

The Art of Storytelling & Illustration

J.L. Kimmel



Presenting The Art of Storytelling & Illustration Workshop

The Art of Storytelling & Illustration is a workshop conceived, created, and presented by J.L. Kimmel. The workshop is brilliant in its versatility, catering to a wide audience - from **students, as young as kindergarten, to educators and adults who are interested in being creatively inspired**. As a writer, artist, a licensed and experienced therapist and educator; Kimmel strongly believes in the power and importance of imagination and creativity as a part of everyday life.

Objectives:

- Learn unique and original steps to writing a story.
- Practice artistic skills
- Exercise your creativity
- Inspire, activate, open your imagination
- Learn to say YES to your adventure

Kimmel begins with an introduction as the author of two books: *The Magic Gown* and *The Yawning Rabbit River Chronicle*. Kimmel then describes the process of story creation while drawing from stories of her own experience crafting the two award winning books. The initial activation for Kimmel began with her first doorway painting. ***"It starts with an image."*** Kimmel brings several pieces of artwork to add to the visual experience including works by David Ceccarelli, illustrator for *The Yawning Rabbit River Chronicle*, and Kimmel's own paintings that inspired *The Magic Gown*.

Materials:

- The Art of Storytelling & Illustration Workbook
- The Magic Doorway Workbook (*Depending on age group*)
- Artwork by David Ceccarelli & J.L. Kimmel
- "Say YES to your adventure" poster
- 2 scrolls of magical doorways, landscapes, and characters

Presentation time: 45 minutes to 1.5 hours depending on which, if any, workbooks are used.

For more information please see attached PDF. For scheduling and fees please contact:

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You are about to embark on a journey....

Storytelling may be a gift and drawing may be a talent, but they are also skills that can be taught and refined. [The Art of Storytelling & Illustration](#) workshop examines the process of creating a story: imagining characters, settings, plots and pictures. In the summer and fall of 2013, award-winning author, J.L. Kimmel took her workshop on tour and shared her experience and expertise with eager students in libraries and schools along the east coast of the U.S. and in El Salvador.



The Art of Storytelling & Illustration workshop was conceived as an opportunity to share the knowledge and experience author J.L. Kimmel used to create the award winning books [The Magic Gown](#) and [The Yawning Rabbit River Chronicle](#). These magical and adventurous stories have resonated with young and adult alike and provide the perfect backdrop to engage the workshop students in an exciting lesson of story creation, art and imagination.

The workshop first went on tour in September of 2013. In a whirlwind week, Kimmel visited libraries in Philadelphia, Baltimore, Richmond and Charlottesville. While it was meant to be a limited engagement; the workshops generated interest and within the next few months, Kimmel took the workshop to Barnes & Noble in Charlottesville, VA, Holmdel, NJ, and Freehold, NJ. She also went across the country and internationally with stops at several schools in El Salvador, and the Hollywood School House in Los Angeles.

*“Award winning author Janine Kimmel visited us recently during her whirlwind book tour of El Salvador. Janine is the author of *The Magic Gown* and the *Yawning Rabbit River Chronicles*. We were fortunate in that this dynamic author, artist and speaker was able to devote 6 sessions on the art of storytelling and illustration, to our 5th and 6th grade students. During the sessions Janine shared several scrolls and numerous prints of the artwork from her books. The kids were thrilled to find out that many of these paintings were her own. Janine explained how the paintings played an important role as the first step in her book writing journey.*

Our students were blown away by Janine’s description of her work, and the writing process she went through when writing her novels. Our staff and students would like to thank Janine for taking the time to work with our students and for inspiring many of our aspiring authors and artists at the ABC. If you would like to see more pictures from these book talks, you can do so at the LRC Facebook or LRC Flickr pages.” - ABC LRC



Michelle Motz - Teacher at Escuela Americana, San Salvador: *“Janine, this was truly a memorable experience. All my 10th grade Honors students are inspired by you, your words and your work. We were talking about your workshop just this week as we were discussing how our experiences are stories in the making. Your insight and passion have brought the art of storytelling to life and empowered their imaginations. Thank you!”*

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“The big question is whether you are going to be able to say a hearty ‘yes’ to your adventure.” – Joseph Campbell

Based on the enthusiastic response to these workshops; Kimmel is actively pursuing the opportunity to present The Art of Storytelling & Illustration to students everywhere. Currently she is scheduled to present at the Barnes & Noble in Holmdel, NJ once again on March 20, 2014.

“One never knows how things will turn out - moment to moment. And yet the willingness to say “yes” brought me the most wonderful gifts...” – J.L. Kimmel December 2013

PHOTOS & VIDEOS

[Photos from the British School in El Salvador](#)

[Video of workshop at Escuela Americana San Salvador](#)



"J.L. Kimmel, is not only a wonderful storyteller and artist she is also an inspiration. The children and staff at our school were all captivated by her presentation filled with imagination and wonder. I highly recommend her workshop for any school.... it is fabulous and so authentic."

-Ilise Faye - Assistant Head of School - Hollywood Schoolhouse, Los Angeles, CA

INTERVIEWS

[Children's Corner Radio Show 1/6/2014](#)

[Enchanted words with J.L Kimmel 12/23/2013](#)

Connect with J.L. Kimmel online:

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WORKSHOPS IN IRELAND 2012 & 2013

While Kimmel has taught many workshops over the years; her work in Ireland holds a special significance. Kimmel spent a great deal of time there between 2008 and 2011 drawing inspiration from the Irish landscape for *The Yawning Rabbit River Chronicle*. She returned in 2012 and 2013 to launch TYRRC and discuss art, inspiration, music and

storytelling with the students there. These events laid the groundwork for the creation of *The Art of Storytelling & Illustration* workshop which would come to fruition a few months after returning from Ireland.



Dingle Library County Kerry

Kimmel visited bookstores and libraries, as well as schools: Scoil Bhreac Chuain, Aughascasla National School, and Castlegregory National School.

J.L. Kimmel Workshop Information & Fees

Presentation time: 45 minutes to 1.5 hours depending on which, if any, workbooks are used. Fees are subject to change based on scheduling, availability and travel costs. Travel costs are not included.

Session size up to *25 participants
Presentations per day: up to 5

45-Minute Presentation: \$150
1.5 hour Presentation: \$300
Workbook 1: \$5/per student
Workbook 2: \$5/per student

*Session size flexible depending on assistants available

Note: The 45-minute presentation generally does not leave enough time to use a workbook during the session. Workbooks can still be acquired to take home.

Please contact Sara Sgarlat at Sgarlat Publicity to discuss scheduling and fees.

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