



Children's Fest

Galle Fort, Sri Lanka



8 February 2025  
Galle, Sri Lanka

# Children's Festival Programme

**Registration: 8:30 - 10:00** Venue: *Martin Wickramasinghe Folk Museum, Koggala.*

## Ages 2-5

10:00 - 12:00

### What Makes You Smile?

Join early learning specialist **Shanya Perera** and Origami artist **Shazad Synon** for an action packed morning, full of storytelling, puppetry, a Smile safari, and craft activities. This session includes a snack break.

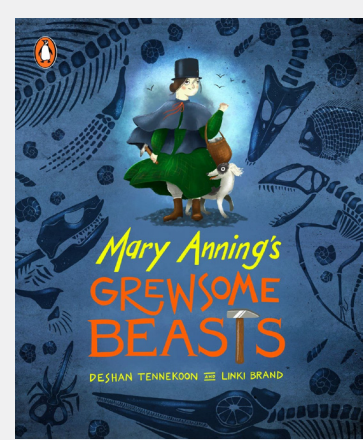
## Ages 6-8



9:30 - 10:30

### Sai's Magic Silk

Sai loves to play with his amma's saris. Under each billowing drape of magic silk, he is transported to new worlds and a lot of adventures! Author **Shyala Smith** will read from her story, and talk about how a picture book comes to life. She'll even help you get started on yours.



10:30 - 12:00

### Mary Anning's Grewsome Beasts

Join actors **Tehani Chitty** and **Tracy Jayasinghe** for a dramatised journey into the life of of Mary Anning, and learn of her trials and triumphs in the world of Palaeontology. A female paelontologist in a tophat? In the 19th Century? She dug up the world's first Ichthyosaur? A most unusual tale indeed!

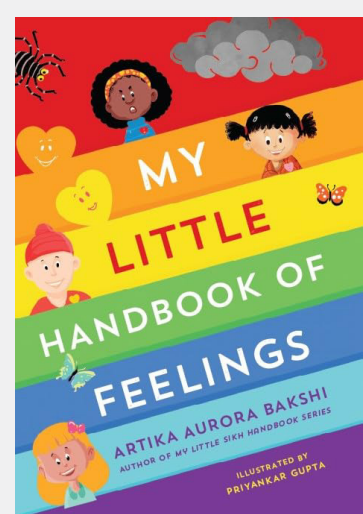
12:00 - 12:45 | Lunch

12:45 - 14:15

### Building Worlds

Imagine a world that you could build and inhabit. What would it look like? Join **Tehani Chitty** for a playful session about inhabiting spaces and characters, and let your imagination run wild!

14:15 - 14:30 | Snack Break



14:30 - 15:30

### My Little Handbook Of Feelings

Discover the colours of your heart in this storytelling and activity session guided by author **Artika Bakshi**.



Experience the magic of the Galle Literary Festival!

**Tickets on Sale now!**

[Click here to view and purchase your tickets](#)

[galleliteraryfestival.com](http://galleliteraryfestival.com)

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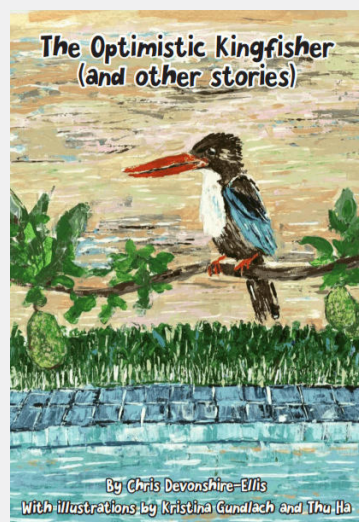
The program summary is subject to weekly updates. Please refer to the online program weekly for the latest schedule.



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## Ages 9-11

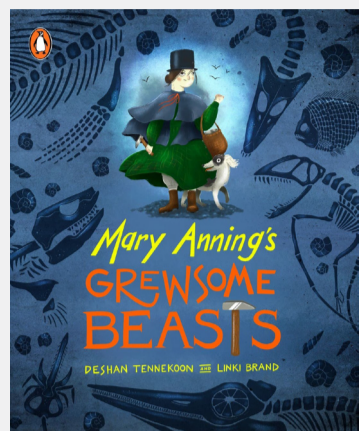
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9:30 - 10:30

### The Optimistic Kingfisher

Author **Chris Devonshire Ellis** will read some of his stories about the abundant wildlife in Sri Lanka, and talk about what prompts us to write and share stories.



10:30 - 12:00

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12:00 - 12:45 | Lunch

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12:45 - 13:45

### What's Your Cartoon Character?

What would you look like as your favourite animal? How would you draw yourself as an astronaut or musician? Award-winning animator and illustrator **Irushi Tennekoon** leads this session that explores drawing through a series of musical prompts.

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13:45 - 14:00 | Snack Break

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14:00 - 15:00

### Haiku, Haiga

Join **Tracy Holsinger** in this exploration of the traditional Japanese poetic form of Haiku, and create your own Haiga, a style of painting that focuses on mindfulness and simple observations of nature.

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15:00 - 17:00

### Literary Quiz and Poetry Slam

Join a team and take part in a quiz spanning from the classics to contemopary literature, hosted by **Vehara Abeygunawardane**, who will also host our poetry slam. Bring your original writing for the slam and battle it out with others for the title of Grand High Poet! There's prizes and surprises in this last session of the day.

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## Ages 12+

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9:30 - 11:30

### Songwriting

Write, compose, and perform your own song with **Justin Whyte**, a classically trained jazz pianist, singer songwriter and composer, whose musical journeys have seen him perform all over the world. In this workshop, you'll learn how to tell a story, choose a genre and decide on melody.

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11:30 - 12:30

### Making Comics!

Join award-winning illustrator and animator **Irushi Tennekoon** and explore sequential storytelling through a four-panel comic. In this workshop you will learn key elements of comics, such as panels, gutters, expressions and dialogue.

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12:30 - 13:15 | Lunch

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13:15 - 14:45

### Cut Up Poetry

**Imaad Majeed**, a multidisciplinary artist, curator and writer, leads this workshop that introduces technique, and demonstrates how words and design aptitude can come together on a page, either as inspiration towards visuals or becoming the visual itself.

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14:45 - 15:00 | Snack Break

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