

MEDIA ALERT 9/29/08

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Award-winning author to sign books

Children's book author Janet Halfmann celebrates her three new awards with upcoming events

WHAT

When *Little Skink's Tail* (Sylvan Dell Publishing, 2007) won *Learning Magazine's* 2009 Teachers' Choice Award, author Janet Halfmann was exhilarated. When *Little Skink's Tail* swept the competition at the 2008 Florida Publishers Association Conference, she was absolutely thrilled. Not only did *Skink* win for Best Children's Picture Book, but it was also awarded Best Overall Book Award for 2008.

Little Skink's Tail is the story of a tiny lizard that is attacked by a crow while searching for breakfast. Luckily, the skink snaps off her tail, and it keeps on wiggling! Readers will enjoy pretending to try on other animals' tails with Little Skink. (The first is too puffy-fluffy, and another is too stinky.) One day Little Skink gets a big surprise...and she doesn't have to dream of tails anymore! This book encourages children to be comfortable with themselves as they are and with their own individuality.

EVENT SCHEDULE

- Oct. 4, 1 PM, Borders, Fox Point, WI, Speaking and signing
- Oct. 14, 10:30 AM-11 AM, 1:30 PM-2 PM, Briggs Public Library, St. Johns, MI, Story time with costume tails and book signing. (Registration required. Call 989-224-4702 for more information!)
- Oct. 15, 5 PM-7 PM, Barnes and Noble, East Lansing, MI, Speaking and signing
- Oct. 16, 7 PM-9 PM, Schuler Books, Okemos, MI, Speaking and signing
- Janet Halfmann has been writing for children for more than twenty years, and *Little Skink's Tail* is her twenty-eighth book. *Little Skink* was inspired by her granddaughter, whom she enjoys watching play dress-up and pretend.

ABOUT...

- "I am just bursting with excitement," said Janet about her new awards. "I'm still beaming from winning the Teachers' Choice Award, and now, to win two more awards is beyond belief. Winning FPA's Best Picture Book would have been a tremendous honor, but to win Best Overall Book is truly amazing. I am so happy that, because of these awards, more children will be able to enjoy this book that I had so much fun writing!"

For a fun, family-friendly interview with Janet, please contact Sylvan Dell's publicist Sara Dobie at SaraDobie@SylvanDellPublishing.com or (877) 958-2600.

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About Sylvan Dell Publishing

Sylvan Dell Publishing, based in Mt. Pleasant, S.C., is on a mission to create picture books that excite children's imaginations, are artistically spectacular and have educational value. The company specializes in "Science and Math



Science and Math Through Literature

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Through Literature” and provides free supplemental parent/teacher resources for every title. Founded in 2004, Sylvan Dell’s family has grown to include more than 55 authors and illustrators in the U.S. and Canada, and 35 titles – honored as nominees, finalists or winners of more than 50 book awards – line their bookshelf. For more information about Sylvan Dell’s books, educational resource grant and free parent/teacher resources, visit www.SylvanDellPublishing.com.