

## The tradition of excellence continues... ALA Honors for Weston Woods at Annual Conference in New Orleans



At the American Library Association's Annual Conference in New Orleans this past June, Weston Woods producers Paul R. Gagne and Melissa Reilly, along with animation producer Michael Sporn, were recognized with the Andrew Carnegie Medal for Excellence in Children's Video for the film, *The Man Who Walked Between the Towers*, based on the Caldecott Medal book by Mordicai Gerstein. This is Paul's 7th Carnegie Medal, Melissa's 4th, and Michael Sporn's 2nd. Paul's previous medals were for: *Owen* (1996), *Miss Nelson Has A Field Day* (2000) and *Antarctic Antics* (2001); Paul and Melissa were honored together for *So You Want to Be President?* (2003), *Giggle, Giggle, Quack* (2004) and *The Dot* (2005). Michael's previous medal was for *Whitewash* (1994), which is also distributed by Weston Woods.

### Awards for Weston Woods in 2006

#### ARNIE THE DOUGHNUT



- ★Audie Award Winner
- ★AudioFile Earphones Award
- ★IFFF Finalist

#### ELLINGTON WAS NOT A STREET

- ★ALA Notable Video
- ★Once Upon A World Children's Book Award

#### HONDO AND FABIAN

- ★Honorable Mention, Columbus Int'l Film & Video Festival

#### HOW DO DINOSAURS GET WELL SOON?

- ★AudioFile Earphones Award
- ★Bronze Plaque, Columbus Int'l Film & Video Festival



#### ISH

- ★ALA Notable Video
- ★ALA Notable Recording
- ★The Man Who Walked Between the Towers
- ★Andrew Carnegie Medal for Excellence in Children's Video
- ★ALA Notable Video
- ★1st place, Best Animation, ASIFA-East

#### THE MAN WHO WALKED BETWEEN THE TOWERS (cont'd)

- ★New York Festivals Silver World Medal
- ★Storytelling World Award
- ★Best Children's Short Film, Ottawa Int'l Animation Festival

#### OPEN WIDE: TOOTH SCHOOL INSIDE

- ★Honorable Mention, Columbus Int'l Film & Video Festival



#### ROBERTO THE INSECT ARCHITECT

- ★ALA Notable Video
- ★KIDSFirst! Best Children's Short Film
- ★STARS! STARS! STARS!
- ★ALA Notable Video

#### THAT NEW ANIMAL

- ★Bronze Plaque, Columbus Int'l Film & Video Festival
- ★Will You Sign Here, John Hancock?



- ★Booklist Editors' Choice
- ★ALA Notable Recording
- ★AudioFile Earphones Award
- ★Wild About Books
- ★ALA Notable Video

### WESTON WOODS FOUNDER MORTON SCHINDEL HONORED WITH ERIC CARLE BRIDGE AWARD

The Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art has launched a new "constellation" of awards, *The Carle Honors*, and Weston Woods founder Morton Schindel is among the first recipients. *The Carle Honors* were conceived to recognize "four distinct forms of creative vision and long-term designation to the art of the picture book and its vital role in supporting art appreciation, early literacy, and critical thinking." The four categories are: *Artists*, *Mentors* (editors, designers, educators), *Angels* (financial supporters of picture book art exhibitions, education programs, and related projects) and *Bridges* (individuals and organizations that have found inspired ways to bring the art of the picture book to larger audiences through work in other fields). The inaugural *Carle Honor* recipients include Rosemary Wells, Helen Bing, Ann Beneduce, and Morton Schindel and Weston Woods. The inaugural awards were presented at a Gala in New York City on September 25, 2006.

**BEAR WANTS MORE**

by Karma Wilson, illustrated by Jane Chapman (McElderry Books)

★NAPPA HONOR BOOK

When springtime comes, Bear wakes up very hungry! His friends help him find good things to eat, but will his hunger EVER be satisfied? Narrated by author **Karma Wilson**. *Animals, Spring, Food, Problem-Solving, Friendship*

WMPV689VCC DVD Iconographic, 8 minutes	\$59.95
WMPV689VCC CLOSED-CAPTIONED VIDEO	\$60.00
WHCD689 HARDCOVER BOOK/CD	\$29.95
WHRA689 HARDCOVER BOOK/CASSETTE	\$24.95



Ages 3-8

**DIARY OF A SPIDER**

by Doreen Cronin, illustrated by Harry Bliss (Joanna Cotler)

