

BEYOND BORDERS

TRENDS IN WORLD CHILDREN'S
LITERATURE AND CHILDREN'S
LITERATURE IN TRANSLATION

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME



UBC MACL • VANCOUVER 2024



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We would like to acknowledge that the land on which The University of British Columbia stands is the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of the x^wməθk^wəyəm (Musqueam) People.

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WELCOME TO BEYOND BORDERS 2024

On behalf of the whole conference committee, I am excited to welcome you to this year's children's and young adult literature and media conference at UBC. We hope this conference yields new directions in research and creative writing, bringing together varied approaches and lenses to children's literature. We picked this topic as we believe that now, more than ever, there needs to be a conscious effort to bridge gaps and overcome barriers, to create a space that is dynamic, diverse, and inclusive of various traditions, cultures, and languages. Children's literature, for the most part, remains anglo-american in academic, creative, and pedagogical fields and there is an urgent need to highlight research and writing beyond these borders!

The last couple of years have seen a steady rise in global conflicts as the geo-political arena becomes more and more volatile. The new millennium had begun with a promise of peace and stability and international wars seemed like twentieth century mistakes, never to be repeated again. However, the events currently unfolding in the Middle East, South America, North Africa, Asia, and Europe point to the increase in polarization and distrust amongst peoples and nations. Against this background, we hope Beyond Borders is one such endeavour that reminds us that diversity and inclusion must not

become insulated conversations in English-speaking North America and every child deserves to have their realities and stories reflected in their literature. We are happy to welcome our presenters from across the globe, who are joining us either in-person or virtually, to contribute to this important conversation.

This conference would not have been possible without the support of the graduate students from the MACL program. We would also like to thank our faculty partners, sponsors, behind the scenes administrators, moderators, and IT support. Finally, I'd also like to acknowledge our gratitude for the land on which we gather, which is the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of the x^wməθk^wəyəm (Musqueam) People.

Best,

Ibha Gupta

Chair

Beyond Borders 2024

MACL



REPRESENTATION

This conference is held on the UBC Point Grey (Vancouver) campus, which sits on the traditional, ancestral, unceded territory of the xʷməθkʷəy̅əm (Musqueam) First Nation.

The first Graduate Student Conference in Children's and Young Adult Literature, Media and Culture took place in 2008. In addition to paper and creative writing presentations, the conference invites renowned scholars and authors. Featured keynote speakers from past conferences include Maria Tatar, Philip Nel, Elizabeth Marshall, S.R. Toliver, Angel Matos, Naomi Hamer and best-selling authors Rachel Hartman, Richard Van Camp, and Nafisa Azad.

This year, students from the Master of Arts in Children's Literature Program will come together for the eleventh time to host the event.

We are also happy to have a truly diverse set of presenters and we hope for more representation in the future!

Here is a map of Beyond Borders 2024

This map acknowledges the challenges of accurately representing cultures based on geographical borders and markers. Names used to refer to the land, and regions as a whole, are as varied as their people and practices. While recognizing diversity, our uses of names and outlines of places are done in recognition of these limitations.

We encourage participants to consider histories and present realities related to maps, borders, and the colonial erasure of language, sovereignty, and existence of Indigenous, Inuit, First Nations and diverse cultural demographics. Across the world, cultures and peoples are not monoliths, and remain multifaceted despite attempts to homogenize them. As we engage in dialogue about children's literature around the world, how can we look beyond assigned borders to better recognize and understand the multicultural patchworks where we live?



BEYOND BORDERS | MAPPED

Australia Belgium China England Greece Iran Japan Palestine Turtle Island
Bangladesh Chile Egypt Germany India Israel Morocco Philippines Wales

IN OUR CONFERENCE



BEYOND BORDERS

As we bear witness to the condition of contemporary childhood wherein children in numerous countries face on-going challenges such as war, strife, genocide, disease, and poverty, it further becomes imperative to foster conversations and provide a platform to showcase various types of childhoods and their literatures. The topic of World Children's Literature and Children's Literature in translation was selected for this conference with the aim of encouraging academic and creative works that highlight the various types of childhoods that exist, as well as discussing issues pertaining to unequal representation of such childhoods in mainstream social discourse.

