ASLA 2020 Literacy Research Summit Literary Experts



'Capturing research to enable literacy leaders to transform the culture of schools'



Paul Macdonald - The Children's Bookshop (Speakers' Agency) NSW

Paul has a Master of Education, working almost 20 years as a teacher of Upper Primary and Secondary. He has won numerous awards in teaching such as a Quality Teacher Award, The Premiers English Scholarship and the inaugural Maurice Saxby Award in 2012 for his contributions to raising the profile of teen fiction. Paul Macdonald also was the winner of the 2016 Lady Cutler award for services to children's literature and literacy in Australia. His interests include the development of literacy with a particular interest in reading for gifted children, Boys' Literacy and books for adolescents.

The Power of Reading



Sean Williams - Author, Senior Lecturer, Flinders University – SA

Sean is an award-winning, #1 New York Times-bestselling author of forty-nine novels and over one hundred and twenty short stories in numerous genres for adults, young adults and children. He has contributed to shared universes such as *Star Wars* and *Doctor Who*, and collaborated most recently with Garth Nix. His 2019 novel *Impossible Music* was shortlisted for the Ethel Turner Prize for Young People's Literature (NSW Premier's Literary Awards) and listed as a Notable Book by the Children's Book Council of Australia.

Reading, a.k.a. the subtle art of Learning by Osmosis



Jennifer Jackson - Paper Bird Children's Bookshop and Literature Centre WA

Paper Bird in Walyalup in Fremantle is a powerhouse of stories celebrated through a mind-boggling array of programs, including the Woylie Project for Noongar Aboriginal Storytellers. Paper Bird has established itself in less than 5 years as a leading children's literature hub. Jennifer is also a practicing Child Psychoanalytic Psychotherapist having worked in child mental health services for 20 years prior to opening the bookshop - it's a quirky mix – the bookshop has a clinic and art gallery upstairs, and writers' studios behind – a bit like a surround sound system for emotional wellbeing.

Word on the Street