



SYMPHONY OF STORIES

2026 Children's Book Week

Artwork by Briony Stewart

'I decided to try and show what stepping into a symphony of stories might be like. A huge colourful collection of characters bursting out of a book representing their different stories with weird and wonderful instruments.'

– Briony Stewart



Maestro Pebbles is a well-respected conductor of songs, stories and formalwear. A regular musical arranger for fashion shows, Pebbles also owns and runs London's foremost ethical-tailoring business 'Penguin Suits'.



Pixie **Pip** is a piccolo piper who hates pickled peppers, but loves handmade tassels and coordinating outfits. A renowned collector of macramé plant

holders, Pip has cultivated over a dozen rare mosses at their toadstool house in the woods.



Foxgloves, honeysuckles, jonquils... **Phineas** isn't picky, he loves to play all the flowers in the garden. Whether it's with the brassy sound of dewdrops inside a morning bud, or the sweet notes of scented night blossoms, he finds a beguiling tune to play at all angles of the sundial.



Grok is plying the Fahloodle Toungeflute. It is the celebratory instrument of the fishkeeper folk of the Lagoon Isles. It is a well-used instrument as celebrations are made for many daily tasks including greeting someone you have not already greeted once before that day or successfully moving your sea cucumbers to another patch of the lagoon.



Ember is a bright spark in the red-hot jazz group, 'Brass Inferno.' Primarily playing the harmonic horn, the sarussaphone and occasionally the spoons,

Ember hopes to achieve a lifelong dream of playing a set on the top of Mt Vesuvius.



Brunhilda is a master of the lesser-known musical skill of 'humming-whilst-reading'. She can get through thirty chapters of a moderately heavy literary novel and most of Paul Simon's back catalogue without missing a single beat or plot point.



Boom! Bap! Bang! **Taco** is a tiny mouse with a big heart. He only just got his new drum as a Mousy Whiskmas gift from his Aunty Tequila. His parents tried to hide it on top of a high cupboard, but he found it and now the world is his stage!



After a life of petty crime stealing picnic baskets **Bearnard** discovered a passion for classical cello music. After forming a connection with a wayward young warbler named **Figaro**, the duo became famed for their operatic

duets. They now tour constantly through the summer and hibernate in winter at an undisclosed forest location.



Like the sound of flying by the seat of your pants, tooting your own horn in your favourite catsuit? Or do you get butterflies even thinking about performing? Either way, why not join your local Butterfly Bugle Brigade! Sign up today to meet our best-loved brigadiers, **Lutz** and **Lofly**!



Mezzo soprano **Prince Polliwog** comes from a long line of royal singers. His eight-times great grandfather, Prince Chambray of Pantaloon never received 'true love's kiss' after being transformed into a frog by a witch and turned to a life of melancholic ballads that spawned (quite literally) a long legacy of musical offspring.



Last Monday **Borris** decided to go and scavenge the bins of his local kabab shop, next thing he knew he was keeping beat on a tambourine, the head of a never-ending procession of strange creatures. It may not look like it, but it has filled his heart with more joy than a stale a falafel ever could.



Winston is a Dutch-lop rabbit best known for her exuberant acrobatics combined with phenomenal accordion playing. She holds the world record for most cartwheels done whilst playing a polka, and is an ambassador for the Leporid Aerophone Society.

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Credit Briony Stewart and the CBCA.