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Magic Mirror Book Turns Scribbles into Pictures

Images magically appear in Gracie's Gallery!

ATLANTA— Not every book has its own magic mirror! But that's what readers get in the new, interactive novelty book *Gracie's Gallery: A Magic Mirror Book*.

Illustrator Kelly M. Houle—recognized worldwide as a master of anamorphic art—turns scribbles into pictures in this one-of-a-kind book from Piggy Toes Press, an imprint of the Dalmatian Publishing Group. A blob of blue, awkward scrawl, for example, becomes a butterfly, and purple doodles morph into running shoes with the book's built-in, cylindrical mirror.

"Nothing is more exciting than a brand-new format," says publisher Debra Mostow-Zakarin. "At first glance, Gracie's scribbles don't look like much of anything. But, they're actually fun, fully rendered pictures that can only be seen in the reflection of the book's magic mirror.

"We think it's amazing, and we're thrilled to be the ones publishing *Gracie's Gallery*."

Anamorphosis (Greek for *formed again*) dates back to China's Ming Dynasty and was popular during the Renaissance when Leonardo da Vinci and other artists began playing with perspectives. Houle, a former teacher, explains the fascinating artform this way:

"An image has been distorted in such a way that it becomes unrecognizable, but it can be put back together again by looking at it in a certain way. In the kind of anamorphic art that I like to do, the picture is distorted so that it can be seen again in the reflection of a curved mirror."

Gracie's Gallery includes a shiny, plastic, pull-tab-activated mirror that makes these amazing image transformations. Within the hidden images is also a story about Gracie, a spunky six-year-old whose parents see her drawings as meaningless markings. But Gracie's brother, George, knows there's more to his sister's awesome artwork than first meets the eye!

"I hope this book will awaken sleeping imaginations," says Houle, who has created a teachers' guide so that students can make their own creations. Houle also speaks to educators about her anamorphic artwork, which is in public and private collections worldwide.

To find out how to make your own magic mirror art, learn more about Houle, or take a peek at *Gracie's Gallery*, visit www.graciesgallery.com.

There's more to Gracie's Gallery than meets the eye!

Gracie's Gallery: A Magic Mirror Book
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Piggy Toes Press
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Ages 3 and Up
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