Our keynote speakers and panelists center literature, practices, and cultures of childhood and adolescence beyond those typically centered in Anglophone and European scholarship. Participants will explore what being part of a multicultural children's literature means, as well as what it means to exist in a space in relation to other people, places, languages, and cultures both local and transnational.

This conference highlights people and works who do their best to look beyond geographical and cultural boundaries to create a more inclusive space, revealing larger issues, trends, and innovations in children's and young adult literature.



KEYNOTE SPEAKERS





Melanie Ramdarshan Bold

she/they

**Programme Leader, Children's
Literature and Literacies MEd**

School of Education
University of Glasgow

Melanie Ramdarshan Bold is an Associate Professor of Children's and YA Literature Studies at The University of Glasgow (Scotland). Her research specialism is Inclusive Youth Literature and Book Culture (readers, writers, publishing and the cultural industries), with a particular focus on the representation of Black people and people of colour (BPoC), and the experiences of BPoC authors and readers. Melanie has published widely on the topic, alongside numerous publications about contemporary book culture more generally. Her first book *Inclusive Young Adult Fiction* was published in 2019. She is also the co-author of the popular trade book *The Publishing Business* (the third edition was published in 2024) and the author of the upcoming books *YA Anthologies: Amplifying Voices, Building Community* (2024); *International Bestsellers and the Online Reconfiguring of National Identity* (with Rachel Noorda and Millicent Weber, 2024); and *Paddington, Critically* (with Aishwarya Subramanian, 2025). Melanie's interests in Youth Literature and Book Culture extends beyond academia. She has been a judge on various literary prizes and is on the Advisory Boards for the CLPE Reflecting Realities project, the Pop-up Pathways into Children's Publishing project, and Literature Alliance Scotland, and works with numerous cultural organisations across the UK.



Sara Van den Bossche

she/her

**Assistant Professor of Youth
Cultures & Literature Studies,
Research Programme Leader**

Department of Culture Studies
Tilburg University

Sara Van den Bossche is Assistant Professor of Youth Cultures and Literatures at Tilburg University (the Netherlands). In her doctoral dissertation (Ghent University, Belgium, 2015), she scrutinised the reception and canonisation of Astrid Lindgren's works in Flanders and the Netherlands. Her main teaching and research topics are ethnic and cultural diversity, feminism, postcolonialism, cognitive criticism, canonisation, adaptation, picturebooks, and crossover literature. Since September 2019, she has been teaching in the Erasmus Mundus International Master "Children's Literature, Media, and Culture" (CLMC). She co-authored [*Children's Literature through the Lens of Ethnic-Cultural Diversity*] (Eburon/Stichting Lezen, 2020) and co-edited *Never-ending Stories. Adaptation, Canonisation and Ideology in Children's Literature* (Academia Press, 2014). She is the author of the upcoming books *Routledge Engagements with Children's Literature* (with Lydia Kokkola) and *Pippi Longstocking, Critically*.



Dr Melanie Ramdarshan Bold & Dr Sara Van den Bossche

Researching diverse and inclusive youth literature: key issues and challenges

In this 60-minute student-led discussion, Drs Melanie Ramdarshan Bold and Sara Van den Bossche will present their position papers on the key issues and challenges of researching diverse and inclusive youth literature, drawing on their extensive experience in the field and of working with multiple actors in the publishing circuit. Following their presentations, students will respond with questions, and audience queries will be moderated by the Chair.



Giselle Vriesen

she/they

Author of
WHY WE PLAY WITH FIRE

Finding Belonging in Writing

In this address, YA author Giselle Vriesen will lead attendee's into her world, through an intersectional conversation on what it means, and what it takes, to find belonging in fiction writing, publishing, and oneself.

Giselle Vriesen is a twenty three year-old author living on Halalt First Nations land on Vancouver Island Canada. Her debut YA fantasy novel *WHY WE PLAY WITH FIRE* released in February of 2024 through Row House Publishing, distributed by S&S.

Additionally Giselle is the co-creator of the *Anti-Racism Course for Educators*, teaches writing through her course *Book Baby* which encourages marginalized writers to decolonize through storytelling, and has been a professional tarot reader for the past eight years.



