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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PICK YOUR FAVORITE PLANET

Local children's book author John McGranaghan introduces *Meet the Planets*

Mount Pleasant, S.C. (March. 29, 2011) –Award-winning author John McGranaghan takes readers back into the Solar System with *Meet the Planets*, an interactive new picture book from Sylvan Dell Publishing. McGranaghan has always been fascinated by space, and uses his two picture books about space, *Meet the Planets* and *Saturn for My Birthday* to promote literacy and education.

“From a learning standpoint, reading is probably the single most important thing you can do. Reading expands your child’s vocabulary. Reading deepens understanding. Reading develops comprehension. Reading even sharpens math skills, not to mention the quality time you are spending together.

Meet the Planets teaches children about our Solar System through the form of a “Favorite Planet Competition,” emceed by none other than the former-ninth planet Pluto. Readers will learn all about each planet as they are announced with short, tongue-in-cheek facts. Children of all ages will spend hours searching the art for all the references to famous scientists and people of history, space, technology, constellations, art, and classic literature. Readers become the judges after the sun can’t pick a favorite and the meteors leave for a shower.

McGranaghan shares his love of space in humorous, educational ways through the award-winning *Saturn for My Birthday* and the spring 2011 release *Meet the Planets*. He has written stories and articles for *Boys’ Quest Magazine*, *Pockets Magazine*, *Columbia Magazine*, and local newspapers. He is the winner of the 2001 Pockets Fiction Contest. When he isn’t writing, he enjoys sports and spending time with his wife and two sons.

McGranaghan has a number of events scheduled for the coming months in celebration of his new release. For complete schedule information, visit www.sylvandellpublishing.com/events.htm#MeetPlanets. For more information about *Meet the Planets* visit www.sylvandellpublishing.com/bookpage.php?id=93 or John’s website at www.johnmcgranaghan.com/.

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Visuals & Other Requests: For cover art or John McGranaghan headshot, visit <http://www.sylvandellpublishing.com/ImageGallery.htm> or e-mail ashleerowe@sylvandellpublishing.com. For all interview requests or media queries, please contact Sylvan Dell’s publicist, Ashlee Rowe, at (877) 243-3457 or ashleerowe@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 75 authors and illustrators in the United States and Canada, and 55 titles – honored as finalists or

winners of over 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 United States. For more information, visit <http://www.sylvandellpublishing.com>.

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