

PRESS RELEASE MARCH 2025 - OPEN STUDIO / BEANSPROUT

Open Studio with Local Author/Illustrator Sarah Lynne Reul

In celebration of her new book BEANSPROUT, Sarah Lynne Reul is hosting an open studio with original illustrations, a free art activity, snacks, and signed books for sale from Whitelam Books.

Saturday, March 29, 2025 2pm - 4pm 25 Woburn St, Reading, MA (Upstairs @ First Congregational Church / Creative Arts)

Come join author/illustrator Sarah Lynne Reul for an open studio event at her studio in Reading, MA, featuring behind-the-scenes sketches and original art from her new picture book BEANSPROUT. Drop in between 2-4pm on Saturday March 29th, 2025 for a free art activity making tissue-paper prints, along with signed books for sale from local independent bookshop, Whitelam Books.

Sarah Lynne Reul, a resident of Wakefield, MA, has written and/or illustrated 10+ books that have been published by Macmillan, Simon & Schuster, Charlesbridge, Abrams, Harper Collins and Union Square Books.

Sarah's newest book, BEANSPROUT, was released on March 11th, 2025 by Boston-area Charlesbridge Publishing. In this picture book with brightly colored collage illustrations, Ben's class is working on a seed-growing experiment. He's super excited about what might grow from the bean he's picked out, and he's careful to take care of it *just right*. But when Bean is the *only* seed in class that doesn't sprout, will Ben be able to deal with his feelings of sadness in order to grow something new?

Sarah's studio can be found in the upstairs portion of the First Congregational Church of Reading, which also houses Creative Arts. Visitors can park in the back lot by Reading Town Hall, or along Sanborn St. Enter at either Creative Arts entrance and follow the signs past the atrium to the stairs that lead to the studios on the second floor. Fine art painter Sylvain Mailfroy-Camine will also be allowing visitors a peek into his studio, located on the same floor.

BEANSPROUT Reviews:

"The narrative arc and STEM concepts are integrated effectively, with scientific thinking and problem-solving helping to propel the story . . . This layered story plants seeds of learning about nature, the scientific method, and emotional resilience." – Kirkus Reviews

"Cut-out paper figures, portrayed with various abilities and skin tones, are placed against brightly colored backgrounds that give the pages a handmade, childlike feel in a story whose narrative pivot leaves room for readers to make hypotheses of their own." - Publishers Weekly

SARAH LYNNE REUL

Sarah Lynne Reul is an author, illustrator & award-winning 2D animator who likes bright colors, tiny things and drawing on photos. She writes and illustrates books for kids and their grownups. Her stories often feature big feelings and trying to find ways to help make things better.

After a number of years in science museum education and nonprofit administration, she was lured back to school by the magic of making drawings come to life. She earned an MFA in 2D Animation from the Academy of Art University and her thesis film, "The Search for the Monster of Lake Quannapowitt", won Best Animation for Kids at Animation Block Party.

Sarah Lynne Reul grew up in Brooklyn, but now lives in Wakefield, MA with her husband, two kids, two cats and one dog. During her workdays, she spends her time creating new books and visiting schools for author/illustrator events. She has presented to hundreds of students at 30+ schools across New England. More info at www.reuler.com.

WHITELAM BOOKS

The goal of Whitelam Books is to provide the people of Reading, MA and surrounding communities with personal, insightful service to obtain the next great book they'll read or give as a gift. Whitelam Books is committed to making this world a better place now and for future generations by promoting the value of and pleasure in reading and supporting efforts that enrich life in our community. More info at whitelambooks.com.

CHARLESBRIDGE PUBLISHING

Charlesbridge, the Watertown, MA publisher of BEANSPROUT, distributes books via Penguin Random House. Charlesbridge publishes high-quality books for children, with a goal of creating lifelong readers and lifelong learners. Their books encourage reading and discovery in the classroom, library, and home. They believe that books for children should offer accurate information, promote a positive worldview, and embrace a child's innate sense of wonder and fun. More info at charlesbridge.com.

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