

KAREN ROMANO YOUNG

Award-winning writer and illustrator, editor, creating books, articles, illustrations, and science comics, and providing educational/outreach science communication and materials, with a focus on the ocean.

wrenyoung@gmail.com • 203.673.3119 • @doodlebugKRY • Karenromanoyoung.com

I Was A Kid initiative

A brand-new multimedia project dedicated to opening the pathways to STEAM (Science • Technology • Engineering • Arts • Math) fields to ALL kids aged 8 to 18. This project presents multimodal profiles of STEAM careerists representing a cross-section of professions and positions as well as diversity in race, background, religion, gender, sexuality, mental and physical ability. Partnered with universities, science research institutions, museums, formal and informal education initiatives and programs, and science outreach initiatives. • Funded by research organizations, corporations, and state funding, among other sources.

SCIENCE COMMUNICATION, PUBLIC OUTREACH, EDUCATION, MARKETING, ARTIST IN RESIDENCE

- **NASA Earth Science Division**, deputy managing editor (full-time)
- **American Geophysical Union Third Pod podcast**: Outreach materials, illustrated profiles of NASA scientists
- **American Geophysical Union Sci and Tell webpage**: Provided #AntarcticLog comics and regular commentary on climate subjects.
- **National Writing Project**: Educational materials and multiage workshop based on *I Was A Kid* profilees (STEAM careerists and students) and their use of science notebooks.
- **Colorado College**: Public education materials, geology.
- **International Ocean Discovery Program**: Resident artist (science comic #AntarcticLog) and communication officer aboard the JOIDES *Resolution* during Expedition 379 to the Amundsen Sea, determining the deep history of seafloor sediment offshore of the Thwaites and Pine Island glaciers.
- **Exploratorium**, science museum, San Francisco: Comics-based education and outreach materials and workshops for Foldscope program, partner project with Stanford University involving microscopy; *After Dark* program on science comics.
- **Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute**: Comics-based education and outreach materials for the Southern Ocean Carbon and Climate Observations and Modeling (SOCCOM) Adopt-a-Float program.
- **Science Friday Educational Resources**: Support materials for National Public Radio program about science, including comics-style illustrations and the development of a program about use of comics in the classroom.

- **National Science Foundation:** Antarctic Artists and Writers grantee creating science comic #AntarcticLog, a public illustrated digital media piece about climate research, policy, and education; and children's graphic nonfiction book about Antarctica.
- **Bigelow Laboratory for Ocean Sciences:** National Science Foundation Antarctic Artists and Writers fellow and member of NSF grantee science team at Palmer Station, Antarctica, researching phytoplankton.
- **Ocean Exploration Trust:** Lead Science Communications Fellow and Artist-at-Sea aboard *E/V Nautilus*. On-camera performances, audio performance, public outreach and education. Hydrothermal vent exploration off California, exploration of faulting in the Windward Passage, and multi beam sonar mapping transit, Galápagos to Santa Barbara Channel.
- **Alvin Science Verification Expedition** Science communications and Artist-at-Sea aboard *E/V Nautilus*. Podcast performance and the creation of I Was A Kid comics for science team and crew.
- **NASA ICESCAPE,** Science communicator, blogging daily for NASA What on Earth, Science and Story, and Climate Central from this Arctic expedition.
- **The Extreme Project,** Science communications, public outreach, and curriculum coordination for this ongoing NSF-funded, University of Delaware-led, collaborative research effort at hydrothermal vents in the East Pacific Rise and Guaymas Basin.

AUTHOR/ILLUSTRATOR: CHILDREN'S BOOKS

Nonfiction

- **Whale Talk,** *21st Century Nonfiction*, 2025
- **Galápagos: The World's Living Laboratory,** What on Earth, 2024 author
- **Antarctica: The World's Shrinking Continent,** What on Earth, 2022 author
a multiple award winner, including National Science Teaching Association Best Books of 2023.
- **Nonfiction Authors Dig Deep: 50 Award-Winning Children's Book Authors Share the Secret of Engaging Writing,** *National Council of Teachers of English*, 2020 contributor
- **Shark Quest,** *21st Century Nonfiction*, 2019
- **Whale Quest,** *21st Century Nonfiction*, 2018
represented the state of Connecticut at the National Book Festival
- **Try This! Series,** National Geographic Kids,
a multiple award winner, including the AAAS/Subaru science book prize
- **Space Junk,** *21st Century Nonfiction*, 2016
- **Mission: Sea Turtle Rescue,** National Geographic Children's Books, 2015, author
a multiple award winner, including the Green Earth Award
- **Science Fair Winners series,** National Geographic Children's Books, author
- **Across the Wide Ocean,** Greenwillow, 2007, author/illustrator

- ***Small Worlds: Maps and Mapmaking***, Scholastic, 2002, author
- ***Arctic Investigations: Exploring the Frozen Ocean***, Turnstone/WHOI, 2000, author
- ***Guinness Record Breakers***, Guinness Media, 1997
- **Ready, Set, Learn series**, Jossey-Bass, 1996-1997

And more!