SCHEDULE





BEYOND BORDERS

TRENDS IN WORLD CHILDREN'S LITERATURE
AND CHILDREN'S LITERATURE IN TRANSLATION

21 - 22 JUNE 2024 • VANCOUVER, CA, THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA - IBLC
1961 E MALL, VANCOUVER, BC V6T 1Z1

DAY 1 SCHEDULE | FRIDAY, JUNE 21, 2024



12:30 PM - 1:00 PM

REFRESHMENTS

IRVING K BARBER LEARNING CENTRE (IBLC) 155

1:00 PM - 1:30 PM

INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

IBLC 155

1:30 PM - 2:30 PM

ACADEMIC KEYNOTE -

**DR. MELANIE RAMDARSHAN BOLD &
DR. SARA VAN DEN BOSSCHE**

IBLC 155

2:30 PM - 4:00 PM

PANEL 1A -

GLOBAL LITERATURE IN CLASSROOMS

IBLC 155 Moderator — Cath Ayres

Eunju Choe - "Every Child Matters": Canadian Pre-Service Teachers' Critical Engagement with Indigenous Life-Narrative Picturebooks

Francisca Tapia Álvarez - Down Syndrome Representation in Chilean School's Literary Catalogues

Jeeffa U. Acmat - Bridging Borders Through Interactive Storytelling: Transnational Adaptations and New Media for Fostering Love for Reading and Child Engagement

Suzanne La Rocca - The Learning Potential of Verse Novels for Children and Young Adult World Literature

DAY 1 SCHEDULE | CONTINUED (2/3)



PANEL 1B - RETHINKING THE CANON

IBLC 158 Moderator — Chloe Grant

Cara Scheibe - International perspectives on Jane Austen: How young people engage with classical works across new media platforms

Hicham Diouane - Rethinking the Prophetic Narrative: The Margins of Innovation in Islamic Children's Literature

Nadeem Ahmad Rather & Dr. Sukanya Mondal - Saleem Speaks, the Nation Listens: A Historical and Literary Exploration of Child Narrators in Indo-Anglian Fiction

Rafi Yahya - Children's Literature in Palestine

Sohini Raychaudhuri - A Vindication of Alvin Schwartz and his *Scary Stories*

4:00 PM - 5:30 PM

PANEL 2A - CHILDREN'S LITERATURE IN TRANSLATION I

IBLC 155 Moderator — Daniela Bareli

Artemis Papailia - From Aesop to the Modern Day: Translating Morals in Greek Children's Fables

Mahmoud Ibrahim - The Voice of the Translator in Translated Children's Literature in Egypt

Manas Ranjan - Position of Women Translators in Abridging the Classics for Children: The Case of Paratranslation

DAY 1 SCHEDULE | CONTINUED (3/3) ...

PANEL 2B - CHILDREN'S LITERATURE IN TRANSLATION 2

IBLC 158 Moderator — Maryam Mohammadkhani

Bahar Eshraq - Transformative Function of Award-winning Books Translated into Farsi

Maureen Hosay - "There is no such thing as the 'perfect' translation": The impact of translation strategies on the read-aloud quality of *Gruffalo* in French

Yueyue Li - New Trends in Translation: A Content Analysis of the Mildred L. Batchelder Award from 2015-2024

6:30 PM - 8:30 PM

EVENING SOCIAL

THEA'S LOUNGE - (THEA KOERNER HOUSE - ROOM 310)



BEYOND BORDERS

TRENDS IN WORLD CHILDREN'S LITERATURE
AND CHILDREN'S LITERATURE IN TRANSLATION

21 - 22 JUNE 2024 · VANCOUVER, CA, THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA - IBLC

DAY 2 SCHEDULE | SATURDAY, JUNE 22, 2024



8:00 AM - 8:30 AM

MORNING REFRESHMENTS

IRVING K BARBER LEARNING CENTRE (IBLC) 155

8:30 AM - 10:00 AM

PANEL 3 -

UNPACKING CONFLICT: EXPLORATIONS OF WAR, MIGRANT, AND REFUGEE NARRATIVES

IBLC 155 Moderator — **Ibha Gupta**

Dominika Tabor - War, Migrant Identity, and New Canadian Home in *The Garden* by Meghan Ferrari

Elanur Williams - Children's Verse Novels, "Border Kids," and Multiculturalism in the United States

Emma Page - "Messengers of Peace": War, Conflict, and the International Board on Books for Young People

