

## Core judges

### Allen Cheng

Allen is a Chinese Children Literature writer, the winner of the Youth Literary Awards for 5 years in a row, the tutor of the writer training workshop of Ming Pao and The Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups, the judge of several writing competition, the founder of the Little Great Writer writing class.



### Betty Cheung

Betty is an architect, designer and the creator of ART JAM<sup>®</sup>, the socio-creative painting experience. She is also the co-author of the 2003 book, "the art of artjamming". Her work is rooted in the joy and effortlessness of creative expression. Betty helps large groups access their right brain with intensive and focussed motivation that results in big positive breakthroughs.

Since 2013, she has been a core judge for My Story Creation competition, as well as a creative advisor and workshop facilitator for Kids4Kids.



### Joanna Hotung

Joanna Hotung is an educator and entrepreneur who founded Kids' Gallery and Star English, children's creative learning centres. She is also Director of the Hotung Mills Education Foundation which supports children's learning outside formal academic education, including a focus on creative writing. She loves being a judge, speaker, and organiser of youth creative events.





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### Lily Hong

Coming from a musical background, Lily fully understands the creativity involved in creating a personal and unique product. As a piano music arranger, she has published her own music and piano solos, including "Classic children's Songs," "My Favorite Christmas Songs," and "My Favorite Pop Piano Solos." In order to share her love for creative works, Lily has previously partnered with Kids4Kids in 2015, creating a short video series called "Creating Your Story" a story writing support for young story writers and illustrators to create their stories. Through learning how to brainstorm, name characters, plan and edit a story, they bring their very own picture storybook to life.



### Ritu Hemnani

Ritu Hemnani is an author, journalist, motivational speaker, and educator, who hopes for every child to see themselves in the pages of a book. Ritu's children's book *GOPE AND MEERA – A MIGRATION STORY* was published in 2017 and her middle-grade novel in verse, *LION OF THE SKY* will be published by HarperCollins/Balzer+Bray in 2024. Ritu shares the seeds of her writing journey in her 2019 TEDx Talk, *An Inheritance Worth Sharing*: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g-GelCkt-t4>. You can find Ritu on her website: [www.rituhemnani.com](http://www.rituhemnani.com).





## Judging Committee

### Alexandre Boutot

Alexandre is currently a Year 8 student at Chinese International School. He is an avid reader, a promising young writer and a passionate artist. He was one of the youngest winners of My Story Creation 2018/2019 at age of 8! Alexandre is excited to be one of the judges this year. He looks forward to reading all of the stories!



### Alice Mong

S. Alice Mong is Executive Director of Asia Society Hong Kong Center (ASHK), an independent non-government organization established in 1990, dedicated to providing educational platforms that present balanced perspectives and promote critical understanding of topics that are relevant to Hong Kong, Asia and the region's role in the world.

She is a graduate of the Ohio State University and received her EMBA from Kellogg and HKUST.



### Anjali Mittal

Anjali Mittal originally from the UK now lives in Hong Kong and has published five children's adventure books that are available in English and Chinese. She presents and offers workshops across schools in different countries. Her stories are often found in the Hong Kong Writer's Circle Anthologies. Anjali is in the process of publishing her next children's adventure after which she will begin working on her first adult fiction.





## Judging Committee

### Anushka Purohit

Passionate, proactive and perseverant, Anushka is a young entrepreneur who is also a polyglot, being able to speak 5 languages including Cantonese and Mandarin. She is the CEO and Co-founder of Breer, a food upcycling startup that collects surplus bread from bakeries and restaurants and uses it to brew local craft beer. She has studied Electronic and Computer Engineering at the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology and wants to use her position to make a positive difference in the world, inspiring others to do the same.



### Eddie Tay

Eddie Tay is a poet and street photographer. He is an associate professor at the Department of English, Chinese University of Hong Kong. He has published research in the areas of creative writing and street photography. He teaches undergraduate courses such as Children's Literature, Reading Poetry, and Creative Writing. He also teaches the postgraduate course Writing, Photography and Social Media. He is also the Director of the Research Centre for Human Values, which supports academic research and community outreach.



### Fontaine Gibbs

Fontaine is a biology student at Imperial College London, currently undertaking a placement year in research at Harvard Medical School. She is passionate about education access, having volunteered at Kids4Kids for four years including serving as the president of its Advocates Leadership Team from 2020-21. She continues similar work as an outreach ambassador at Imperial.





