dir. Suresh Kohli
Salman Rushdie's 1981 novel *Midnight's Children* was only not only a landmark in literary inventiveness, it also marked a renaissance for Indian writing in English
2.30–3.30 pm • AV Room

FICTION

Esther Figueroa and Ingrid Persaud chaired by Patricia Mohammed
Debut novelists from Jamaica and Barbados discuss how fiction can tackle social issues head-on
3–4 pm • Old Fire Station

POETRY

John Agard and Grace Nichols chaired by Hazel Simmons-McDonald
The eminent UK-based Guyanese poets read from their work and talk about a shared life in literature
4–5 pm • Old Fire Station

CONVERSATION

Preserving the past
Authors Angelo Bissessarsingh and Danielle Delon talk to historian Bridget Breton about the importance of documenting our social history
4–5 pm • AV Room

BOCAS HENRY SWANZY AWARD

The presentation of the 2014 Bocas Swanzy Award, recognising distinguished service to Caribbean letters, to scholar-critics Kenneth Ramchand and Gordon Rohlehr
5.30–7 pm • AV Room

BOOK LAUNCH

See Me Here: A Survey of Contemporary Self-Portraits from the Caribbean, published by Robert & Christopher Publishers
This new art book calls attention to recent directions in self-portraiture in the Caribbean, focusing on artists who use their physical selves

as an avenue for exploration and expression
6.30–9 pm • Medulla Art Gallery, 37 Fitt Street, Woodbrook

BOOK LAUNCH

Pepperpot: Best New Stories from the Caribbean, published by Peekash Books
A pan-Caribbean anthology of short stories culled from the very best entries to the Commonwealth Short Story Prize. Featuring readings by Kevin Baldeosingh, Kevin Hosein, Barbara Jenkins, and Sharon Millar, and a welcome by Earl Lovelace
8 pm until • Martin's, 85 Woodford Street, Newtown

FRIDAY 25 APRIL

BURT AWARD

Celebrating the 2014 finalists
Readings from writers shortlisted for the inaugural Burt Award, with A-dZiko Gegele, Colleen Smith-Dennis, and Joanne Hillhouse, chaired by Mala Morton-Gittens
10–11 am • Old Fire Station

FILM

Earl Lovelace: A Writer in His Place, dir. Funso Aiyejina
This “docu-commentary” by a foremost scholar of Lovelace's works depicts the eminent writer's rootedness in the culture and society of Trinidad and Tobago
10–11 am • AV Room

WORKSHOP

What makes fiction fiction?
with Robert Antoni
For beginning writers: the basics of how fiction works, and how to start getting your story on the page
10 am–12.30 pm • 1st Floor Seminar Room

BLOODY FRIDAY

Looking on the dark side
with Allan Guthrie, Denise Mina, and Amanda Smyth, chaired by Johnny Temple
A conversation about the varieties of crime writing, and how fiction about the dark side helps us understand our societies' problems
11 am–12 pm • Old Fire Station

FILM

The Strange Luck of V.S. Naipaul, dir. Adam Lowe
A documentary capturing the contradictions of the Nobel Laureate and his relationships with the people around him — and his birthplace, Trinidad
11 am–12 pm • AV Room

EXTEMPO DEBATE

Are there more criminals in prison or in office?
Extempo masters Short Pants and Black Sage square off in a sung debate about crime and punishment. Expect cutting commentary and helpless laughter
12–1 pm • Abercromby Street Arcade

FILMS

Through the lens of Anthony Wall
The documentaries made by British filmmaker Anthony Wall in the 1970s and 80s for the BBC's Arena programme are an invaluable archive of Caribbean culture. This special series includes five of Wall's key films. Introduced by Linton Kwesi Johnson

Upon Westminster Bridge

A portrait of the Jamaican dub poet Mikey Smith, documenting his visit to London in 1982

Brixton to Barbados

Poet Linton Kwesi Johnson travels to Carifesta 1981 in Barbados and investigates the state of Caribbean arts and culture

Caribbean Journey

Linton Kwesi Johnson's personal report on the ties that have bound the Caribbean to Britain since the Elizabethan era

Bob Marley

The first full-length documentary on the reggae superstar uses archival footage to tell the story of the global music legend

