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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Picked to Shine

Sylvan Dell Publishing Celebrates New Book Awards

Mt. Pleasant, S.C. (April 2, 2008) – After enjoying a “Turtle Summer,” delving into the “Rainforest” and swimming through “Ocean Seasons,” employees at Sylvan Dell Publishing in Mt. Pleasant are busy applying shiny new award stickers to their illustrated children’s books.

“It’s like seeing our children win a trophy,” said Publisher Lee German about the new awards. “We can’t praise our amazing authors and illustrators enough. It’s always exciting to see everyone’s hard work recognized in the industry.” Since the company’s launch in 2004, Sylvan Dell’s titles have been honored as winners, finalists or nominees for more than 50 book awards.

The American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA) selected “Turtle Summer: A Journal for My Daughter” as one of ten 2007 Henry Bergh Children’s Book Award winners. According to the ASPCA Web site, the award “was established to honor books that promote the humane ethic of compassion and respect for all living things.”

Written by Mary Alice Monroe and photographed by Barbara J. Bergwerf, both from the Isle of Palms, “Turtle Summer” is the journal described in “Swimming Lessons,” the sequel to Monroe’s New York Times best-selling novel, “The Beach House.” The companion book chronicles the summer a mother and daughter spend together caring for loggerhead sea turtle nests.

The International Reading Association (IRA) and the Children’s Book Council (CBC) have chosen “Turtle Summer” for the 2008 IRA-CBC Children’s Choices reading list. Participating students nationwide will now read selections from the list and vote on their favorites. Winners and finalists will be announced at next year’s IRA convention. “Turtle Summer” was also a finalist for The Green Earth Book Award and The Science Books & Films Prize.

The next addition to Sylvan Dell’s awards shelf is the 2008 Silver Mom’s Choice Award for “The Rainforest Grew All Around,” written by Susan K. Mitchell and illustrated by Connie McLennan. The Mom’s Choice Award is sponsored by The Just For Mom Foundation and aims to “recognize authors, inventors, companies, parents and others for their efforts in creating quality family-friendly media, products and services.”

An adaptation of the song “The Green Grass Grew All Around,” the picture book also boasts award stickers for Learning Magazine’s 2008 Teachers’ Choice Award for Children’s Books and also a 2007 National Parenting Publications Award (NAPPA) Honors. It was also a finalist in The Green Earth Book Award.

Another splash in the children’s book industry, “Ocean Seasons” explores how seasonal shifts underwater are like, and unlike, the seasons we experience on land. ForeWord Magazine, a trade journal, recently selected “Ocean Seasons” as a finalist in its annual “Book of the Year Award.” Winners will be announced May 24.

“Turtle Summer,” “Rainforest” and “Ocean Seasons” were all published in 2007. Sylvan Dell has already released four 2008 titles, and six more will be available by August, bringing the total to 35 educational children’s books.

All Sylvan Dell books are available at the Barnes & Nobles in Mt. Pleasant, West Ashley and North Charleston, and free parent/teacher resources for each book are at www.SylvanDellPublishing.com.