



2121 Children's Museum Drive, Denver, CO 80211
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January 27th, 2009

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE EVENT ANNOUNCEMENT

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Preschool *One Book, One Denver* Culmination Event at the Children's Museum of Denver

*Vera B. Williams, author of "A Chair For My Mother," will
read inaugural selection for community children and families*

Denver, CO— The first-ever, preschool version of *One Book, One Denver* will hold their culmination event at the Children's Museum of Denver. Mayor John Hickenlooper will introduce author Vera B. Williams for an afternoon of book readings with Denver children. The event follows a three week program that emphasizes the importance of reading with children at an early age.

WHAT:

Introduction with Mayor John Hickenlooper

**Preschool *One Book, One Denver* Book Reading Event with author,
Vera B. Williams**

The first 500 children at the celebration will receive a free copy of the book

WHEN: Friday, Feb. 13, 2009
12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. ~ Readings every 30 minutes

WHERE: The Children's Museum of Denver
2121 Children's Museum Drive
Denver, CO 80211

This year's Preschool *One Book, One Denver* book, "A Chair For My Mother," is a Caldecott Honor book selected by a committee within DPP's Advisory Board and preschool directors, as well as by Denver Mayor John Hickenlooper. "A Chair For My Mother" specifically was chosen because it spans the developmental stages of preschoolers. For children just learning to read, the rich illustrations help tell the story and for beginning readers, the book is easy to read and provides opportunities for conversation about family, kindness and community. For more information and calendar of events on Preschool *One Book, One Denver*, please visit www.dpp.org or www.denvergov.org/onebook.

Preschool One Book, One Denver

Denver Preschool Program (DPP), in partnership with the Denver Office of Cultural Affairs (DOCA) and with the generous support of Kaplan Early Learning Company, created the first ever preschool-aged book selection in cooperation with the ongoing *One Book, One Denver* program. This new DPP initiative aims to inspire parents, grandparents and other caregivers across the Denver community to take an active role in their children's academic success by reading together. To help families foster a love of reading early in a child's life, DPP and its partner organizations will host several community reading events for the inaugural selection, "A Chair For My Mother," by Vera B. Williams.

Vera B. Williams

Born in 1921, author and illustrator Vera B. Williams has worn several artistic hats throughout her career, stretching her passions across many mediums. Williams attributes her affinity for the arts to her parents' encouragement of expression and the creatively stimulating Bronx community where she grew up during the 1930's and 1940's. She acknowledges, "My writing was mostly flavored in the soup pot of family and New York City's multi-ethnic neighborhoods." In 1975, Vera was inspired to write her first children's book, "Gingerbread House: Bake It, Build It, Eat It!" during the holiday season with her family. She went on to write and illustrate twelve more books and win multiple literary awards including "A Chair for My Mother," which won the Boston Globe-Horn Book Award and Caldecott Honor in 1983.

About the Children's Museum of Denver

Since its inception in 1973, the Children's Museum of Denver has been a place that ignites and fosters a great love of learning. Our mission is to create a community where children and their grownups learn through play.

The Museum provides rich play experiences and a dynamic learning environment to help young children prepare for their future. The Children's Museum of Denver is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization that relies heavily on the support of Museum friends.

The Children's Museum of Denver is located at I-25 and 23rd Avenue (exit 211), in the Platte River Valley. For more details about the Museum, and its programs and events please visit www.mychildsmuseum.org.

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