Maytime on the Mosquito Coast

The Nicaraguan town of Bluefields is a microcosm of West Indian culture

12.30–5.30 pm • AV Room

LUNCHTIME JAM

Some of T&T's best young spoken word poets take their vibe to the streets of Port of Spain
1.30–2.30 pm • Brian Lara Promenade, Independence Square

ONE-ON-ONE

Linton Kwesi Johnson
The iconic Jamaican poet talks to Anthony Joseph about his remarkable life in literature, music, and politics
1.30–2.30 pm • Old Fire Station

WORKSHOP

What makes poetry poetry?
with Mervyn Morris
For beginning writers: what is a poem, and how is it different to

prose? An introduction to the craft of verse
2–4 pm • 1st Floor Seminar Room

POETRY

Vahni Capildeo and Mervyn Taylor chaired by Ryan Durgasingh
Two Trinidadian poets read from their new books
2.30–3.30 pm • Old Fire Station

ONE-ON-ONE

Caryl Phillips
The St. Kitts-born writer talks to Margaret Busby about moving between the genres of fiction, non-fiction, drama, and film
4–5 pm • Old Fire Station
Supported by the ANSA Caribbean Awards for Excellence programme

BURT AWARD AND ALLEN PRIZE

2014 announcement ceremony
The winners of the inaugural Burt Award for Caribbean Literature — recognising books written for young adult readers — and the 2014 Allen Prize for Young Writers are announced
6–8 pm • Old Fire Station
By invitation
The Burt Award is sponsored by CODE in collaboration with William (Bill) Burt and the Literary Prizes Foundation

THE LIVING WORD

A celebration of the Caribbean's poetry and performance traditions, to mark the 60th birthday of the late Jamaican dub poet Mikey Smith. Featuring Linton Kwesi Johnson, Lorna Goodison, Mervyn Morris, Anthony Joseph, Malika Booker, Kwame Dawes, Vahni Capildeo, Lauren Alleyne, and Vladimir Lucien, with a guest performance by Freetown Collective
8 pm until • Bohemia, 33 Murray Street, Woodbrook

SATURDAY 26 APRIL

TRIBUTE

A.J. Seymour at 100
An array of Guyanese writers mark the centenary of the pioneering author and editor by reading from his works. Featuring John Agard, Grace Nichols, Malika Booker, Gaiutra Bahadur, and Riyad Insanally, introduced by Nicholas Laughlin
10–11 am • Old Fire Station

CONVERSATION

To dub or not to dub
Poets Kei Miller, Linton Kwesi Johnson, Lorna Goodison, and Lauren Alleyne discuss dub poetry's

contemporary relevance. Chaired by Vladimir Lucien
10–11 am • AV Room

WORKSHOP

How a writer reads
with Caryl Phillips
The prizewinning author of novels, essays, and screenplays shares the successful writer's secret
10 am–12 pm • 2nd Floor Seminar Room
Supported by the ANSA Caribbean Awards for Excellence programme

CONVERSATION

Coolie Woman
Guyanese-American writer Gaiutra Bahadur talks to scholar Gabrielle Hosein about her groundbreaking book of family and social history, and the importance of asking new questions about the past
11 am–12 pm • Old Fire Station

DISCUSSION

The limits of tradition
As Trinidad Carnival evolves in a new century, how do we balance tradition and innovation? Virginia Pacifique-Marshall, author of *The Carnival Suite*, and artist/designer Ayodhya Ouditt debate the question with photographer and journalist Mark Lyndersay
11 am–12 pm • AV Room

PERFORMANCE

A Pierrot Grenade and Midnight Robber, both traditional characters of Trinidad Carnival, show off their witty wordplay. With Felix Edinborough and Fedon Honoré
12–1 pm • Abercromby Street Arcade

FILMS

Through the lens of Anthony Wall
A reprise of our special series of documentaries on Caribbean culture made by British filmmaker Anthony Wall for the BBC's Arena programme
Maytime on the Mosquito Coast
Caribbean Journey
Brixton to Barbados
Upon Westminster Bridge
12–4 pm • AV Room

STAND AND DELIVER

Our new open mic series gives budding writers of prose and poetry a chance to share their work. MC'd by Rhoda Bharath
12–1 pm • 1st Floor Seminar Room