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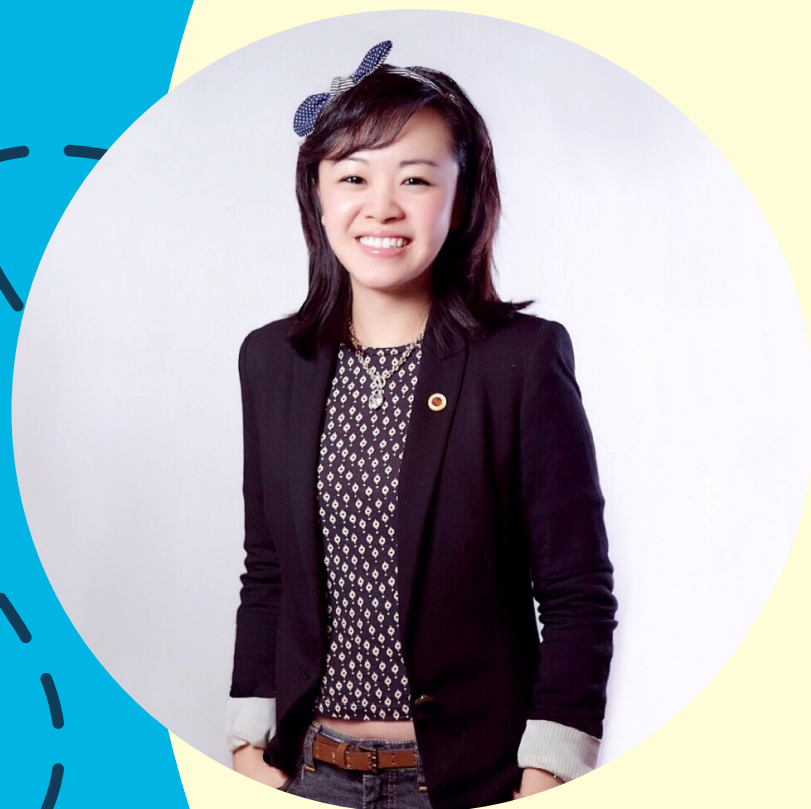
### Ema Poposka

My name is Ema Poposka and I am a Year 11 student at Renaissance College. I have always been fascinated and mesmerized by the ocean and its living beings. I love water sports and I use every opportunity to go swimming, sailing, or surfing. That is why I made my first documentary about Hong Kong corals. In a short period of time, the film attracted a lot of attention worldwide, being a finalist for the 27th ifva film awards, and winning a Gold Remi at the Houston International Film Festival. I want to continue making films that will inspire change. I also hope to be an inspiration for more young girls to join the film industry and showcase their storytelling talents. When I am not filming or writing scripts, I love reading, acting, or speaking about the ocean at events.



### Vivian Ching

Dr. Vivian Ching is a Senior Lecturer in Business Management at Ravensbourne University London, and also an artist known for colourful abstract paintings. She has held 18 global exhibitions since 2012, including a pioneering collaboration with Canon to become the first HK artist to showcase art in space, garnering 80+ media coverage such as Harper's Bazaar, Cosmopolitan and TVB. Vivian leverages her multifaceted background to enhance art-based learning for Fortune 500 clients, and concurrently serves as University of Bath Court Member and Trustee for the National Association of Gallery Education in UK. In January 2024, she launched her first SHEIN X VIVIAN CHING Earring Collection inspired by her art. Discover her journey at <http://www.vivianching.com>.





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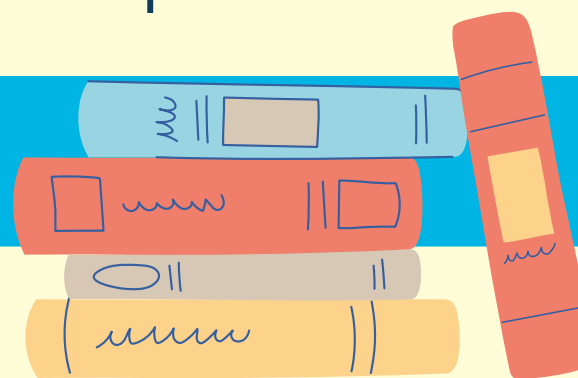
### Frances Chan

Frances is a creative powerhouse who has worked with Kids4Kids to witness the incredible stories that children can conjure up with their boundless imaginations. As if that weren't impressive enough, Ysabel also has a flair for the dramatic, frequently lending her talents to theatre productions behind the scenes and even dabbling in scriptwriting. Who knows what kind of masterpiece she'll come up with next? Perhaps you'll be the one to inspire her with your own unique story.



### Melissa Jane MEGAN

Melissa Megan is a Senior Lecturer at the Center for Language Education, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST). She teaches English for Academic Purposes at HKUST. She taught writing courses in Australia before coming to Hong Kong 25 years ago. She is passionate about reading and is an active member of a friendly book club. She has three children with whom she shares her passion.



### Sarah Brennan

Sarah Brennan was born in the beautiful Australian island state of Tasmania. She began writing poems and stories as a child. Coming to Hong Kong in 1998, she became increasingly keen to write about Chinese and Asian culture, regularly visiting schools and sharing her works with children. She is the much-loved Hong Kong author of the best-selling Chinese Calendar Tales, and many other children's books. Visit her blog to find out more.

