

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Local Children’s Book Illustrator Wins Award for Outstanding Artwork

MOUNT PLEASANT, S.C. (April 16, 2010) – Pennsylvania resident and Sylvan Dell illustrator **Gary R. Phillips** takes his artwork to a new level after winning the Outstanding Pennsylvania Illustrator award. Phillips accepted his award at the Pennsylvania School Librarians Association Conference on Friday, April 16 at the Awards Breakfast.

Phillips feels lucky to be fulfilling his dreams and states, “I absolutely love what I do and feel deeply grateful to everyone who makes it possible.”

The Pennsylvania Outstanding Illustrator award recognizes an illustrator for their body of work. The PSLA awarded Phillips with this honor for his notable contribution to the field of literature for youth. A freelance illustrator for 25 years, Phillips is no stranger to winning awards. He has illustrated for numerous clients in both the editorial and children’s illustration markets receiving six awards from *Highlights* including “Verse Page Illustrator of the Year 2003” and “Thinking Page, Illustration of the Year 2004”. Phillips’ work in “86 Years” was voted best cover by the attendees of the New England Book Show, and most recently, [Ocean Hide and Seek](#) won a “Mom’s Choice Award”. Phillips also illustrated another Sylvan Dell title, “Animals are Sleeping.”

Reviewers across the country have praised Phillips for his outstanding work. According to a review of “Animals are Sleeping” from bookpleasures.com, “Gary R. Phillips’ pictures are astonishingly beautiful. They make me want to shut my eyes and dream of beautiful places.”

“We feel lucky to have had the opportunity to work with Gary while publishing several of his stunningly illustrated books,” said Lee German, publisher and co-founder of Sylvan Dell Publishing. “This award perfectly represents his artistic talents in the fact that they really are outstanding.”

Gary lives in Green Lane, a rural corner of Montgomery County, Pennsylvania, with his wife, two daughters, and two Siamese cats. He loves camping, tennis, painting out in nature, and drawing wherever he goes. To learn more about, visit [Gary's website](#). Learn more about Sylvan Dell publishing at www.sylvandellpublishing.com.

About Sylvan Dell Publishing

Sylvan Dell Publishing’s mission is to excite children’s imaginations with artistically spectacular science, math and nature themed stories. Founded in November of 2004, Sylvan Dell has grown to include more than 7 authors and illustrators, in the U.S. and Canada, and 50 titles – honored as finalists or winners of more than 70 book awards. Our *Science and Math Through Literature Program* integrates reading, science, math, geography, character skills, and language learning through fun, cross-curricular activities. Sylvan Dell provides more online educator resources than any other publisher in the U.S. We offer schools, homeschooling families and public libraries a free one-year access to our ebook site license featuring **the most technologically advanced eBooks** each with Auto-Flip, Auto-Read, 3D page curling, and selectable English and Spanish text *and* audio through our School Resource Grant program. For more information, visit

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