THE BOCAS DEBATE

Crime: Breaking the Circle
Crime and violence are major issues of social concern for most Trinidad-

ians and Tobagonians. Attorney Gregory Delzin, Gillian Lucky of the Police Complaints Authority, and Bishop Claude Berkeley engage in a frank, high-level debate chaired by UK High Commissioner Arthur Snell, formerly responsible for security programmes in the Middle East
1.30–3 pm • Old Fire Station

WRITERS UNION PRESENTS

Homegrown talent
Members of the Writers Union read from their work. With special guest Neil Bissoondath
1.30–4 pm • 2nd Floor Seminar Room

WORKSHOP

How do characters speak on the page?
with Earl Lovelace
The winner of the 2012 OCM Bocas Prize shares insights into bringing characters to life through dialogue
1.30–4 pm • 1st Floor Seminar Room

FICTION

Turning history upside down
with Robert Antoni, Gerard Besson, and Bernardine Evaristo, chaired by Simon Lee
Three authors of historical novels discuss how postcolonial writers are reinventing the genre
3–4 pm • Old Fire Station

CONVERSATION

Wishing for Wings
Debbie Jacob's book about teaching young offenders in T&T's juvenile detention system raises hard questions about punishment and rehabilitation, and how we treat society's “black sheep.” Two of her former students join the author for a conversation chaired by Judy Raymond
4–5 pm • Old Fire Station

FICTION

Nilanjana Roy and Roland Watson-Grant chaired by Annie Paul
Debut novelists from India and Jamaica read from their books blending elements of the fantastic and the hyper-real
4–5 pm • AV Room

OCM BOCAS PRIZE AND HOLLICK ARVON PRIZE

The winners of the OCM Bocas Prize and Hollick Arvon Caribbean Writers Prize are announced. Including an excerpt from *Echoes of Carnival* by the University of Trinidad and Tobago Musicians

6–8 pm • *Academy for the Performing Arts, Queen's Park South*
By invitation

SUNDAY 27 APRIL

POETRY

Kwame Dawes and Lauren Alleyne chaired by Giselle Rampaul
A Jamaican literary veteran and a Trinidadian debut poet read from their new books.
10–11 am • Old Fire Station

CONVERSATION

The Books That Made Me
with Neil Bissoondath, Andre Bago, and Zee Edgell, chaired by Ifeona Fulani
Three writers talk about the literary influences that shaped their careers
10–11 am • 1st Floor Seminar Room

FILM

Hamlet, dir. Kenneth Branagh
Our special programme of Shakespeare films opens with an epic adaptation of the Bard's most famous tragedy. An all-star cast tell this classic story of doubt, indecision, and revenge. Introduced by Nicholas Laughlin
10 am–2 pm • AV Room

CONVERSATION

Writing Miss Lou
Mervyn Morris, biographer of Louise Bennett-Coverley, talks to Philip Nanton about writing the life and times of Jamaica's iconic poet
11 am–12 pm • Old Fire Station

STAND AND DELIVER

Our new open mic series gives budding writers of prose and poetry a chance to share their work. MC'd by Rhoda Bharath
11 am–12 pm • 1st Floor Seminar Room

ONE-ON-ONE

NoViolet Bulawayo
The author of the Booker-shortlisted novel *We Need New Names* talks to Funso Aiyejina
12–1 pm • Old Fire Station

SUNDAY LAUNCH

The start of a festival tradition: new books by an array of Caribbean writers make their world debut.

Featuring:

Ground Level, by Jennifer Rahim (Peepal Tree Press)
Sounding Ground, by Vladimir Lucien (Peepal Tree Press)
Under the Peepal Tree, by Vashti Bowlah

Island Voices, by Philip Nanton

(Papillote Press)
Mrs. B, by Elizabeth Walcott-Hackshaw (Peepal Tree Press)
1–5 pm • Old Fire Station

CONVERSATION

Shakespeare, our contemporary
As the Bard turns 450, how relevant is his writing to the Caribbean in the 21st century? Theatre practitioners Elisha Bartels and Timmia Hearne debate the question with writer Mark McWatt and scholar Giselle Rampaul. Chaired by Nicholas Laughlin
2–3 pm • AV Room

FILM

Private Romeo, dir. Alan Brown
The famous love story is given a new setting at a boys' military academy. As the students read Shakespeare's play in the classroom, its language gives fluency to a budding romance that defies conventions. Introduced by Nicholas Laughlin
3–4.30 pm • AV Room