Fiction:

- ***A Girl, A Raccoon, and the Midnight Moon***, Chronicle, 2020, middle grade novel
- ***Hundred Percent***, Chronicle, 2016 middle grade novel
multiple award winner
- ***Sybil Ludington: Revolutionary War Rider***, Feiwel & Friends, 2015, middle grade historical novel
- ***The Doodlebug Series***, graphic novels, author and illustrator, 2010-2013
multiple award winner
- ***Cobwebs***, Greenwillow, 2004, young adult novel
- ***Outside In***, Greenwillow, 2002, middle grade novel, author/illustrator
- ***Video***, Greenwillow, 1999, young adult novel
- ***The Beetle and Me: A Love Story***, Greenwillow, 1999 young adult novel
multiple award winner

OTHER WRITING AND EDITING CREDITS

Author and editor of numerous reference book articles, nonfiction chapters and essays, magazine articles, science comics, web content (including web design), and curriculum/classroom materials. Publishers and producers include

Encyclopedia of Life, Harvard Museum of Natural History

NOAA

Arbordale Publishing

The World Almanac

University of Chicago

Cricket Magazine Group, including science articles in Cricket, Muse, and Odyssey magazines

National Geographic World

Virtual Field Lab

Creative Classroom

News-O-Matic

Oceanus (Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution magazine)

Superscience Red/Blue

Science News
United Way
Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists
World Wildlife Fund
Discover Kids
Animal Planet
National Science Foundation SEARCH (Study of Environmental Arctic Change)
Smithsonian Ocean Portal
Consortium for Ocean Leadership

PRESENTATIONS, EDUCATION, AND WORKSHOPS

- Western Connecticut State University, Master of Fine Arts program adjunct: science writing, fiction, and nonfiction
- Western Connecticut State University undergraduate Arts and Sciences: fiction
- Writing workshops for all ages taught at libraries and schools, most recently Cyrenius H. Booth Library, and Cos Cob Elementary School
- Workshops and presentations about story visualization, writing, education, science, and comics. Venues, organizations, and conferences include

Women's Environmental Leadership Summit
American Geophysical Union annual meeting and Ocean Science meeting
National Marine Educators Association
Texas Library Association
National Council of Teachers of English
National Science Teaching Association
National Writing Project
Connecticut Writing Project
University of Southern California
Stepping Stones Children's Museum
Cape Cod Children's Museum
International Reading Association
Cool Science Showcase
Mystic Aquarium
New England Aquarium
WAIS (West Antarctic Ice Sheet) Workshop
Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History
John Muir Laws Wild Wonder Nature Journaling Conference

HONORS, RESIDENCIES, AND FELLOWSHIPS

Connecticut Department of Economic Development, arts fellowship, I Was A Kid project

Connecticut Sea Grant Development Award, I Was A Kid project

National Science Teachers Association Outstanding Children's Science Book

New York Public Library Best Books

NASA Social

Bank Street College of Education Best Children's Book

National Science Foundation Antarctic Artists and Writers Grant

Waypoint Fellow (science and art residency)

Ocean Science Journalism Fellow, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution

Junior Library Guild selections

Connecticut Book Award, twice; honoree, twice

Green Earth Book Award and shortlist

Oppenheimer Gold Award

American Association for the Advancement of Science/Subaru Science Book and Film prize honoree

Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators Work-in-Progress Grant, Nonfiction

Publishers Weekly Flying Starts, showcase of debut children's authors, 1999

And more!

EDUCATION

Syracuse University, education major, English academic concentration

Continuing education in art and graphics at Pratt Institute and the School of Visual Arts

MEMBERSHIPS

Polar Educators International

Antarctic Artists and Writers Collective

Pen International

American Geophysical Union

National Association of Science Writers

American Association for the Advancement of Science

National Marine Educators Association

Society of Women in Science

