



NATIONAL CENTRE for
AUSTRALIAN
CHILDREN'S
LITERATURE^{Inc}

The National Centre for Australian Children's Literature Inc (NCACL) in the International Context

Four international collections of children's literature have been chosen for comparison with the NCACL. They have been chosen because they are internationally among the most well-known and successful. They also most closely resemble the projected vision and potential of the NCACL.

The comparison is made in relation to:

1. Governance
2. Aims/Mission/Goals
3. Collections
4. Target Audience
5. Facilities and Spaces
6. Outreach
7. Programs/Activities
8. Funding & Fund Raisers
9. Staff
10. Collaboration
11. Work Integrated Learning (WIL) & Internships

The comparison shows that in spite of space constraints, no paid staff and approximately one hundredth of the budgets of each of the other organisations, the NCACL offers a comparable range of high-quality resources, programs and activities. Our own research tells us that if the NCACL were to be properly resourced, provided space and located so that it is accessible, it is potentially as strong as our other Australian national institutions in attracting visitors to Canberra. There is an ever-increasing demand for additional access to NCACL and its resources, especially from within the University, schools and organisations that the Centre currently cannot meet. The NCACL's social media presence—its website and presence on Facebook and X—is essential in promoting literature and literacy across the country. With support similar to that enjoyed by the four organisations profiled, NCACL could be a high achiever in this specialised field.

Seven Stories: The National Centre for Children's Books <http://www.sevenstories.org.uk>

30 Lime Street, Newcastle upon Tyne, Ouseburn Valley, United Kingdom

Information collected from Seven Stories website and other sources September 2025

Governance	Aim/Mission/Goals	Collections	Target Audience	Facilities & Spaces	Outreach
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *1996 founded as charity by E Hammill & M Briggs *2002 purchased facility *2005 Opened *2008 Became an accredited museum *2012 national status awarded *Registered charitable company limited by guarantee *Board of trustees *Patrons 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Save, celebrate, share Britain's rich literary heritage for children, ensuring its essential place in childhood and our national cultural life *Create exhibitions, artistic, learning and research programs celebrating children's books, encourage reading, nourish intellect, curiosity, imagination and creativity *Be socially and culturally inclusive in serving all ages, in its collections & programs *Excite visitors in an exploration of creativity, literature and art *Acquire, care for outstanding works of art & important manuscripts *Create inspirational exhibition and learning programs *Encourage love of books & reading 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *British children's literature and illustration from 1930s to the present day *Manuscripts & artwork relating to over 250 authors & illustrators *Art collection emphasises the creative process (sketchbooks, dummies, etc) plus final artworks *Non-paper formats (cloth, video/audio, CDs, DVDs, etc), selectively and less actively collected *Formed collections by significant persons/collectors; collect particular themes; select books from ex-library stock *Library of over 35K children's books, including translations, proofs, journals, newspapers aimed at researchers, students and general public *Online catalogue 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Children *Parents *Schools *University students *Childcare professionals *Community groups *Promoted as tourist destination 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Renovated 7 storey Victorian mill *Bookshop *Theatre *Art & craft space *Exhibition space *Library *Café 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * TripAdviser * YouTube channel * Twitter * Facebook * Instagram * E-newsletter * Blog about collection items * Seven Stories staff in residence in schools for a year * Short sessions in schools * Organise author/illustrator virtual visits to schools * 'Hooked into Books' with books & activity packs plus PD * 'Reader in Residence' in schools * Professional development aimed at those working with children * Author & illustrator events * 'On the Road' stories, songs, performances to NE UK * Case study projects * Exhibitions on tour

