PITTSBORO, N.C. — Early next year, McIntyre's Bookstore is hosting a special book festival for children, featuring readings and signings from picture book creators, elementary and middle reader authors, activities and more. The festival, named the Whirlikids Book Festival, will take place on Saturday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>, from 10am to 4pm, at Fearrington Village. This event is the first of its kind in the Triangle area. McIntyre's Books hopes this program will inspire the community's young readers and help them engage with award-winning authors.

"I have been tinkering with the idea of how to inspire kids to love reading and writing," said Children's Book Buyer, Sarah Carr. "Meeting authors and illustrators is a great opportunity to spark kids' interest in stories, books and art."

This free event will feature children's authors Sarah Mlynowski, Lauren Myracle, Emily Jenkins, Ursula Vernon, Stacy McAnulty, Karina Yan Glaser, New York Times Bestseller Alan Gratz, and more. A full author list will be announced soon – visit <a href="www.fearrington.com/whirlikids">www.fearrington.com/whirlikids</a> for an up-to-date author list.

In addition to author readings, panels and book signings, visitors may enjoy crafts, a photo booth and face painting activities. While in the Village, guests are encouraged to explore the gardens, enjoy lunch at onsite restaurants, The Granary or The Goat, and meet the farm animals in Fearrington's Belted Barnyard. Those interested in learning more about this event may call McIntyre's Books at 919.542.3030.

McIntyre's Books thanks the following for their festival support: Scholastic Inc., Schwartz & Wade, HMH Books for Young Readers, Disney-Hyperion, Little Simon, Henry Holt and Co., Candlewick, Viking Books for Young Readers, Clarion Books and more.

## **About McIntyre's Books:**

McIntyre's Books, now celebrating its twenty eighth year, is one of the Southeast's most noted independent bookstores. The store carries over 30 reading categories, with particularly extensive sections in cooking, regional gardening, fiction, children's and mystery. McIntyre's is located eight miles south of Chapel Hill on U.S. 15-501 in Fearrington Village. Contact the bookstore by phone at 919.542.3030 or via email at <a href="mailto:books@fearrington.com">books@fearrington.com</a>. Visit <a href="mailto:www.mcintyresbooks.com">www.mcintyresbooks.com</a> to learn more, or follow the store on Facebook or Twitter.

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