Rosy-Triantafyllia Angelaki - Political and ideological concepts in Greek war and refugee narratives for children and young people

10:00 AM - 11:30 AM

PANEL 4A -

FABLES, FOLKLORE, FUTURES: BUILDING A TRANSNATIONAL SPECULATIVE FICTION

IBLC 155 Moderator — **Caro Leyton**

Daniela Bareli - Feminism, Ecology, and Fairy Tale in Astrid Lindgren's *Ronia, The Robber's Daughter*

Sarani Roy - Taming Unruly Men: Reconstructing a New National Identity in the Fairy Tale Collections of Colonial Bengal

Saya Kanemoto - How to slay your dragon: Japanese and British approaches

DAY 2 SCHEDULE | CONTINUED (2/3) ●●●

PANEL 4B - ILLUSTRATING THE WORLD: PICTORIAL STORYTELLING IN CHILDREN'S LITERATURE

IBLC 158 Moderator — Chloe Grant

Cath Ayres - Whose Land is it Anyway? Representations of Indigenous Cultures in Children's Picture Atlases

Md Adnan & Shivangi Rani - "The Other Side of Wall": Global Responses to the Rhetoric of Jus Defensionis and Teichopolitics in Contemporary Children's Picturebooks

Sukriti Bhukkal - The 'Conflict' of Coming of Age: A Critical Analysis of Kashmiri Childhood via Sajad Malik's *Munnu: A Boy from Kashmir*

11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

PANEL 5A - INTERSECTIONS OF IDENTITY: CULTURAL INFLUENCES ON GENDER & SEXUALITY

IBLC 155 Moderator — Cath Ayres

Charli Brown - 'T400-499. Illicit sexual relations': Censorship and Perversification of Indigenous and Aboriginal Queer Bodies in Stith Thompson's *Motif Index of Folk-Literature*

Jingyi Zhan - Gender Representation in the Verbal-visual Translation of Children's Folktales: The Translations of *The Four Classic Folktales of China*

Maryam Mohammadkhani - Exploring Women's Representation in Iranian Picturebooks

Pratiti Saha - Unveiling Shakchunni: Intersectional Queer Tropes in the Demoness of Bengali Children's Literature

DAY 2 SCHEDULE | CONTINUED (3/3) ...