★OPPENHEIM TOY PORTFOLIO PLATINUM AWARD

★BOOK SENSE BOOK OF THE YEAR AWARD

This is the diary of a spider who's a lot like you! He goes to school, but he also spins sticky webs and takes wind-catching lessons. A portrait of an upside-down web world that will have kids wishing they could be spiders too! Narrated by **Angus T. Jones**, and directed by **Gene Deitch**. *Insects, Families, School, Friendship, Humor*

WDVD686 DVD Animated, 9 minutes	\$59.95
WMPV686VCC CLOSED-CAPTIONED VIDEO	\$60.00
WHCD686 HARDCOVER BOOK/CD	\$29.95
WHRA686 HARDCOVER BOOK/CASSETTE	\$24.95



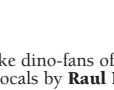
Ages 3-8

**DINOSAUR BONES**

by Bob Barner (Chronicle)

Full of fun dinosaur facts, this film will make dino-fans of kids and grown-ups alike. Narrated by **Jerry Dixon**, with music and vocals by **Raul Malo**. Directed by **Gary McGivney**. *Dinosaurs, Skeletons, Science, Poetry, Music*

WDVD697 DVD Animated, 12 minutes	\$59.95
WMPV697VCC CLOSED-CAPTIONED VIDEO	\$60.00
WHCD697 HARDCOVER BOOK/CD	\$29.95
WHRA697 HARDCOVER BOOK/CASSETTE	\$24.95



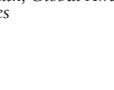
Ages 3-8

**HE'S GOT THE WHOLE WORLD IN HIS HANDS**

by Kadir Nelson (Chronicle)

This adaptation of the beloved folk song creates a dazzling, intimate interpretation that rejoices in the connectedness of people and nature. Musical arrangement and vocals by **Crystal Taliefero**. *Families, Community, Faith, Global Awareness, Music*

WDVD800 DVD Iconographic, 6 minutes	\$59.95
WMPV800VCC CLOSED-CAPTIONED VIDEO	\$60.00
WHCD800 HARDCOVER BOOK/CD	\$29.95
WHRA800 HARDCOVER BOOK/CASSETTE	\$24.95



Ages 3-8

**I COULD DO THAT!**

**ESTHER MORRIS GETS WOMEN THE VOTE** Ages 5-10

by Linda Arms White, ill. by Nancy Carpenter (Farrar, Straus & Giroux)

★BOOKLIST EDITOR'S CHOICE ★BOOKLINKS LASTING CONNECTION BOOK ★CHRISTOPHER MEDAL BOOK ★OPPENHEIM TOY PORTFOLIO GOLD AWARD

This is the true story of Esther Morris, who started out life believing she could do anything, and then proved it! Narrated by **Joan Allen**, with music by **David Mansfield**. *American History, Families, Problem Solving, Prejudice, People at Work, Character-Building*

WDVD692 DVD Iconographic, 17 minutes	\$59.95
WMPV692VCC CLOSED-CAPTIONED VIDEO	\$60.00
WHCD692 HARDCOVER BOOK/CD	\$29.95
WHRA692 HARDCOVER BOOK/CASSETTE	\$24.95



Ages 5-10

**INCH BY INCH**

by Leo Lionni (HarperCollins)

★CALDECOTT HONOR BOOK

To keep from being eaten, a resourceful inchworm measures a robin's tail, a flamingo's neck, a toucan's beak, a heron's legs, and a nightingale's song. Narrated by **Ron McLarty**, with music by **Joel Goodman**. Directed by **Gary McGivney**. *Worms, Birds, Measuring, Problem Solving*

WDVD699 DVD Animated, 9 minutes	\$59.95
WMPV699VCC CLOSED-CAPTIONED VIDEO	\$60.00
WPCD699 PAPERBACK BOOK/CD	\$18.95
WPRA699 PAPERBACK BOOK/CASSETTE	\$14.95



Ages 3-7

**KNUFFLE BUNNY**

by Mo Willems (Hyperion)

★CALDECOTT HONOR BOOK ★BCCB BLUE RIBBON PICTURE BOOK AWARD

★PARENTING MEDIA AWARD WINNER

Trixie, Daddy and Knuffle Bunny take a trip to the neighborhood laundromat, but their exciting adventure takes an unexpected turn when Trixie realizes something is missing. Brilliantly narrated by author **Mo Willems** and his real-life daughter, **Trixie**. Directed and animated by **MaGiK Studio**, with music by **Scotty Huff** and **Robert Reynolds**. *Families, Relationships, Neighborhoods, Conflict Resolution, Humor*

