

Newsletter

March 2018

A Maze of Story Inc

Explore . Imagine . Write .

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Hello everyone. I trust you all celebrated New Year and the recent the Chinese New Year well. As always, the A Maze of Story team is looking forward to an eventful year ahead.

Ashfield Primary School and A Maze of Story Partnership Agreement

The A Maze of Story Board is happy to announce we are now partners with Ashfield Primary School. This means the AMoS will be have an office at the school. Appropriately, the office space is in the school library. In addition, AMoS will be able to use the venue to run Volunteer Training workshops; conduct short Creative Writing Workshops after school and on weekends; offer Creative Writing Workshops during the school holidays to children from surrounding communities; have the opportunity to collaborate with Ashfield staff; and attend Principals' Regional Meetings from time to time.

The Partnership Agreement is valid for two years, and over those two years AMoS will run one five-week Creative Writing Workshops each term at the school. On termination of the Partnership (December 2019), all year 4, 5 6 and some year 3 students will have attended an A Maze of Story Creative Writing Workshop and be published young writers. Currently there are 120 students at Ashfield Primary.

Fundraising: Amazing dinners

Although the **Amazing Story Bus** has been put on hold, the Board and Committee members would like to continue with the idea of fundraising through the **Amazing Dinners**, so we are still inviting members and others to host a dinner, morning or afternoon tea, cocktail gathering, barbeque etc. If you decide that you would like to host an event, please contact Gae Oaten, gae@amazeofstory.org.au and you will be provided with an information pack and our wonderful placemats.

2017 achievements: 2018 goals

Five workshops were completed in 2017, with the result that another 60 children were delighted to receive their anthologies of stories.

Story-weaver, Susan Midalia and her six tutors have commenced the first workshop at Balcatta Primary School for 2018. The second 2018 workshop is being organized for Ashfield Primary. It will commence on the 15th March and finish on 12th April. Two more Tutors are needed for this workshop. If you are able to assist us please contact Gae Oaten gae@amazeofstory.org.au. Your help will be much appreciated!



Membership

Anyone who would like to support us by becoming a member can now join via the website, using PayPal.

www.amazeofstory.org.au

Thank you to Centre for Stories

AMoS Board thanks Caroline Wood, Director, and all at Centre for Stories for the use of their office space. Six pleasant months were spent at 100 Aberdeen St, then sadly the bulldozers moved in. AMoS wishes everyone at Centre for Stories who is still managing to work despite the building construction going on around them all the best and not too much dust!

Volunteer tutors

Twenty-six volunteer tutors joined us before Christmas for morning tea at Centre for Stories. Due to building reconstruction happening at the Centre there was a lack of toilets, so a unanimous decision was made by all not to have a second cup of tea or coffee. However, apart from this hiccup everyone enjoyed meeting their fellow tutors over morning tea. Our placement student, Cameron Flint, was kept busy interviewing tutors. You can see some of their comments on our website.

Another successful tutor training workshop was held on 17th February, with eight people attending. Six subsequently signed up to be tutors and are now on our list of volunteers. The remaining attendees are seriously thinking about becoming tutors.

As always, we welcome those who are willing to give up their valuable time to help us in our endeavours.

Marie Finlay, AMoS board secretary, and board member Heather Henderson have taken on the role of looking after our wonderful and valuable tutors. They will be organising skills development opportunities and social gatherings.

Farewell to Susan Midalia

A much-valued Board Member - Susan Midalia - has decided to retire from the Board.

Susan has been with us from the inception of A Maze of Story. We are sad to be losing Susan but thank her sincerely for all she has brought to the Board.

However, we are delighted that Susan will continue to be an A Maze of Story Story-Weaver, a role at which she is an expert. The AMoS team thank Susan for continuing to give us her valuable time to story-weave for us.

Funding & Marketing Committee

A new member, Sonia Lewis, has joined the Funding and Marketing Committee. Welcome and thank you Sonia.

Sonia is currently tutoring at Balcatta Primary School, the AMoS team hopes that she will enjoy the experience.

The F&M Committee needs one more candidate. If you feel you have good organising skills and a creative mind we would love for you to join the team.

The Committee meets every 6 weeks at 6pm in offices at Mount Pleasant. We look forward to hearing from interested members.

Website & social media

Progress is being made with our website and Facebook is in action all due to our placement student, Cameron Flint. Attention volunteer tutors: Cameron has set up a Facebook group and we urge you to join. Thank you, Cameron.

Welcome to Heather Henderson

A Maze of Story is delighted to welcome a new Board Member, Heather Henderson. Heather is a former Mayor of the City of Subiaco (May 2005 - August 2017.)

On behalf of the Board, I thank you for your continued support and participation in our not-for-profit creative writing program for children from 8 to 12 years-old.

Gae Oaten, Founder and Chairperson.