PANEL 5B - CREATIVE WRITING BEYOND BORDERS

IBLC 158 Moderator — Caro Leyton

Lorraine Shen - The Great Old Eel and Khu Bong-Sia

Tanya Banerjee - The Invisible Return

William Rubel - Trinley Finley and the Cup of Butter Tea

1:00 PM - 2:00 PM

LUNCH

ISCHOOL LOUNGE (IBLC) - FOURTH FLOOR

2:00 PM - 3:00 PM

CREATIVE KEYNOTE - GISELLE VRIESEN

IBLC 155

3:00 PM - 3:30 PM

THANK YOU & CLOSING REMARKS

IBLC 155



VENUES & ABOUT US



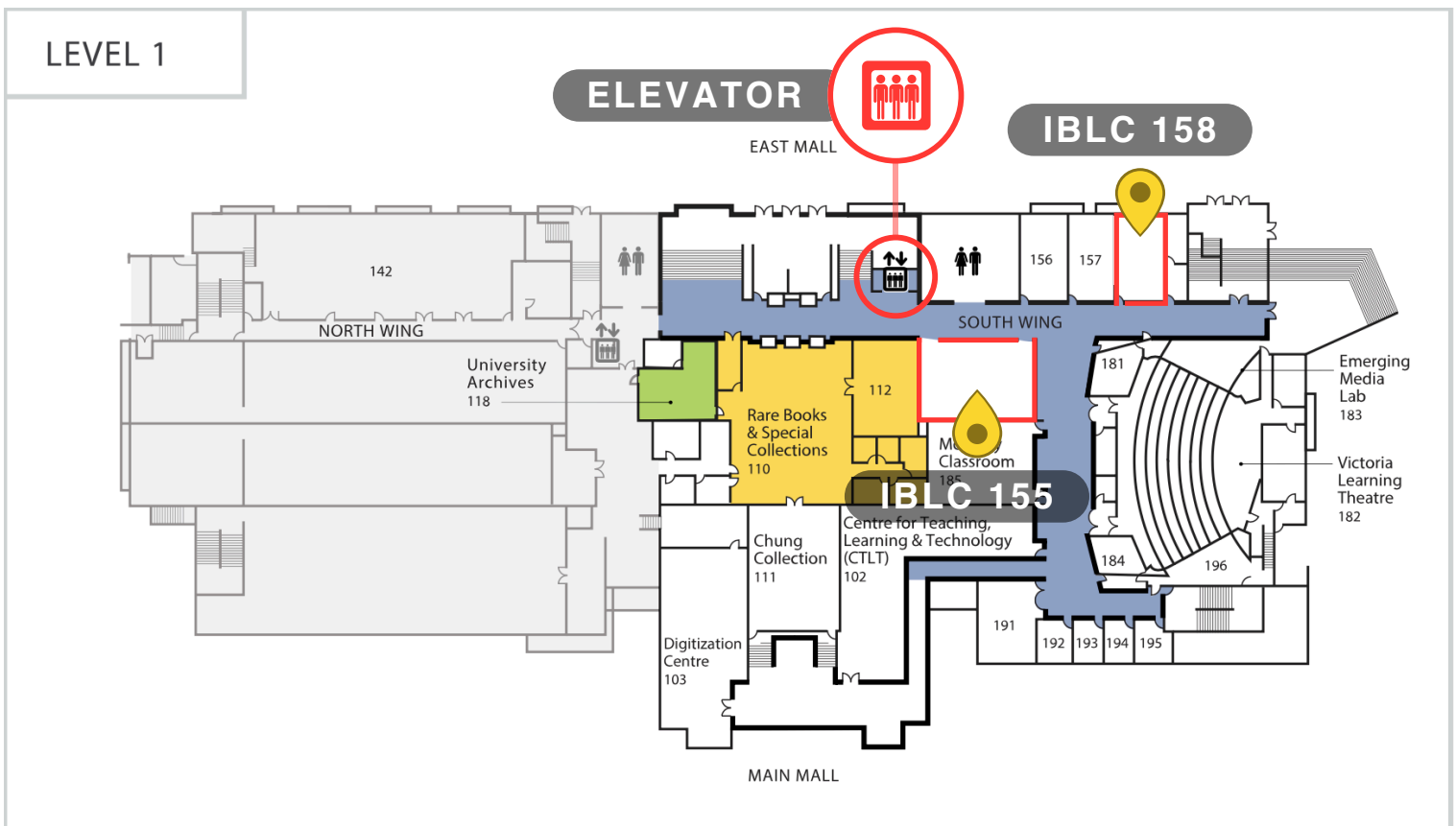
VENUE MAPS & GUIDANCE

The following pages are here to help locate and access the conference venue. Listed are floor plans for Level 1 and Level 4 of the Irving K Barber Learning Center (IBLC), as well as a wider map positioning the IBLC and Thea Koerner House in relation to each other. These directions use elevators for waypoints.

Irving K Barber Learning Center

To access IBLC 155 and 158, you will need to descend a flight of stairs or the elevator (located by the central) East Mall entrance. Exiting the elevator, IBLC 155 is the first room diagonally across from where you get out, whereas IBLC 158 is four doors down (third past the washrooms), on the same side of the hall as the elevator.