Programs/Activities	Funding & Fund Raisers	Staff	Collaboration	WIL, Internships, Partnerships
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Exhibitions, internal & touring exhibitions across the country * Exhibitions digitised selectively *Workshops, visits & resources for schools for education professionals from pre-school to post graduate level *Theatre productions *Drama and Creative writing and wordplay *Illustration & craft *Author/illustrator events, visits & workshops *Events *Story time *Performances 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Heritage Lottery Fund *V&A Fund *Community Foundation Newcastle Culture Investment Fund *Grants from trusts & foundations *Arts Council England *Newcastle City Council *Project grants *Corporate/business sponsors *Private donors *Publishers *Facilities rental *Admission, event & tour fees *Business breakfasts 	44 paid 50 volunteers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *U of Newcastle *The Story Museum (London) *The Children's University partner with children's learning supported & recorded 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Jointly hosts PhD studentships with University of Newcastle upon Tyne, funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council *Partners with University of Newcastle in acquiring formed collections and in the University's designation as an international centre for the study of children's literature *Collaborates with The Story Museum (Oxford), The House of Illustration (London) and Roald Dahl Museum *Supports researchers & academics from around the world *Provides 40 work placements for school children, students and trainees

Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art <https://www.carlemuseum.org>

125 West Bay Road, Amherst, MA 01002 USA

Information collected from Eric Carle Museum website and other sources September 2025

Governance	Aim/Mission/Goals	Collections	Target Audience	Facilities & Spaces	Outreach
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Established by Eric & Barbara Carle in 2002 *non-profit organisation *Board *19 Trustees around the country *Advisors worldwide 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Mission: to celebrate and elevate picture book art *Goals: collect, preserve and exhibit original art and foster an ever-growing audience passionate about picture book art *Vision: We envision a world where people everywhere experience joy, hope and understanding through picture book art 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *13K objects, including 7.3K permanent illustrations collection *Reading library – 6K contemporary picture books *Barbara Elleman Research Library – 1K items *Art Studio Library – 350 vols on art & creativity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Children *Parents *Schools *University students *Educators *Scholars *Artists *Authors *Publishers *Childcare professionals *Educators 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *43K square feet *3 art galleries *Reading library/exhibition space *Art studio *Auditorium/theatre seating 140 *Rental of space for special events for up to 150; museum space fits up to 350 guests *Picture book & scholarly libraries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Website *X *Facebook *Blog *E-newsletter *Press releases *Public lecture series by authors & illustrators for adults *Annual Benefit Gala featuring awards to individuals & organisations that provide creative vision and long-term dedication to

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Promoted as tourist destination 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Curator's workspace *‘Bobby’s Meadow’, an accessible outdoor facility in memory of Barbara Carle *Children’s bookshop *Eating facility 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the world of picture books/fund raiser *Annual BERL lecture *Hosts external exhibitions *Curates national and international travelling exhibitions
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Programs/Activities	Funding & Fund Raisers	Staff	Collaboration	WIL & Internships
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Educational programs *Professional development workshops *Everyday art program *Storytime *Films, plays, puppet & theatrical performances *Writing for children presentations to adults *Drop-in programs for toddlers/preschoolers *Author/illustrator visits & workshops *Little Kids Yoga classes for families *Weeklong multi-function events *Curators’ talks *Visual Thinking Strategies workshops *Summer teacher workshops *Panels on various topics *Illustration and craft sessions *Online events and programs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Eric Carle, friends & supporters *Carle Legacy Society – gifts & bequests through wills *Federal and State grants to support collection care & outreach activities *Private donors *Business sponsorships *Creative Community Group *Memberships (10 categories) *Merchandise/bookshop *Admission & workshop fees *Publishers sponsor *Admission, event & tour fees *Facilities rental 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *40 full & part time *Volunteers in Reading Library & Art Studio 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Links with Simmons College, Boston, MA *Program with Northampton Community Music Centre (story through music) *Publishing ventures in partnership with four publishers including Penguin and Macmillan, NY Historical Society High Museum of Art Atlanta, PLAY! Museum Tokyo and Children’s Museum Pittsburgh *ECarle, Smith College & Assessorato all’Educazione del Comune di Pistoia offer educators’ study tour to early childhood centers in Pistoia, Italy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Two internships with stipends *Unpaid internships for undergraduate, graduate students and graduated students across art studio, collections & exhibitions, development & marketing & administration, attracting people from across the US *4 onsite graduate programs in children’s literature offered in conjunction with Simmons College, Boston, MA *Professional training for educators around the country

The Story Museum <http://www.storymuseum.org.uk>

Rochester House, 42 Pembroke Street, Oxford OX1 1BP

Information collected from The Story Museum website and other sources September 2025

