



Date: April 12, 2006

Contact: Katy Mullon, 954-357-7406, kmullon@browardlibrary.org

Broward County Commission Libraries Division Announces
Children's BookFest

BROWARD COUNTY, FL – Don't miss Broward County Library's Children's BookFest, a week-long celebration of Children's Day/Book Day – seven days packed with special events, performances, authors, arts and crafts, costumed storybook characters, celebrity community leaders-as-readers and storytelling under the stars. Children's BookFest begins April 22 and ends April 30, the 10th anniversary of Children' Day/Book Day (El Dia de los Niños/El Dia de los Libros), a cross-cultural celebration of children and reading.

Children's BookFest kicks off Saturday, April 22 with two day-long free festivals to be held at North Regional/BCC Library (1100 Coconut Creek Boulevard, Coconut Creek) and South Regional/BCC Library (7300 Pines Boulevard, Pembroke Pines) from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Each will feature children's performers, storytellers, authors, hands-on crafts, and free books for the first 500 children at each location. Performances include: the Animal Band's Jim Moore, award-winning recording artist, songwriter and author, featuring his interactive show "The Wild Musical World of Jim Moore"; Momentum Dance Company's productions of "Goldilocks" and "Red Riding Hood"; storyteller and author Toni Simmons; bilingual stories by Twice Upon a Time storytelling duo Kim Rivers/Nancy Crockford, and more.

During the week, community "leaders are readers" - and some surprise storybook characters - will visit Broward County Library locations for special story programs.

On April 29, Northwest Regional Library (3151 University Drive, Coral Springs) and the new Weston Library (4205 Bonaventure Boulevard, Weston) will host Children's Day/Book Day events from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. José-Luis Orozco, bilingual educator, children's author, and recording artist, will perform at both locations; his latest book, *Rin, Rin, Rin...Do, Re, Mi*, is a fully illustrated bilingual (English and Spanish language) children's book. Emmy Award-winning storyteller Bobby Norfolk; Japanese storyteller Kuniko Yamamoto; and noted storyteller Laura Simms are also featured at both libraries, along with crafts and book giveaways.

Moonlight Tales: Storytelling Under the Stars will be the grand finale on April 29th at the Main Library in downtown Fort Lauderdale. This free family event begins at 7 p.m. and features four nationally acclaimed storytellers with tales from four corners of the globe.

Children's BookFest is funded through the Broward Public Library Foundation, with support from *The Miami Herald*, Target Stores, Friends of the Fort Lauderdale Libraries, KidVision Channel 2, Comcast, Friends of the Weston Libraries and Roepnack Corporation.

For complete details, please visit www.broward.org/library and click on the Children's BookFest button or call the Children's BookFest Hotline at 954-357-7846. The website includes updated schedules for the events, the name "Children's Day/Book Day" translated into a variety of different languages, E-Cards for customers to send and a list of Community Leaders-Are-Readers story programs.

Founded in 1974, the award winning Broward County Libraries Division provides essential quality of life community service as well as outstanding customer service throughout Broward County. The library consists of a Main Library in Downtown Fort Lauderdale and 37 branches with more than three million items for public use. Broward County Library is the ninth largest library system in the United States serving ten million customers annually.

###