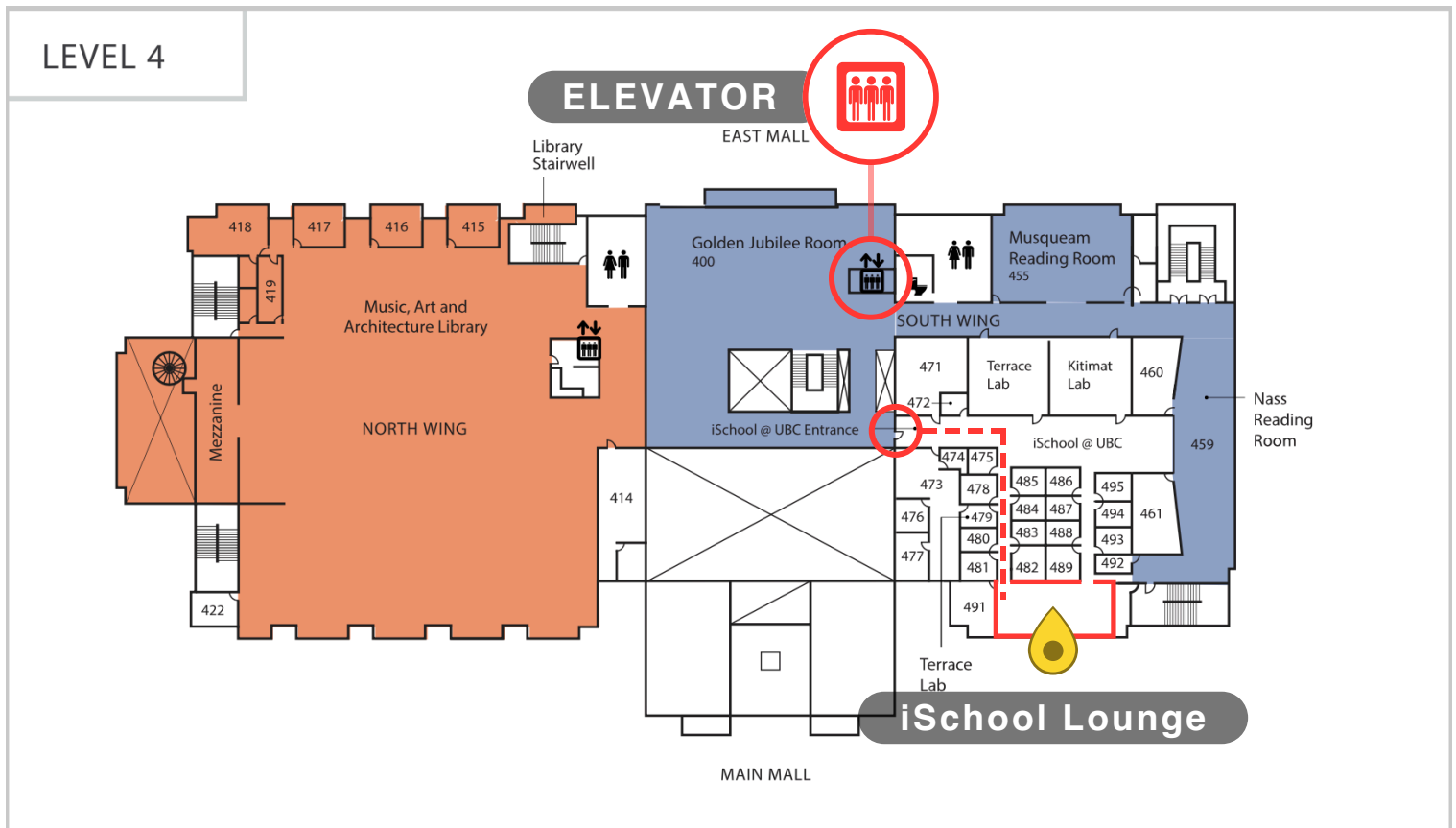
See below for IBLC 155 & 158



iSchool Lounge

The iSchool Lounge is located on the fourth floor of the IBLC. In order to reach it, you will need to either take the elevator to Level 4 or climb flights of stairs. Exiting from the elevator, you head straight forwards all the way to the end then turn left. The iSchool entrance is located at the circled entrance on the map below. If the door is closed, you will need a UBC Student ID card in order to access the iSchool. Once inside, hug the right wall until a hallway opens up on the right, follow that hallway, and you are at the iSchool Lounge.

