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STORYLINES STORY TOUR EVENTS REACH THOUSANDS OF YOUNG READERS 19 – 23 August 2019



Lani Wendt Young



David Elliot

STORYLINES' STORY TOUR IN AUCKLAND REGION

Award-winning children's writers and illustrators tour the Auckland region between Monday 19 August and Friday 23 August in the third of six legs of the 2019 Storylines National Festival Story Tour, sharing their love of reading and books with several thousand pupils at more than 50 schools, libraries, community centres – and at a special event at Vodafone Events Centre in Manukau.

Heading for schools, early childhood centres and community venues round Auckland are award-winning writer/illustrators David Elliot and Donovan Bixley and writer/designer Janet Hunt, along with up-and-coming YA writer Lani Wendt Young.

All four also appear at a public family event, 'Storylines Tales on Tour' on Wednesday 21 August at 6pm at the Leys Institute, Ponsonby.



Donovan Bixley



Janet Hunt

600 YOUNG READERS TO ATTEND SOUTH AUCKLAND EVENT

Meanwhile, acclaimed children's author, Stacy Gregg, is among leading children's authors appearing at a special event at the Vodafone Events Centre, on Monday 19 August. Her Storylines Notable Book Award winning **The Fire Stallion** was voted as top 'Storylines Kids' Pick' by young viewers of *What Now*, in a competition run by the popular TV2 children's programme in association with the Storylines Children's Literature Trust.

Stacy Gregg is joined at the event, to be attended by more than 600 students from 13 South Auckland schools, by award-winning authors and illustrators Miriama Kamo, Pauline Smith, Ruth Paul, Zak Waipara, Josh Morgan and Maria Gill.



Stacy Gregg



Miriama Kamo

“This is going to be an exciting week for thousands of young people as they listen to and interact with New Zealand children’s writers and illustrators,” says Storylines chair Christine Young. “We know that such visits and interactions are inspirational for young people of all ages, and that their interest in reading and writing is kindled by the reality of meeting the people who until now have been only names on the cover and title page of books in their school libraries.

“Thanks to the Vodafone Events Centre, we are able to extend our Story Tour contact to schools and children who we might not otherwise be able to reach this year. With What Now also filming part of the action, we will also reach children around the country, to excite even more young people about books written by and for New Zealanders.”

The aim of the Storylines National Festival Story Tour is to connect New Zealand’s children's writers, illustrators, poets and storytellers with their opportunity readers and audiences, to share the enjoyment of books and reading, and to encourage young New Zealanders to engage with books and reading. The tour and programme is completely free to enable access for all to high quality New Zealand children's literature, thanks to support from Creative New Zealand, the New Zealand Book Council, Foundation North, NZ Lotteries Commission, The Lion Foundation and other funders.

For more information on the Story Tour team of authors and illustrators, please go to:

Donovan Bixley - <https://www.storylines.org.nz/Storylines+Profiles/Profiles+A-C/More+in+Profiles+Profiles+A-C+temp/Donovan+Bixley.html>; <http://www.donovanbixley.com/>

David Elliot - <https://www.storylines.org.nz/Storylines+Profiles/Profiles+D-H/More+in+Profiles+D-H/David+Elliot.html>; <http://www.davidelliott.org>

Janet Hunt - https://www.storylines.org.nz/Storylines+Profiles/Profiles+D-H/More+in+Profiles+D-H/Janet_Hunt.html

Lani Wendt Young - <https://www.bookcouncil.org.nz/writer/young-lani-wendt/>

**.These writers and illustrators are available for interviews while on tour.
For details please contact: Margaret Samuels, Lighthouse PR (on behalf of Storylines),
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<http://www.storylines.org.nz>**



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