WDVD686 DVD Animated, 9 minutes	\$59.95
WMPV686VCC CLOSED-CAPTIONED VIDEO	\$60.00
WHCD686 HARDCOVER BOOK/CD	\$29.95
WHRA686 HARDCOVER BOOK/CASSETTE	\$24.95



Ages 3-7

**THE LITTLE DRUMMER BOY**

Words and music by Katherine Davis, Henry Onorati & Harry Simeoni, ill. by Ezra Jack Keats (Penguin)

★ALA NOTABLE BOOK

Joyful music and Ezra Jack Keats' glowing illustrations combine to celebrate the nativity in this new iconographic adaptation of the classic Christmas song. Music arrangement and vocals by **John Jennings**. *Music, Christmas, Generosity, Bible Stories, Poetry*

WMPV124VCC CLOSED-CAPTIONED VIDEO Iconographic, 6 minutes	\$49.95
WPCD124 PAPERBACK BOOK/CD	\$18.95
WPRA124 PAPERBACK BOOK/CASSETTE	\$14.95

Ages 3-8

**GIRAFFES CAN'T DANCE**

by Giles Andreae, illustrated by Guy Parker-Rees (Orchard)

Gerald the giraffe longs to dance like everyone else, but his legs are too skinny, and he just can't seem to get it right. Then one friend's encouragement shows him how his uniqueness can make him the best dancer of all.

WDVD811 DVD Animated, 10 minutes	\$59.95
WMPV811VCC CLOSED-CAPTIONED VIDEO	\$60.00
WPCD811 PAPERBACK BOOK/CD	\$18.95
WPRA811 PAPERBACK BOOK/CASSETTE	\$14.95



Ages 3-8

**HOW DO DINOSAURS EAT THEIR FOOD?**

by Jane Yolen, illustrated by Mark Teague (Blue Sky Press)

An entertaining guide to table manners and a good reminder that positive and pleasant mealtime behavior gets the best results. Narrated by author **Jane Yolen**, with animation by **MaGiK Studio**. *Dinosaurs, Manners, Behavior, Families*

WDVD805 DVD Animated, 8 minutes	\$59.95
WMPV805VCC CLOSED-CAPTIONED VIDEO	\$60.00
WHCD805 HARDCOVER BOOK/CD	\$29.95
WHRA805 HARDCOVER BOOK/CASSETTE	\$24.95

Ages 3-7

**JOHN, PAUL, GEORGE & BEN**

by Lane Smith (Hyperion)

This humorous and factual history of five lads who grew up to become Founding Fathers brings the early days of American history to life with sass and substance. Narrated by **James Earl Jones**, with animation by **MaGiK Studio**. *American History, Biography, Humor, Growing Up, Imagination, Learning*

WDVD807 DVD Animated, 13 minutes	\$59.95
WMPV807VCC CLOSED-CAPTIONED VIDEO	\$60.00
WHCD807 HARDCOVER BOOK/CD	\$29.95
WHRA807 HARDCOVER BOOK/CASSETTE	\$24.95

Ages 6-10



**THE JOURNEY OF THE ONE AND ONLY DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE**

by Judith St. George, illustrated by Will Hillenbrand (Philomel)

In this witty, gritty and factual history, audiences will learn all about the document that has defined American freedom for over two centuries. Narration by **Jeff Brooks**. *American History, Writing, War, Technology, Problem-Solving, Historic Preservation*

WDVD806 DVD Iconographic, 20 minutes	\$59.95
WMPV806VCC CLOSED-CAPTIONED VIDEO	\$60.00
WHCD806 HARDCOVER BOOK/CD	\$29.95
WHRA806 HARDCOVER BOOK/CASSETTE	\$24.95

Ages 6-12

**LEONARDO THE TERRIBLE MONSTER**

by Mo Willems (Hyperion)

Leonardo is terrible at being a monster. He can't seem to frighten anyone. Then he comes up with a plan to find the perfect nervous little boy and scare the tuna salad out of him. Narrated by author **Mo Willems**. Directed by **Pete List**. *Bullies, Feelings, Problem Solving, Friendship, Humor*