Governance	Aim/Mission/Goals	Collections	Target Audience	Facilities & Spaces	Outreach
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Established as ‘virtual’ museum in 2003; acquired premises, offered external programs in 2009; premises 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vision and Mission: Our vision is to enrich lives, especially young lives, through stories. Our mission is to achieve this by collecting great stories and sharing them. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Significant Lewis Carroll collection Also, books, illustrations, photographs, comics, toys and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Children *Teenagers *Parents *Schools *Writers *Artists 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *3 linked buildings around a courtyard in the middle of historic Oxford *Immersive galleries and story-themed zones *Cafe 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *X *Website *Facebook *E-newsletter Various examples:

<p>renovated & opened in 2014</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Registered charity & not for profit company *Board *Patrons 	<p>Key objectives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Highlight the human need for stories and celebrate the many ways that people can benefit from them. ii. Develop and share great ways of engaging with great stories and to help people to create stories of their own iii. Create a ‘wonder’, an unusual museum that attracts audience, hosts inspiring and enjoyable experiences, works physically and financially and is environmentally sustainable iv. Expand audiences, increase diversity and deepen community involvement with the museum and our shared story heritage v. Develop, understand, and share a collection of great stories, in different forms, and demonstrate their importance to human culture, heritage, learning and well-being vi. Establish a resilient organisation, maximizing earned income and building the capacity of leadership, staff, trustees, associates and volunteers. 	<p>games, costumes, film props, ceramics & digital resources</p>	<p>*Childcare professionals *Community groups *Disadvantaged youth *Promoted as a tourist destination</p>	<p>*2000 m², across three separate but linked buildings. Within those buildings are 10 gallery and activity spaces; including five spaces for installations and exhibitions; a 120-seat theatre, a learning space to accommodate schools, and a café-shop courtyard. Small Worlds is an early years story themed play space, plus ‘City of Stories’, which is a digitally immersive experience</p>	<p>*‘Oxford Writing Squad’ for teenage writers *Annual writer-in-residence *Heritage Story Skills – heritage & stories about Oxford *National Writing Project *Draw me a story – community exhibition focusing on individual artists’ preliminary & finished work, plus illustrators demonstrating their art *Partner with Oxford Brookes University’s School of Education to jointly deliver the BA Education Storytelling Pathway Module *Partnership with The National Literacy Trust’s World of Stories Project, training 101 librarians across the country *Demonstrate & develop story-themed space in classrooms and/or libraries *Teacher Resources with lesson plans & video *Summer walking tours around Oxford for families **‘1001 Stories’ books accessed through website *Themed weekends featuring exhibitions and program of events including performances, family shows, workshops, clubs and skills-building courses that engage people of all ages in stories with interactive, multi-sensory activities</p>
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The Story Museum (continued)

Programs/Activities	Funding & Fund Raisers (examples)	Staff	Collaborations	WIL & Internships
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Exhibitions *Reading, writing, storytelling & museum-making workshops *Interactive, multisensory, immersive activities *Free online stories from around the world *Story-related events *Professional development for teachers *Book & audio resources *Festivals *Events aimed at bringing families together *School visits & resources for schools *Immersive sensory installation environment *Author/illustrator visits & workshops 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Trusts & Foundations *Grants *Private donors *Heritage Lottery Fund *Oxford City Council *Arts Council of England *Funded through a combination of private donations, including a substantial £2.5 million gift from a private donor, and public grants from the National Heritage Lottery Fund; Arts Council England funded its initial virtual operations and later redevelopment project which provided a £500,000 grant to help renovate three buildings *Bookshop & café *Fundraising events 	<p>16 FTE (latest found plus volunteers)</p>	<p>Examples:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Learning through Stories – work with 8 Oxford City primary schools to deliver oral storytelling, exhibition & story narrative *Annual day celebrating <i>Alice in Wonderland</i> with 20 partner organisations across Oxford *Seven Stories 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Unpaid interns, consisting of students or recent graduates offered various work experience in events, marketing, fund raising, administration, educational outreach, literature-based research

