



Meet the award-winning author judges



Chris Bradford is the bestselling author of the Young Samurai, Ninja and Bodyguard Series and is renowned for his inspiring author events and 'method writing' style. For his award-winning Young Samurai series, he trained in samurai swordmanship, karate, ninjutsu and earned his black belt in Zen Kyu Shin Taijutsu. For his Bodyguard series, Chris embarked on an intensive close protection course to become a qualified professional bodyguard.

His books have been published in more than 20 languages and been nominated for 30+ book awards, winning among others the Hampshire Book Award 2014, the Brilliant Book Award 2014 and the Quick Reads 2017. Young Samurai: The Way of the Warrior was deemed one of Puffin's 70 Best Ever Books, alongside Treasure Island and Robin Hood.

He is the author of the Big Cat book ***Jake and Jen in the Tomb of Ice.***



A former broadcast journalist and special adviser to the Prime Minister, **Joanna Nadin** is now the author of more than seventy books for children, teenagers and adults, including the award-winning Penny Dreadful series, the Flying Fergus series with Sir Chris Hoy, and the Carnegie-nominated Joe All Alone, which is now a BBC drama. She holds a doctorate in young adult literature and lectures in creative writing at Bath Spa University.

She is the author of the Big Cat books ***Snow White and Red Rose*** and ***The Story of the Suffragettes.***