Sofie Laguna

AUTHOR



Sofie Laguna is the 2027 Ambassador for the Victorian Premiers' Reading Challenge. After first training as an actor, Sofie began writing for children and has now written over twenty-five books for young people. Her work has been published in the US, the UK and in translation throughout Europe and Asia. She has been shortlisted for the Queensland Premier's Award, and twice been awarded Honour Book by the Children's Book Council of Australia. Titles include: *The Last Egg*, *The Song of Lewis Carmichael*, *Too Loud Lily*, and the *Our Australian Girl: Meet Grace* series.

Sofie's also writes novels for adults and has won numerous literary awards including the Miles Franklin Award, the Margaret and Colin Roderick Literary Award, and the Indie Award. In 2026 Sofie released her first graphic novel for children, *Blunderbore*, illustrated by her husband, Marc McBride.

Sofie Laguna regularly presents to both children and adults, and conducts writing workshops for all ages.

Sessions for Students

LOWER PRIMARY:

Sofie performs a play based on her picture book *My Yellow Blanky*. The show is dynamic and interactive, noisy and fun, providing the students with an opportunity to understand the connection between text and performance. Sofie also uses her successful picture book *Too Loud Lily* as a as a springboard – students work as a chorus, with Sofie in the role of 'conductor'. These sessions celebrate the relationship between words, sound, action and story.

MIDDLE / UPPER PRIMARY:

There is a strong theatrical element in Sofie's presentations for middle and upper primary; sessions are interactive, entertaining and lively. Sofie discusses the inspiration behind her work – from embarrassing parents, to family holidays. She shares pictures, first drafts, and diaries, empowering her young audience with the belief that their own lives are rich with material for great stories.

CHARACTER WORKSHOPS:

Sofie shares with participants the different ways to create strong characters and their importance in building a compelling story. Participants learn how to create characters of their own and to develop the stories that lie within them. Sessions for young people end with real life 'interviews' where students play the characters they have created: a fun, lively and surprising way to bring characters to life.

JOURNALLING WORKSHOPS:

Sofie explores all the ways journals/diaries can empower us, calm us, contain us and sometimes save us. She discusses the value of having a safe and private place to be expressive. It is Sofie's experience that a journal can help you through tough times. She provides lots of writing prompts, helping participants to begin the process of confiding in a journal. She also shows students the first drafts of her many books, all contained within the rough pages of messy diaries. Sessions are encouraging, dynamic and enjoyable.

"Thank You, Sofie was absolutely delightful - warm, passionate and a lovely person - it was a joy to have her here" – Gannawarra Library

BOOKINGS & ENQUIRIES:
Nexus Arts www.nexusarts.com.au
Phone 03 9528 3416 Freecall 1800 675 897
Email nexusarts@netspace.net.au

Sofie Laguna – Feedback

Sofie was brilliant. The feedback from teachers, parents and students was that they were thrilled with the content of her talk. She was so natural, authentic and reflective about her writing. She had students from year 5-12, parents and teachers as audience and she pitched her talk perfectly. She was prompt and completely professional. We were so very impressed.
—J. Harkness, Roseville College

We had great feedback from the audience and they were very engaged especially during the Q&A time. Mark and Sofie were very generous with their answers. They were both very warm, professional and generous. Mark and Sofie were both very communicative leading up to the event and punctual on the evening. *—N.Koch, Yarra Libraries*

"Just awesome!" "Spot on" "Really hit the mark" "She had them (the children) eating out of her hand." These are just of the few amongst many comments that the teachers said about Sofie. I have just heard nothing but positive feedback about Sofie. Please let her know how very pleased our teachers and children were about her visit. We highly recommend Sofie!
—T. Stoove, St Mary's Primary School Greensborough,

We thoroughly enjoyed Sofie's visit. Everyone had a fantastic time, Sofie is a brilliant speaker. I will look at ways to continue the collaboration with Sofie.
—R. Nelson, Bannockburn Primary School, Bannockburn

Just wanted to let you know Sophie Laguna finished her workshops today with the 5/6 classes—she was great! Really engaging with the students, and the teachers were very happy with the content. Thanks for the recommendation! *—S. Allan, Balwyn Primary School*

We have just enjoyed Sofie Laguna's visit here at Corpus Christi. She has certainly inspired the children in their writing and reading. Sofie's presentation was very engaging for all children from Prep through to Year 6. *—J. Wilkinson, Corpus Christi*

The girls in Prep, Year 1 and Year 2 each had a session with award winning author, Sofie Laguna. During these sessions, she shared lots with us about her writing experiences. Sofie was a big fan of acting until one day she heard a story from a friend, and her life changed forever. She changed from being an actor and became an author! She sent her first story to five publishers, and luckily the last one replied that they would publish her first book. We learnt three important things from Sofie: Follow your dreams, be patient, and don't stop having a go at new things! *—Students, Ivanhoe Girls Grammar*

Sofie spoke to students in Prep – Year 2. She was very engaging and professional in her delivery. The students were interested in what she had to say and she held their attention for most of the 50 minute session (a difficult feat for prep students). Sofie explained very clearly the role of the publisher, putting it in simple terms and relating it to her personal experience. This is often a difficult concept for the younger students to understand, but Sofie explained it very clearly and simply. She had a lovely warm manner with the students and quickly established a great rapport with them.
We had Sofie visit our school a number of years ago and she was great. Once again, we weren't disappointed. She is a very talented speaker. I would definitely recommend Sofie and we would love to have her back in the future.
—M. Muse, Teacher-Librarian, Overnewton Anglican Community College