



Birdie Lights Up the World
an Illustration Exhibition
by Lauren Mullinder



Women's &
Children's Hospital
Foundation

Arts in Health

Lauren is an award winning illustrator based in the north eastern foothills of Adelaide. She has been drawing for as long as she can remember and has always had a passion for art and reading. After many years of working in the advertising and graphic design fields, Lauren had the opportunity to illustrate her first picture book 'I Hate Rules' in 2015 and has never looked back. She has now illustrated a number of children's books and spends her time drawing, exploring the natural world, developing illustration workshops and engaging with authors and creatives through her involvement with SCBWI and Writers SA.

Lauren's latest picture book *Birdie Lights up the World* was written by Alison McLennan and published by EK Books in June, 2023. Lauren's illustrations lend a soft and charming element to the story, beautifully depicting an imaginative zoo utopia, where animals can mix together and explore each other's worlds.

In many ways, this has been the story I have been waiting for - it has been an incredibly exciting and joyous book to illustrate and I have had so much fun with Birdie and her friends.

"Alison has written a moving story about having confidence in yourself and appreciating your unique gifts for what they are. If we have a song to sing, we should sing it, whether it fills a stadium or only brings joy to one person... it all counts. As an illustrator, I wanted to enhance her story by creating images that complemented her words but also told a story of their own."

My focus was on friendship - using the characters of the story (in particular, the squirrel monkey) to showcase the importance of support and community and how they can not only help you follow your dreams, but make the journey more fun and meaningful."

The prints in this exhibition are some of Lauren's favourites and have been carefully selected from the book as limited art prints with permission from the publisher. Signed copies of *Birdie Lights up the World* are also available.

In addition, she has included a few of her recent illustrations, including *River of Dreams*, which was the winning entry in the Published Illustration category for the 2023 CYA Writers & Illustrators Competition.

To see more of Lauren's illustration work visit: Instagram [@laurenmullinder](https://www.instagram.com/laurenmullinder) or website: www.laurenmullinder.com



Image top: "The whole zoo depended on Birdie..."

Image bottom left: "It was still her job to light up the world..."

Image bottom right: portrait of Lauren Mullinder



Lauren Mullinder
Illustration

CHILDREN'S
BOOK WEEK*

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The Women's & Children's Hospital Foundation (WCH Foundation) raises funds to support the health of women and children under the care of the Women's and Children's Hospital in Adelaide, South Australia. The WCH Foundation is committed to ensuring that mums, children, and their families have access to the very best in medical care, hospital facilities and support services at a time when they need it the most.

The WCH Foundation Arts in Health program creates an interactive and vibrant hospital environment that improves the health and wellbeing of the hospital patients, their families and staff. Through art, play and music, we encourage curiosity and creativity and reduce the stress of being in hospital.

The Arts in Health Exhibition Program provides a space away from the stresses of treatment to distract, entertain and inspire by improving the hospital environment. The artworks displayed in the exhibition spaces come from a range of sources – internally from hospital staff, patients (women & children) and their families, through specific Arts in Health activities and externally from local artists and art collectives.

This exhibition was planned and exhibited on the lands of the Kaurna People, we pay our respects to the Kaurna Elders past and present and to the Elders of the lands this brochure reaches.

To see our other exciting exhibitions within the Women's and Children's Hospital visit: wchfoundation.org.au/arts-in-health/gallery-exhibition-program/

Cover Image: detail of "*Birdie was the chosen one...*"



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