



Children's Picture Book Competition
**Internet Vote to Pick Winner of
ABC's Children's Picture Book Competition**

- Will *Spider & Fly* become best friends?
- *What do You Grow in KinderGARDEN?*
- Will *Mean Aunt Amy* get her just rewards?
- Will the ducks find out *What's Wrong with Mud?*
- In *Charlemagne to the Rescue* who gets rescued?
- Can your vote help *Lil' Tex Visit the Alamo?*

Houston, TX — You can put your vote where it will do the most good by voting for your favorite children's picture book story in the **3rd Annual ABC's Children's Picture Book Competition**. The winner of the competition's internet vote will walk away with a publishing contract.

At last, a contest with lots of excitement and the contest also encourages children to read! In this country of democracy children don't vote—but this contest wants children to read through twelve picture books and then vote for the one they most want to see published. And actually, since they can vote each day during the period 9/16-9/30, the children can change their votes from day to day.

. This year one of the twelve finalists is from Bridgewater, New Jersey; her name is Diana Patton. Her picture book is CHARLEMAGNE TO THE RESCUE, about a small goldfish who builds up his self-esteem by helping his friends and even helps them adjust to an exciting new situation. Usually the finalist authors are paired with illustrators, but since Diana Patton is both author and artist, she figures she has to work twice as hard to obtain votes! To know more about this "Jersey girl", please go to www.dianapatton.com **TO VOTE, please go to www.charlemagnethefish.com** (where children will find games and adults aquarium reviews). For of course adults can vote and they are strongly urged to; this contest can be a family project, a classroom project, a whole school project, a club project! Do visit the sites! Do enjoy the books!

"This competition is meant to find a children's story that is a diamond in the rough and turn it into a gem that becomes a best seller," said Rita Mills, of The Book Connection who is the corporate sponsor of The ABC's. "Each story has a team effort in the form of an author and an illustrator who work together to solicit votes for their story. The little stories are delightful and the art that accompanies them will help to give the voters a visual about how the story will look when it is put into children's book format," she added.

The competition has author finalists and illustrators from 14 different states and 2 foreign countries.

To view the finalists in the competition and vote for your favorite, please visit the competition website at <http://www.ABCbookcompetition.org>. The two week voting period starts September 16, 2007 and will continue through midnight September 30, 2007. The winning author / illustrator team will be announced October 8, 2007.