Using Science-Fiction Adventure Stories to Change the World


The Johnsons will appear at Chatwin’s booth (#2351) from 2:00 p.m. to 2:45 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 26. Charles Johnson will also hold a presentation on the Emery Jones series at the PopTop Stage on Monday, Jan. 28, from 1:00 p.m. to 1:50 p.m.

The Emery Jones series aims to excite young people, especially young people of color, about STEM fields by highlighting the amazing intersections between science and everyday life. As title character Emery and his friend Gabby embark on science-fueled adventures, they teach readers about scientific topics like evolution and time-travel.

But, like many young people, Emery and Gabby also struggle with being bullied at school, having physical differences, and trying to fit in with classmates and friends.

In 2019, Chatwin is re-launching the Emery Jones series with the new, third book, The Tomorrow No One Wanted. The story finds Emery and Gabby confronting their alternate future selves after accidentally changing the past during a time-travel experiment.

Chatwin is also publishing second, revised editions of book one, Bending Time, and book two, The Hard Problem. Books four and five, plus colorful educational posters and calendars for classroom use, will be forthcoming. The Emery Jones series features illustrations by Charles Johnson, who is also a noted cartoonist.

Visit Chatwin Books’ booth (#2351) from 2:00 p.m. to 2:45 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 26, to meet Charles and Elisheba Johnson and learn more about how they hope to inspire young people to join STEM fields through science-fiction adventure stories.

Charles Johnson is an essayist, scholar, philosopher, novelist, cartoonist, and professor emeritus at the University of Washington. Among his published books is the novel Middle Passage, for which Johnson won the National Book Award.

Elisheba Johnson is a multi-media artist and poet. After earning her BFA from Cornish College of the Arts, Johnson opened Faire Gallery Café’, a multi-use art space. Since 2013, she has
worked with the Seattle Office of Arts and Culture as a project manager in the Public Art Program.