WDVD801 DVD Animated, 8 minutes	\$59.95
WMPV801VCC CLOSED-CAPTIONED VIDEO	\$60.00
WHCD801 HARDCOVER BOOK/CD	\$29.95
WHRA801 HARDCOVER BOOK/CASSETTE	\$24.95



Ages 3-8

**THE LIBRARIAN FROM THE BLACK LAGOON**

by Mike Thaler, illustrated by Jared Lee (Scholastic)

When the class plans to visit the library for the first time, the students prepare themselves for the worst. Imagine their surprise, when they are welcomed to a warm and friendly place. Brightly narrated by **Alexander Gould**. Animated by **Galen Fott**. *Humor, Libraries, School, Fears*

WDVD698 DVD Animated, 9 minutes	\$59.95
WMPV698VCC CLOSED-CAPTIONED VIDEO	\$60.00
WPCD698 PAPERBACK BOOK/CD	\$18.95
WPRA698 PAPERBACK BOOK/CASSETTE	\$14.95

Ages 5-8

**SEVEN BLIND MICE**

by Ed Young (Putnam)

★CALDECOTT HONOR BOOK

This thoughtful adaptation of an ancient fable is narrated by **Ernest V. Troost**. Animated by **Virginia Wilkos** and **Cha-Pow!** *Fables, Animals, Colors, Days of the Week, Problem Solving*

WDVD691 DVD Animated, 7 minutes	\$59.95
WMPV691VCC CLOSED-CAPTIONED VIDEO	\$60.00
WPCD691 PAPERBACK BOOK/CD	\$18.95
WPRA691 PAPERBACK BOOK/CASSETTE	\$14.95

Ages 3-8



**COMING IN SPANISH!**

**CASI (ISH)**

by Peter H. Reynolds (Ediciones Serres)

WDVD676VSP DVD Animated, 8 minutes	\$39.95
WMPV676VSPCC CLOSED-CAPTIONED VIDEO	\$29.95
WHCD676SP HARDCOVER BOOK/CD	\$18.95
WHRA676SP HARDCOVER BOOK/CASSETTE	\$24.95



Ages 4 - 9

**HARRY, EL PERRITO SUCIO (HARRY THE DIRTY DOG)**

by Gene Zion, ill. by Margaret Bloy Graham (HarperCollins)

WDVD359BI BILINGUAL DVD Animated, 9 minutes	\$59.95
WMPV359VSPCC CLOSED-CAPTIONED VIDEO	\$29.95
WPCD369SP PAPERBACK BOOK/CD	\$18.95
WPRA369SP PAPERBACK BOOK/CASSETTE	\$14.95



Ages 3 - 7

# WHAT CRITICS ARE SAYING...

## ARNIE THE DOUGHNUT

"Michael McKean is superb at giving voice to Arnie and to each supporting character.... Winner of AudioFile Earphones Award & 2006 Audie Award Winner"

– AudioFile, 4-5/06

## BEAR SNORES ON

"A charming story...about sharing. Recommended..." – Video Librarian, 1-2/06

## CHICKA CHICKA 1, 2, 3

"Crystal Taliefero cheerfully sets the pace and emphasizes each antic. She narrates an irresistible Zero, who anxiously wonders, "Will there be a place for me?" Be sure to make room in your life for this recording!" – AudioFile, 2-3/06

## JAMES MARSHALL'S CINDERELLA

"A handsome and entertaining rendition of a perennial children's classic, this is recommended." ★★★ – Video Librarian, 9-10/06

"Stephanie J. Block brings the story to life with clear and energetic narration...a treat for the eyes and ears." Video of the Week – School Library Journal, 8/06

"...very highly recommended..." – Children's Bookwatch, 6/06

## DINOSAUR BONES

"I love the Dinosaur Bones Movie!!! I love the fact that Mr. T-Rex is holding yours truly's book in hand in the beginning. I also really love the text set to music. The whole package is just riveting and wonderful to behold." – author Bob Barner

## ELLINGTON WAS NOT A STREET

"Rashad's voice is gentle, yet firm. Her drawn-out pauses heighten the mysteriousness and import of each guest." – AudioFile, 2-3/06

"Phylicia Rashad's regal narration is paced slowly but spoken with great feeling.... A wonderful introduction and tribute to the heroes of a past generation." – School Library Journal, 11/05

