

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Lauren Greene, Public Relations Intern, (877) 958-2600  
[LaurenGreene@SylvanDellPublishing.com](mailto:LaurenGreene@SylvanDellPublishing.com)

## Sylvan Dell Publishing's *Saturn for My Birthday* becomes Reader Views Award winner and ForeWord Book of the Year finalist

MT. PLEASANT, S.C. (Apr. 8, 2009) – The Reader Views Literary Award winners for 2008 have just been announced, and *Saturn for My Birthday* (Sylvan Dell Publishing, 2008) has emerged as a 2<sup>nd</sup> place fiction winner for children ages 6-8! If that isn't exciting enough, this Sylvan Dell title has also been declared a ForeWord Book of the Year Award Finalist!

Author and Flourtown, PA, resident John McGranaghan is thrilled to be awarded such literary honors. John said, "A great deal of hard work and effort went into *Saturn for My Birthday*, and it is so rewarding when that pays off in an award!" He continued, "I'm very thankful and appreciative for the people that give the awards and for those who were responsible for submitting my book."

The Reader Views Literary Awards were established to honor writers who self-published or had their books published by a small press, university press, or independent publisher. "Reader Views reviews more than 2,000 books per year from budding authors who have worked hard to achieve their dream of being published," Reader Views Managing Editor Irene Watson said. The entries are first read and judged by Reader Views reviewers, while second line judges make the final decision.

ForeWord Magazine has recently named *Saturn for My Birthday* as a finalist for the 2008 Book of the Year Awards – an especially impressive feat since more than 1,400 books were entered in 61 categories! The winners will be determined by a panel of librarians and booksellers, and the winners of the two Editor's Choice Prizes will be awarded \$1,500 each. ForeWord's Awards program was designed to discover books across a number of genres from today's independent press community.

*Saturn for My Birthday* offers children a lesson in astronomy while earning laughs for the humor embedded within its text. This children's book tells the story of a young boy longing for quite a peculiar gift for his birthday: the planet Saturn. Kids are able to learn interesting facts about the solar system...while following Jeffrey on his hysterical journey to acquire his coveted birthday present! For more information, check out the book homepage at <http://www.SylvanDellPublishing.com/Saturn.php>.

This exceptionally fun read is full of vibrant illustrations from Washington illustrator Wendy Edelson. Wendy is no stranger to the illustration world... she illustrated her first book at the age of 18! All of Wendy's illustrations begin with very detailed pencils drawings and are then painted mostly with watercolor, with the addition of occasional bits of colored pencil and pastel. To visit Wendy's web site, please visit [www.wendyedelson.com](http://www.wendyedelson.com).

The concept of *Saturn for My Birthday* did not simply emerge from outer space... it actually came from author John McGranaghan's youngest son, Kyle, who asked for the planet Saturn for his fourth birthday! The Reader

---

Views Literary Award is not the first author award John has received; he is also the winner of the 2001 Pockets Fiction Contest! To visit John's web site, please visit [www.johnmcgranaghan.com](http://www.johnmcgranaghan.com).

For more information about *Saturn for My Birthday* or Sylvan Dell Publishing in general, visit the Sylvan Dell Publishing website, [www.SylvanDellPublishing.com](http://www.SylvanDellPublishing.com). For additional inquiries, contact Sara Dobie, Public Relations, at 877-958-2600 or [SaraDobie@SylvanDellPublishing.com](mailto:SaraDobie@SylvanDellPublishing.com).

###

### **About Sylvan Dell Publishing**

Sylvan Dell Publishing in Mt. Pleasant, S.C., is on a mission to excite children's imaginations with artistically spectacular science, math, and nature themed stories. Founded in November of 2004, Sylvan Dell's family has grown to include more than 64 authors and illustrators, in the U.S. and Canada, and 40 titles – honored as finalists or winners of more than 70 book awards. To order *Saturn for My Birthday*, please visit <http://www.SylvanDellPublishing.com>.

---