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Count Down to Fall Takes Gold Florida Publishers Association Awards Charleston Author

Mount Pleasant, S.C. (October 21, 2010) – On Saturday, October 9, 2010, the Florida Publishers Association (FPA) presented its 2010 President’s Book Awards. Fran Hawk’s “**Count Down to Fall**” won Gold in the Children’s Picture Book category.

Winners were selected from 61 entries by the competition’s 28 judges (25 librarians from across Florida and 3 members of nationally recognized book design firms). One gold and up to two silver medals were awarded in each category.

Children will count backwards from ten to one during one of the most colorful times of year-fall-in this award-winning picture book. With help from Sherry Neidigh’s illustrations, Hawk teaches children how the change in seasons affects plants and animals.

Fran is a retired school media specialist who currently resides in Charleston, S.C. Her previous work includes “The Story of H.L. Hunley and Queenie’s Coin” which she wrote after the Hunley submarine was raised from Charleston harbor. In her latest work, “Ten Tips for Raising Readers”, Hawk shares how to bring children and books together. Hawk was inspired to write “**Count Down to Fall**” after realizing on a walk one autumn afternoon that she did not know the names of any of the leaves and trees around her. She checked out a leaf book from the library so she could teach her grandchildren. “**Count Down to Fall**” was the result!

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