## EMILY'S FIRST 100 DAYS OF SCHOOL

"...very highly recommended..." – Children's Bookwatch, 6/06

"One of the best perks in my professional life is watching Weston Woods bring a book of mine to life. Emily's Hundred Days is such a lively and funny film, but it still manages to teach the complicated learning of number names, order, and amount in an entirely original film format." – author Rosemary Wells

## GETTING TO KNOW SIMMS TABACK

"...an excellent choice for students involved in bookmaking projects, an author study, or for those who have enjoyed Taback's print books and/or their animated versions." – School Library Journal

## HANSEL AND GRETEL

"It was a treasure for me to see the incredible job that Weston Woods did bringing James' work into the ever evolving age of media. James is greatly missed by his family and friends, but Weston Woods has made sure that the works of James Marshall will endure and continue to delight future generations with their colorful and witty renditions of his works on DVDs." – Cynthia Marshall, sister of James Marshall

"This fresh, animated version of James Marshall's picture book will capture children's imaginations while the humorous cartoon illustrations render the Grimm tale less frightening. A bewitching treat." – Video of the Week, School Library Journal, 4/06

"(In) this enduring story, James Marshall's trademark humor is ever present....Kathy Bates does a solid job with the narration,...and happily ever after is the order of the day." – Booklist, 4/06

## HONDO AND FABIAN

"The subtle message of being a supportive friend but also retaining independence and making your own fun is highlighted....Youngsters will enjoy spending time with these two special pets." – Booklist, 8/06

"Young children, with or without pets, will respond with a sigh of pleasure at this story of friendship and family." – School Library Journal, 8/06

"...very highly recommended..." – Children's Bookwatch, 6/06

"Hondo and Fabian has been my most successful picture book, and I am delighted with the new version from Weston Woods. I think the narration and the music are perfect, but my favorite thing about this film are the animal sound effects. It is hilarious!" – author Peter McCarty

## ISH

"...sure to inspire and empower young artists of all abilities to make their own -ish- drawings and poems.... Libraries will want to purchase this delightful offering to support the art curriculum." – Video of the Week, School Library Journal, 5/06

"...this animated ode to artistic expression is recommended." ★★★ – Video Librarian, 5-6/06

## LON PO PO: A RED-RIDING HOOD STORY FROM CHINA

"Lon Po Po is an artistically pleasing rendition of a classic cautionary tale.

Recommended." ★★★ – Video Librarian, 9-10/06

"The shadows and cautious, frightened faces coupled with the narrator's expressive storytelling will leave viewers on the edge of their seats.... Students will enjoy comparing this version to the classic fairy tale they know so well." – School Library Journal, 8/06

"...flawlessly produced...creatively directed... captivates its (audience) through the active and beautifully illustrated tale of the children's swift intelligence, bravery, and trust... very highly recommended for all young viewers and readers between four and eight for its wonderful creativity and intriguing story." – Children's Bookwatch, 6/06

## THE MAN WHO WALKED BETWEEN THE TOWERS

"The thrill and triumph of one man's extraordinary walk remains alive in this sensitive and moving animated film" – Susan Pine, Carnegie Committee Chair, 1/06

## OPEN WIDE: TOOTH SCHOOL INSIDE

"Dr. Flossman and I would like to thank Weston Woods, Daniel Ivanick and Michael McKean for their clean and minty-fresh production of Open Wide: Tooth School Inside! You're the BEST!" – author Laurie Keller, 9/06

## READING TO YOUR BUNNY

"Reading to Your Bunny is a whole new story written for Weston Woods and it was a delight to write the script and then to take on a small speaking part as well. Great fun and more to come!" – author Rosemary Wells

## ROBERTO THE INSECT ARCHITECT

"The winning combination of gorgeous artwork and very clever wordplay adds up to a delightful tale that is sure to inspire little dreamers...highly recommended." ★★★★★ – Video Librarian

"Filled with puns and wordplay, as well as intriguing and detailed images, older students will truly enjoy the humor and cleverness that abounds. A hit for art classes, budding builders, and teachers who wants to promote creativity in children." – School Library Journal, 4/06

"...innovative...delightful...an inspiring look at pursuing one's dreams." – Booklist

## STARS! STARS! STARS!

"Defly balancing entertainment and education, this ALSC Notable Children's Video for 2006 serves up a fun introduction for budding amateur astronomers, while also featuring a lot of curriculum-related information and relevant vocabulary, making it suitable for both general audiences and classroom use. Highly recommended." ★★★ – Video Librarian, 5-6/06