OCM BOCAS PRIZE

Celebrating the 2014 winners
Readings from the three books shortlisted for the 2014 OCM Bocas Prize: *Oracabessa*, by Lorna Goodison (poetry winner), *As Flies to Whatless Boys*, by Robert Antoni (fiction winner), and *Writing Down the Vision*, by Kei Miller (non-fiction winner). Introduced by Marjorie Thorpe, vice chair of the prize judges
5–6 pm • Old Fire Station

FILM

A Midwinter's Tale, dir. Kenneth Branagh
This slapstick comedy about a group of misfit actors attempting to stage *Hamlet* over Christmas is both a sendup of theatre clichés and a tribute to the power of Shakespeare's drama to move and astonish in the most misbegotten of circumstances. Introduced by Nicholas Laughlin
4.30–6 pm • AV Room

VERSES BOCAS POETRY SLAM FINALS

The festival's grand finale!
The finalists in the 2014 VERSES Bocas Poetry Slam face off for the hotly contested prize, bringing the 2014 festival to a close. With special guest performers
5.30–7.30 pm • Central Bank Auditorium, Independence Square
Sponsored by First Citizens

We don't speak with the same accents and rhythms, and our stories are diverse, but we share a history, a culture, and a vibrant, restless literature — which we can boast about to the world.

Caribbean communities in North America and Europe. Writers from across the whole Caribbean, and from the vibrant space. We're proud to showcase some of our best writers from T&T, but we're equally proud to feature extraordinary writers and readers from around the Caribbean and further afield. But Bocas also works year-round, running an ambitious programme of activities to take our writers to new audiences and develop new writing talent.

The festival at the end of April is our main event, drawing in writers and readers from around the Caribbean and further afield. But Bocas also works year-round, running an ambitious programme of activities to take our writers to new audiences and develop new writing talent.

We have so much in store this year that we've even added an extra day to the festival, giving us five full days of readings, discussions, performances, workshops, film screenings, and more.

As our friends and fans have come to expect, the 4th NGC Bocas Lit Fest comes with a packed programme of events celebrating words, stories, and ideas, and featuring a line-up of guests ranging from world-famous literary stars to new authors whose work you'll want to get to know.

WELCOME

**TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO
PORT OF SPAIN
23-27 APR
2014
Lit Fes
NGC Bocas**

FESTIVAL RADIO . . . LIVE!

We believe the NGC Bocas Lit Fest programme is a treasure for literature lovers. And this year, we want to share these riches with audiences all over T&T and around the world.

Our **Festival Radio** is an exciting addition to this year's programme. It's a "pop-up" radio station, available online during the Festival at our website, www.bocaslitfest.com.

Those who can't be physically at the Festival can still listen in to a selection of the talks and readings as they happen, via **Festival Live**, a live online audio stream. And even if you're in the audience at the National Library, you can catch up on any events you've missed via **Festival Daily**, a magazine programme featuring Festival highlights, interviews with writers and excerpts from readings, talks, and the Festival's musical offerings.

Plus full-length audio recordings of all public Bocas sessions will be archived on the Festival web site and available on demand.

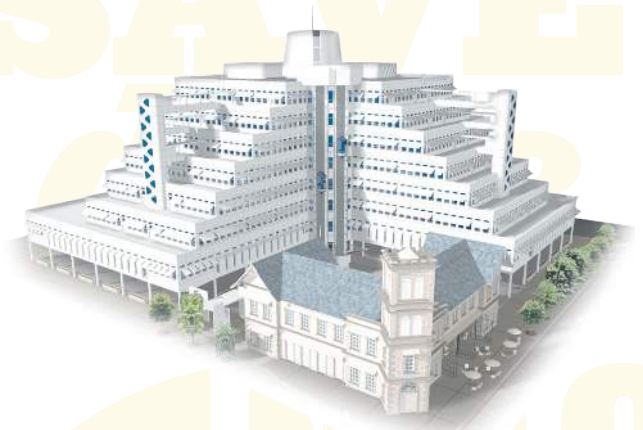
Festival Radio is **sponsored by Flow**, hosted by Trinidadian radio personalities Jessie-May Ventour and Raymond Edwards, edited by Steve Kyte and produced by Georgia Poplewell.



