

Pilinut Press News June 2008

Article: We thought you would enjoy this article about illustrator Pamela Czarniak. You can learn more about Pam's experience illustrating "The Snickerdoodle Mystery" at <http://www.pilinutpress.com/Hub/InterviewPamCzarFeb2008.html>.

Life's Dream Achieved

When she was a little girl, she scribbled happily with her crayons and started a lifelong passion with art. Today Pamela Czarniak is the proud illustrator of a children's book titled "The Snickerdoodle Mystery". It is a moment she has worked toward for many years. After completing high school, she studied art at Daemen College in Buffalo, New York. She was inspired by painters like van Gogh and Chagall, but also by renowned book illustrators like Jan Brett and David Catrow among others.

Book illustration is a specialized field. Many factors make book illustration different from fine art prints intended to hang on a wall. Pamela says, "It's different in that you have to create the same characters in different situations. It's also challenging to get continuity throughout the book."

"Book illustrators must create art which can be reproduced clearly in a book. The artist must consider the gutter space created by the book's spine which makes it difficult to line up two sections of a picture. Book size and layout are also important factors, but the most important thing is to create art which enhances the story." agrees Celia Webb, President of Pilinut Press, the publisher who selected Pamela to illustrate their latest book. "The number of words a child knows when they enter school is the most reliable indicator of how successful a child will be in school. Our books for 3- to 6-year-olds contain advanced vocabulary to help children pick up more words. But to appeal to children, the story line must be fun and the illustrations have to engage them."

She certainly succeeded. "The Snickerdoodle Mystery" is getting rave reviews by its readers like the one reader Jack Floret posted to Amazon.com: "I have had a life-long fondness for Snickerdoodles (as many other people do as well) and this story is fun for both young and old(er). But the illustrations really make the book an absolute delight. I was surprised to learn that this is Ms. Czarniak's first book. She has a very unique talent, creating pictures that are both whimsical and warm, and that make the story really come to life."

When asked if she would do it again, Pamela said, "I would love to illustrate many more books, it's fun and fulfilling!"

News: Find new free articles on the **Reference Desk** feature on the www.pilinutpress.com website. Free teaching aids for parents and teachers are also available. We continue to expand our article section to include more articles on vocabulary development, spelling help, and other reading-related skills. Examples of articles currently available:

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We have also added **Editing Reference Lists** like **Most Commonly Misspelled Words** <http://www.pilinutpress.com/EditingReference/MostCommonlyMisspelledWords.html>.

You'll find all the Editing Reference Lists and articles at
<http://www.pilnutpress.com/ReferenceDesk.html>

Teaching Other Authors: On May 10th we worked with budding authors and illustrators and shared our thoughts and experiences to help them develop their book ideas. Sponsored by the United States Institute of Museum and Library Services and the NOVA Family Enrichment Program, participants learned how to create a book which could be sold in bookstores and on-line. Participants were so pleased with all they learned, they have asked us to develop several more workshops including one which walks them through the computer program for laying out the book.

Are you part of a writers' group or a librarian looking for an interesting program for your community? We teach a seminar on **How to Write, Design, and Illustrate Your Book**. If you would like to schedule a presentation of this seminar, contact us today at mainoffice@pilnutpress.com for complete information and fees.

Thanks so much for your continued interest in Pilnut Press books. Feel free to share this e-mail with your friends and family!

Happy Reading!

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