"This offering builds a solid fact-filled high interest foundation for further studies of the stars." – School Library Journal, 4/06

"...poetically introduces the wonders of the nighttime sky. This captivating 2006 ALA Notable Children's Video selection is a must for budding astronomers." – Booklist, 4/06

## T IS FOR TERRIBLE

"A solid addition to dinosaur collections for young children." – School Library Journal, 5/06

"...an offbeat snapshot of the king of the terrible lizards grappling with a heavy conscience. Recommended." – Video Librarian, 3-4/06

## THAT NEW ANIMAL

"...a wonderful piece, perfect for children who are welcoming new siblings, as well as dog lovers of all ages (be sure to stick around for the credits to hear cute audio outtakes of Jenkins working on her canine voices). Highly recommended." ★★★★★ – Video Librarian, 9-10/06

"...splendid... Jenkins paces her reading perfectly... Carnegie Medal recipients Melissa Reilly and Paul R. Gagne have another winner!" – School Library Journal, 8/06

"...very highly recommended..." – Children's Bookwatch, 6/06

## WILD ABOUT BOOKS

"This delightful paean to a helpful librarian and her appreciative users is loads of fun... highly recommended." ★★★★★ – Video Librarian, 3-4/06

## WILL YOU SIGN HERE, JOHN HANCOCK?

"Listeners will enjoy learning about the slightly narcissistic Hancock, who wants everybody to like and admire him....Narrator Jeff Brooks does everything to get this quirky personality across, reading with just the right droll tones and brief pauses that will help listeners hear when the joke's on John.... A pleasurable way to learn history indeed! Winner of AudioFile Earphones Award." – AudioFile, 8-9/06

# BEHIND THE SCENES AT WESTON WOODS

In *Bear Wants More*, Bear emerges from hibernation with a fierce appetite. In the real world, bears are much the same. They come out of hibernation thin and ravenous. They forage tirelessly for horsetails and grasses, nuts and aquatic plants. Bears will eat meat, but primarily only in the spring, when plant food is still scarce. They love to gobble mouthfuls of insects and larvae, mostly ants, bees and wasps, but berries are their favorite food, and a very important source of nutrition and calories. According to [www.idahoptv.org](http://www.idahoptv.org), when bears find a patch of berries, they will spend hours delicately picking them from a bush – not with their fingers (which are not dexterous like humans'), but with their flexible lips! In Idaho, where author Karma Wilson lives (she also narrates this production), there are 20,000 black & brown bears. A baby bear is born weighing about the same as a human baby - 8 ounces - but when he grows to be an adult male bear, he can weigh up to 600 pounds! For more fun facts about bears, check out [www.bear.org](http://www.bear.org).



The good-humored main character of *Diary of a Spider* teaches us numerous facts about arachnids, and a bit about ourselves as well. Fine young actor Angus T. Jones (*Two and a Half Men*) took time out from school and his busy TV production schedule to record the narration. Director Gene Deitch (also the voice of *Grandpa Spider*) subsequently brought this eight-legged tale to life. Did you know that spiders can live quite a long time? Some can survive 20 years or more. And the longer they live, the larger they grow. The legs of a mature goliath spider will almost span a dinner plate! For more about these creatures (not insects!), visit [www.amonline.net.au](http://www.amonline.net.au).



Angus T. Jones

In *Dinosaur Bones*, audiences learn fun facts about dinosaurs and gain a more concrete sense of the connection between fossils and the living creatures they used to be. A fascinating interactive website that looks at fossils and explains the different ways they form can be found at [www.bbc.co.uk](http://www.bbc.co.uk) (searchword "fossils"). Besides information, the site offers games and quizzes about all sorts of prehistoric creatures and related modern-day scientific findings.

Kadir Nelson (*He's Got the Whole World in His Hands*) has been creating art since he was three years old. To date he has written and/or illustrated over 20 books, including *ellington is not a street*, which won a Coretta Scott King Award. He has also created images for *The New York Times*, *The New Yorker*, NIKE and Steven Spielberg. This fall, he will be one of the featured artists at the 2006 National Book Festival in Washington, DC, sponsored by the Library of Congress, to "Celebrate the Joys of Reading and Lifelong Literacy."