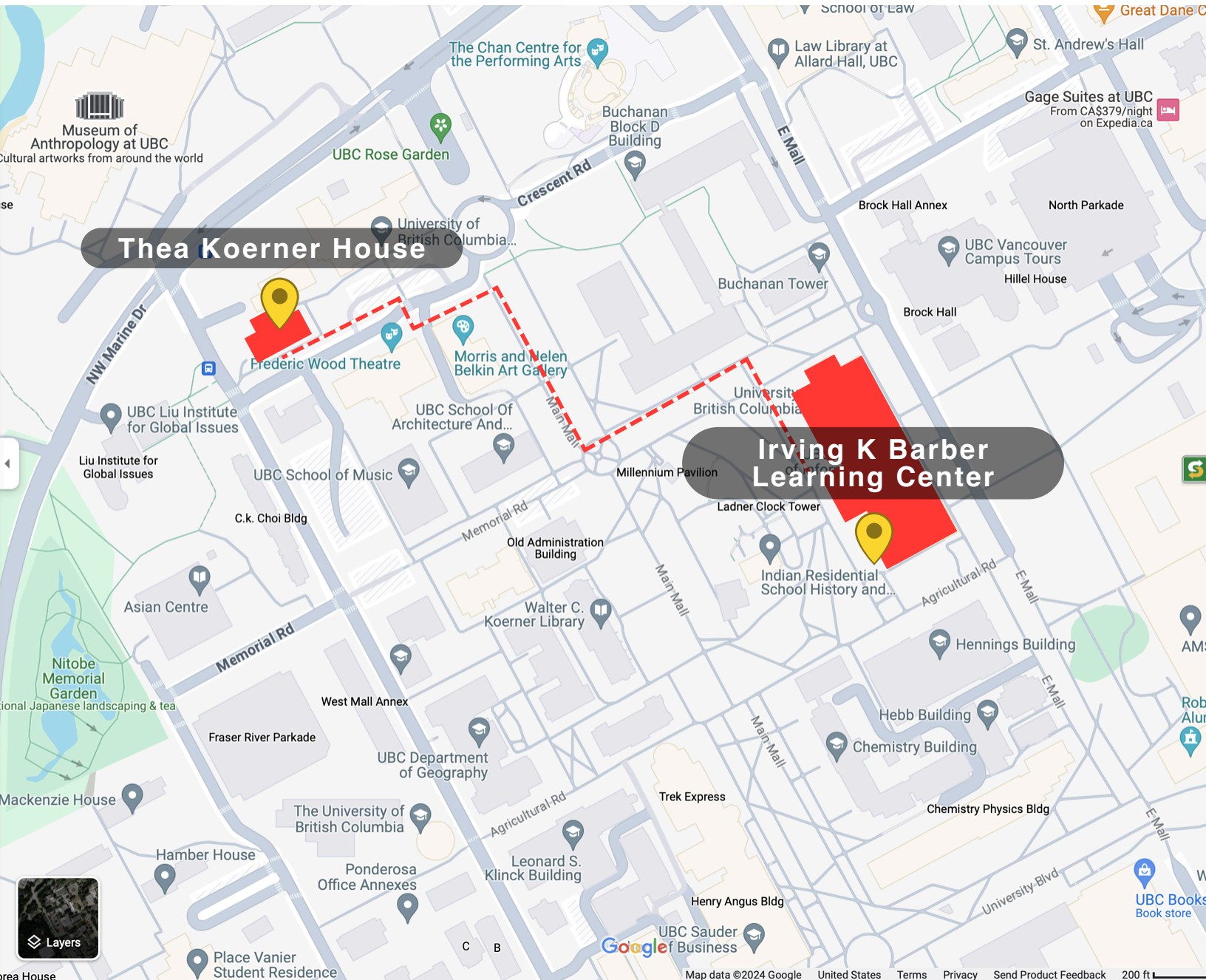
See below for iSchool Lounge



Thea Koerner House - Thea's Lounge (Room 310)

In order to arrive at the Thea Koerner House, you will need to make your way across campus. If you exit from the Irving K Barber Learning Center (IBLC), then we advise leaving the IBLC from the Main Mall exit on the opposite side from where the elevator is. Moving right, follow any path to reach Main Mall, continue right on Main Mall until you reach the roundabout on Crescent Rd. Take a left turn at the roundabout and you will find the Thea Koerner House shortly on the right.

See below for navigating to Thea's Lounge



ABOUT US

CHAIR

Ibha Gupta

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chloe Bond

Rue Burgoyne-King

Chloe Grant

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Dr. Emily Pohl-Weary

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Dr. Mary Ann Saunders

Dr. Kathryn Shoemaker

Dr. Bronwen Tate

LOGO ARTIST

Rue Burgoyne-King

GRAPHIC DESIGNERS

Rue Burgoyne-King

Chloe Grant

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Dr. Melanie Ramdarshan Bold

Dr. Sara Van den Bossche

Giselle Vriesen

UBC STAFF, DEPARTMENT LIAISONS, & PERSONNEL

Jerry He:

iSchool Administrative Assistant

Debra Locke:

iSchool Information Assistant

Elizabeth Nolan:

iSchool Administrator

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