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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

“You Have Diverse Stories” Contest Taps Into Diverse Storytelling Tradition

August House celebrates Multicultural Children’s Book Day with contest.

Atlanta, Georgia – January 22, 2015 – This winter, August House will celebrate Multicultural Children’s Book Day (January 27th, 2015) with a two-week long video and audio contest, “You Have Diverse Stories,” to highlight the need for more diverse stories for children. The contest encourages children’s book lovers to share versions of their favorite folktales, fairy tales, or family stories. August House hopes the contest will help celebrate and increase awareness of the rich diversity of stories from the world’s great oral traditions. Entries will be posted in August House’s Facebook gallery for viewing.

The “You Have Diverse Stories” contest was created in response to the recent call to action by “#weneeddiversebooks” from publishers, bloggers, librarians, and teachers. This widely trending hashtag has helped highlight the scarcity of books featuring non-Eurocentric cultures, characters, or story lines. Last year, The NY Times reported that, “Of 3,200 children’s books published in 2013, just 93 were about black people...” Multicultural Children’s Book Day celebrates its second anniversary on January 27th to increase awareness about the growing need and demand for greater diversity in children’s books. August House launched the “You Have Diverse Stories” contest to highlight the wealth of multicultural stories that can be discovered in the world’s great oral traditions.

August House’s “You Have Diverse Stories” contest asks people to share a 15 second to 3 minute version of their favorite story in a video or audio clip. Each week, three randomly selected participants in the story contest will win copies of ***Pickin’ Peas***, by Margaret Read MacDonald and illustrated by Pat Cummings, and ***A Natural Man: the True Story of John Henry***, by Steve Sanfield and illustrated by Peter Thornton--two stories that represent the rich diversity of American folktales. Participants can easily earn extra entries in the contest by reading to others or dressing up in costume in their clips. Anyone interested in entering the “You Have Diverse Stories” contest can enter at August House’s Facebook page: [fb.com/AugustHouseInc](https://www.facebook.com/AugustHouseInc).

August House, Inc is a highly acclaimed and award-winning multimedia publisher of children's stories, folktale anthologies, and resource books. Located in Atlanta, GA, August House has developed one of the most highly respected collections of folktales from the world's great oral traditions.

You can find more information about August House at <http://www.augusthouse.com> .

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