Kadir Nelson

At the recording session for *I Could Do That! Esther Morris Gets Women the Vote*, award-winning actress Joan Allen (*Pleasantville; The Contender*) told us she was thrilled to record this project because, "Reading aloud to my daughter is one of my favorite things to do!" Composer David Mansfield found the "unsinkable" character of Esther Morris to be the aspect of this project that inspired him. After researching the music of the period and locations in which the story took place, he created a wonderfully lively score that insures that this production will be unsinkable too!



Joan Allen & Paul R. Gagne

In *Inch by Inch*, based on the Caldecott Honor Book by Leo Lionni, the WW production team had the opportunity to work with the beloved author/illustrator's granddaughter, Annie Lionni. Annie wanted to insure that this adaptation captured the essence of her grandfather's work and was delighted with the result. It was her idea to cast an older gentleman as the narrator, and we found the perfect voice in Ron McLarty, the very accomplished award-winning actor (*Law and Order, Sex and the City*). Just for fun, listen to the soundtrack with your eyes closed and try to recognize the recorded "voices" of each bird – from the robin and the flamingo to the pheasant and the nightingale.

For WW's adaptation of the Caldecott Honor book, *Knuffle Bunny*, author/illustrator Mo Willems, his wife, Cheryl, and their daughter, Trixie, all perform the voices. (Trixie, in particular, deserves an Oscar for her performance.) Mo Willems shared all the original background photographs from the book with the director, Maciek Albrecht, to use in the animation, and led him on a "walking tour" of his Brooklyn neighborhood to get additional photos in order to depict the locations from different angles. It was Mo's idea to frame the story in the film with the animated opening and closing of Trixie's daddy reading the book, *Knuffle Bunny*, to a slightly older Trixie, which the real Mo and Trixie improvised in the recording studio. When Mo saw the final version of the film, he said he was "beyond ecstatic." Along with Kadir Nelson, Mo will also be part of the National Book Festival in Washington, DC this fall.



Mo, Cheryl & Trixie Willems

## GRAB A SEAT AND CATCH WESTON WOODS FILMS AT THESE FESTIVALS AND EVENTS NEAR YOU!

Preschool Pix c/o Aspen Film Festival, Fall 2006. Email [bcampion@aspenfilm.org](mailto:bcampion@aspenfilm.org).

Baja California Film Festival, Fall 2006. [www.bajacaliforniafilmfest.org](http://www.bajacaliforniafilmfest.org).

Mill Valley Film Festival c/o the California Film Institute, [www.mvff.com](http://www.mvff.com).

GSA Café Film Committee presents Penn State Films, University Park, PA. Contact Yang Zhang for dates and times [yzz107@psu.edu](mailto:yzz107@psu.edu).

London Film Festival, c/o The British Film Institute, Oct. 18-Nov. 2, 2006. Visit [www.lff.org.uk](http://www.lff.org.uk) for details.

Hamptons International Film Festival c/o Film Columbia, Oct. 19th-22th. For more information visit [www.hamptonsfilmfest.org](http://www.hamptonsfilmfest.org).

Chicago International Children's Film Festival, October 19th-29th, visit [www.cicff.org](http://www.cicff.org) for more info.

Revelation Perth Int'l Film Festival, Fremantle, Western Australia, November 2006. For info, visit [www.revelationfilmfest.org](http://www.revelationfilmfest.org).

Guelph International Film Festival, November 3rd-5th. Visit [www.guelphfilmfest.org](http://www.guelphfilmfest.org) for details.

12th Junior Film Fleadh, Galway, Ireland, Nov. 7-11, 2006. For info, visit [www.juniorfilmfleadh.com](http://www.juniorfilmfleadh.com).

Rehoboth Beach Film Society, November 8-11th 2006. Please visit [www.rehobothfilm.org](http://www.rehobothfilm.org).

Family Films, Museum of Modern Art, NYC, November 11th and December 8th, 2006. [www.moma.org](http://www.moma.org).

Int'l Children's Film Festival, National Museum of Singapore, throughout December, 2006. [www.nationalmuseum.sg](http://www.nationalmuseum.sg)

San Diego Jewish Film Festival, February 8-18, 2007. Please visit [www.lfjcc.org/sdjff](http://www.lfjcc.org/sdjff).

Environmental Film Festival, March 16th-26th, 2007, Washington D.C. For more information visit [www.dcenvironmentalfilmfest.org](http://www.dcenvironmentalfilmfest.org).

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