HOME OF THE FESTIVAL

The National Library of Trinidad and Tobago and Old Fire Station

FESTIVAL SHUTTLE: There is a free shuttle service Wednesday to Friday from the Savannah to the National Library (Abercromby Street entrance) on the half hour; returning on the hour. Free parking in enclosed Savannah Paddock area. Enter through the main Savannah Grand Stand entrance. See www.bocaslitfest.com for details.



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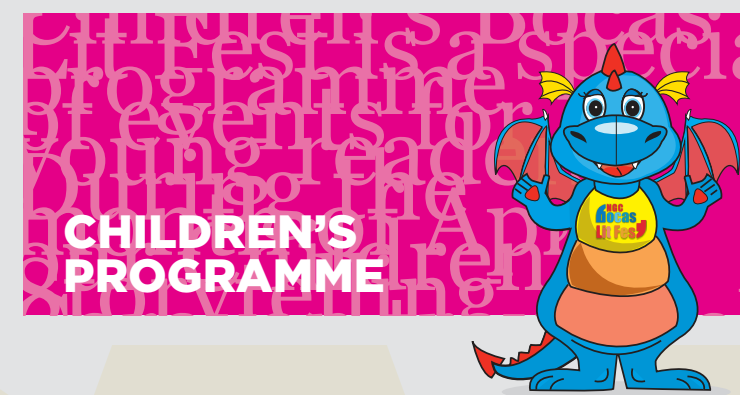
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THURSDAY 24 APRIL

Imagine New Worlds
A special children's programme in collaboration with His Worship the Mayor Raymond Tim Kee and the Port of Spain City Corporation
9 am-2 pm City Hall

Intro from the NGC Bocas Lit Fest, with Danielle Delon, Children's Festival Director
9.00 am

Intro to NGC Bocas Children's Colouring books, with Natacha Jones
9.05

Storyteller Aunty Thea: "An Eagle called Liberty"
9.15

Break
9.45

Reading: "Jojo's Treasure Hunt", by Cherrell Shelley-Robinson
10.00

Readings by poets John Agard and Grace Nichols
10.10

Welcome by Bocas and Mayor of Port of Spain
10.30

Magician Vindra Doone aka The Great Alagazam
10.45

Penelope Spencer and Nikki Crosby
11.15

Lunch
11.30

Workshop with Grace Nichols: "Painting from Poetry"
12.30

Snacks provided by Bermudez and drinks by Nestle. Lunch will be provided in Woodford Square with music by a live orchestra

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All other events take place at the National Children's Library, Port of Spain

Writing Workshop with Felix Edinborough
For standard 5 primary school students
1-2 pm • Multi-purpose Room, Children's Library

FRIDAY 25 APRIL

Reading: "The Jaeden Rong", with Aarti Gosine
For ages 9-14
9.30-10.15 am
Break
10.15-10.30 am

Making a pop-up book, with Greer Woodham-Jones
For ages 9-14
10.30-11.30 am

Lunch
11.30-12.15 pm

Multimedia workshop with SASH Consulting
12.30-1.30 pm
For ages 9-14

SATURDAY 26 APRIL

Reading: "Read it; write it. Wow! Wow! Wow!", with A-dZiko Simba Gegele
For ages 9-14
9.30-10 am

Break
10-10.15 am

Readings: "You Can't Just Read This Book!", "Little Lion on the Ball", and "Happy Harry and the Hah Hah Song", with Kellie Magnus
For ages 6-10
10.15-10.45am

Break
10.45-11.00 am

NGC Bocas Storytelling, with Lylah Persad: "How Kevon and Aurora won the poetry competition"
For ages 6-13
11-1 pm

Lunch
1-1.30 pm

Reading: "Littletown Secrets", with K. Jared Hosein
For ages 7-13
1.30-2 pm

Reading: "The Colour of My Words", with Lynn Joseph
For ages 9-14
2-2.30 pm

Reading: "Why the Hummingbird Hovers", "Why the Dog Howls", and "How Monkey Lost his Pouch", with Algernon Felice
For ages 7-11
2.30-3.15 pm

SUNDAY 27 APRIL

Local animations and other films, courtesy Animae Caribe
For ages 6-14
10am-12 pm