

## **APPENDIX: SELECTED WRITERS**

### **ADELINE FOO**

An MFA graduate of New York University's Tisch School of the Arts, Adeline Foo has published 22 children's books. These include seven national bestsellers that have collectively remained on *The Straits Times* bestseller list for more than 84 weeks. Two books in *The Diary of Amos Lee* series were adapted into a 10-part television series. A new book, *One Boy's Quest to Learn What It Means to be Singaporean*, kickstarting a middle-grade series, was published by the National Library Board as part of the Singapore Memory Project.

### **CHAN WAI HAN**

A grandmother of two, Chan Wai Han is a new writer who is currently an editor with Singapore publisher, Ethos Books. Wai Han formerly worked as an editor and translator for Singapore Press Holdings (then known as the Times Publishing Group). Wai Han is also a storyteller and has completed a biography on Cantonese master storyteller Lee Dai Sor. This will be Wai Han's first Children's Picture Book.

### **DESMOND KON**

Trained in Professional Publishing (Books) at Stanford University, Desmond studied Sociology and Mass Communication at the National University of Singapore, and later received his Master of Theological Studies (World Religions) from Harvard University and Master of Fine Arts (Creative Writing) from the University of Notre Dame. With varied scholastic interests, Desmond likes to mine the limits of literary experience, to re-imagine them in attempting to discover newer forms he then ventures to work in. Desmond has published over six books and chapbooks; his poetry and prose have appeared in over 40 international literary journals and anthologies. An interdisciplinary artist, Desmond also works in clay, sculpting commemorative ceramics.

### **JOSEPHINE CHIA**

A keen domestic gardener and nature lover, Josephine Chia is a true-blue Peranakan who has returned home after spending 30 years in England. She writes both fiction and non-fiction, and has published eight books internationally and in Singapore. Her latest work, *Kampong Spirit – Gotong Royong*, was published in 2013. This collection of real stories about growing up in a Potong Pasir village is a companion to her memoirs, *Frog under a Coconut Shell*.

## **FACTSHEET: WRITERS-IN-THE-GARDENS RESIDENCY PROGRAMME**

The inaugural Writers-In-The-Gardens Residency Programme will enable writers to take time off from their busy, urban lives to write, and will culminate in an original, published work. Writers can immerse themselves in a part of Singapore's cultural heritage beneath the lush foliage of Singapore Botanic Gardens, or be inspired by the whimsical horticultural displays at the futuristic Gardens by the Bay while creating their work.

The residency is open to emerging and established writers from Singapore. Writers will be given an allowance during the duration of the residency. The allowance will cover transport, fees for public workshops/talks and development of new work.

Singapore Botanic Gardens and Gardens by the Bay are the venue providers for this Programme.

### **Singapore Botanic Gardens Residency** *(November 2013- April 2014)*

Writers-In-Residence will:

- Create an illustrated children's book or a young adult fiction novel/novella, inspired by the heritage of SBG
- Visit SBG at least once every month
- Have access to R&D personnel and the SBG's Library of Botany and Horticulture
- Offer 2 public sessions (workshops, readings, talks etc.) for families and children

### **Gardens by the Bay Residency** *(November 2013- April 2014)*

Writers-In-Residence will:

- Create a fiction novel or novella, inspired by Gardens by the Bay.
- Enjoy free access to Gardens by the Bay for the period of the residency
- Visit Gardens by the Bay at least once every month
- Have access to insider information, including R&D personnel
- Offer 2 public sessions (workshops, readings, talks etc.)