International Youth Library <http://www.ijb.de/en/about-us.html>

Blutenburg Castle, Schloss Blutenburg, 31247 Munich, Germany

Information collected from the International Youth Library website and other sources September 2025

Governance	Aim/Mission/Goals	Collections	Target Audience	Facilities & Spaces	Outreach
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Founded in 1949 by Jella Lepman *Public Trust organization, registered in 1995 *International Board of trustees & Executive Board members 	<p>Mission/Goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *preserve cultural diversity in the world's literature for young people *promote research in international literature for young people *promote global children's and youth literature of high aesthetic and literary caliber & of significance for cultural literacy *promote education & scholarship *support international children's & young adult literature research *encourage scholarly exchange and international cooperation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *650K international children's books in 260 languages, spanning four centuries, including special collections & private donations *67K historical children's books published prior to 1950 *30K volumes of international research literature *30K lending library of books for children's use *130 periodicals *4,400 posters *'Literature museums' - international authors' & illustrators' works including mss, diaries, etc 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Researchers *University students *Children *Parents *Schools *Promoted as a tourist destination 	<p>Blutenburg Castle located in Obermenzing district of Munich, former country retreat of the Wittelsbach dukes & kings of Bavaria</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Website *Facebook White Ravens: a Selection of International Children's and Youth Literature (2024) *White Ravens Festival (2010+) features established and emerging international authors & illustrators offering workshops & interactive events for audiences of all ages *Blog featuring news and reports *Publish exhibition catalogues, children's books designed to broaden children's cultural horizons, & its most important annual <i>White Ravens</i>, the bibliography of books chosen from children's and YA titles published worldwide, published annually including new releases from 50 countries in over 30 languages *Host exhibitions, readings, workshops, panel discussions, talks, conferences, professional development & an international literature festival

Programs/Activities	Funding & Fund Raisers	Staff	Collaboration	WIL & Internships
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Hosts biennially White Ravens Festival to celebrate international children's literature *Library publishes annual <i>White Raven</i> catalogue selecting new books from over 40 (incl Australia) countries in 30 different languages *Award James Kruss prize biennially to recognise a new creator 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Funded 1996 by Foundation *Institutionally funded in varying proportions by German Federal Republic, Bavarian State Ministry for Education & Culture, Science and Art & Cultural Dept of Munich City Council 	<p>32 full & part time</p>	<p>Extensive collaboration, for example, Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award, international book fairs in Bologna & Frankfurt, International Board on Books for Young People (IBBY)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Support research in international children's and youth literature and illustration *Promote scholarly exchange and international cooperation *International Fellowship Program – offer 6 weeks to 3 months to conduct research in the world's largest library for children's and

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Exhibitions – original artwork, surveys of children’s literature in different countries *Travelling exhibitions *Workshops for schools, after school and youth groups to demonstrate literature as meaningful, enriching and entertaining as well as meeting curricular learning objectives *Book clubs, storytelling, language classes & creative writing classes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Institutions, charitable foundations, publishing houses & private sponsors 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> youth literature – with access to 650,000+ books in 260 languages + stipend/support
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National Centre for Australian Children’s Literature Inc <http://ncacl.org.au> September 2025

