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# EXPLORING CULTURAL DIVERSITY THROUGH THE LENS OF CHILDREN'S LITERATURE

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THE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION LECTURE PRESENTATION

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## Author, Robert Geronimo

Tuesday, March 8 | 5:00pm – 7:00pm

Center for the Arts (1P), Williamson Theatre

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**Robert Geronimo** is an artist/writer based in Staten Island, New York. He is the creator of the *Little Maia* picture book series and the pulp adventure novel, *Agent 87 and the Black Train* (young female agent at the end of WWII). Little Maia's adventures are told entirely through illustrations, and follow a brave little problem solver who has to find her way back home. The wordless format is designed to encourage children to use their imagination and develop a dialogue between the characters.

Mr. Geronimo graduated from Wagner College with a dual major in Fine Art and Art History while also studying comics and sequential storytelling at the Arts Students League in Manhattan, under DC Comics artist Jamal Igle and Random House artist Steve Walker. He received a Master's degree in Art History at Brooklyn College, where he studied children's book illustration under Bruce Degen, co-creator and artist of the critically acclaimed children's picture book series *The Magic School Bus*. His master's thesis focused on the visual and literary canon of the DC comic book character, Wonder Woman, detailing the heroine's tragic fall from a strong feminine archetype to a less subversive character. He has collaborated with Mel Odom, author of *The Rover*, as well as, William Bernhardt, author of the popular *Ben Kincaid* series.

In 2013, Robert established a small printing press called Ascalon Press. The goal of the company is to empower young people, particularly young girls, through works that level the playing field for both genders.