Location: University of Canberra, Australian Capital Territory, Australia

Governance	Aim/Mission/Goals	Collections	Target Audience	Facilities & Spaces	Outreach
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Established by Lu Rees & CBCA ACT Branch in 1974 *Non-profit charity & tax deductible gift recipient 1988+ *Registered with ACNC (Australian Charities & Not for Profit Commission) *Income tax deductibility status 1988+ *Incorporated in ACT with a Board for governance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Slogans: Home to our childhood stories; Sharing our nation’s heritage; Guardian of our childhood stories *Vision: Our literary past, present and future are preserved in the Centre, through the stories that touched our hearts and stirred our imaginations as children. It documents and shares the creative process and inspires the next generation of readers with research collections, exhibitions and outreach activities. *Objectives are to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) collect, preserve & document developments in Australian children’s literature. (b) make the collection available to the people of Australia, including all ages and all communities, in recognition of our cultural heritage in children’s literature. (c) make the collection available to students, researchers and others interested and to assist them in their study and research. (d) extend the availability of the collection by using digital technologies as appropriate (e) provide encouragement and inspiration for current and future authors and illustrators of children’s literature. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *61K books, including 6K in 115 languages, incl 42 Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander languages *710 research files on Australian authors & illustrators, select publishers and critics past & present *Reference books *Rare books *Theses *Framed artwork collections *70 collections of artists’ artwork & authors’ papers & mss plus a large collection of single artworks *62 Cultural Gifts Donations *3 publishers’ archives—Omnibus Books, Walter McVitty Publisher & Working Title Press) *IBBY Australia archives *Historical/unique audiotapes & photographs *Ephemera 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Priorities vary based on needs and interests *University students studying children’s literature, education, creative writing, art, graphic design, cultural heritage, publishing & editing *Public interested in Australia’s cultural heritage *Researchers *Educators *Schools *Childcare children and their workers *Community groups - languages, embassies, U3A, public library *Professional associations (see Collaboration) *Children *Parents *Artists & authors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Public working space is a suite of 3 rooms including book stacks, entry work/study area, compactus/plan cabinets, & office *Basement storage space for framed artwork and publisher archive *Basement storage of a single room plus shared room, with compactus, plan cabinets, open shelves for artworks and creators’ papers & manuscripts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Website *Facebook *X *E-newsletter *Annual e-journal *Annual Report *Blogs (monthly) featuring NCACL’s unique collections *Website online resources include databases, bibliographies, films, audiorecordings, picture galleries and other resources *Festivals, speakers, panels, exhibitions, meet & greet, workshops, & events for audiences of varying ages *NCACL and/or collaborative exhibitions of one or

	<p>(f) assist in the recognition and contribution of Australian children's authors and illustrators to children's literature around the world.</p> <p>(g) In connection with these objectives to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) preserve the creators' works; (ii) nurture the children's literature industry; (iii) support future professionals in the children's literature industry; (iv) support the research community in Australia and particularly those engaged in researching children's literature; (v) encourage reading in children and (vi) celebrate children's literature. 	<p>*May Gibbs historical collection re her life and work</p> <p>*NCACL collection overall valued at \$14.5M (as at Jul2025)</p>	<p>*Publishers</p> <p>*Literary agents</p> <p>*Booksellers</p>		<p>more illustrators' & authors' works</p> <p>*Loans collection for exhibitions</p> <p>*Ambassadors for promotional purposes</p>
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National Centre for Australian Children's Literature Inc (continued)

Programs/Activities	Funding & Fund Raisers	Staff	Collaboration	WIL & Internships
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Loan of NCACL collections to Australian galleries and museums *Educational programs for tertiary students *Educational programs for day care centres, primary & secondary students *Programs for conference attendees *Programs for professional associations *Programs for aged care centres *Speakers' events *Author/illustrator visits, presentations & workshops *Professional development for teachers, librarians, parents, homeschooling groups & daycare professionals *Online databases (Presently four: Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Peoples, Cultural Diversity, Picture Books for Older Readers and Verse Novels) share NCACL's resources 24/7 worldwide 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Annual donation drives * Private donors *Merchandise sales (<i>Showcasing Treasures</i> book & Pixie O'Harris etched glassware, now completed) *Events with admission fees *Raffles *Campaigns for projects such as database creation, artwork storage, guide to publisher's archive, cataloguing of translations and as needs arise 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Employed 1 person 14 hrs weekly from 1995-until June 2015 *Generally 35 experienced part time volunteers annually donate equivalent of 910 days or 3.6 full-time staff annually 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NLA, CBCA, Libraries ACT, ACT Writers Centre, ALIA, IBBY, ALEA, PETAA, language schools, schools, daycare centres, retirement communities, NGA, NMA, Belconnen Arts Centre, Canberra Museum and Gallery, National Maritime Museum, The Literature Centre, State Library of Victoria, Geelong Gallery, <i>The School Magazine</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *NCACL is a registered, formal provider of UC Work Integrated Learning (WIL) *NCACL also provides internships for Australian students and researchers including undergraduate and graduate students from Charles Sturt University, ANU and Curtin University *Support national and international researchers' projects