

Pat Mora's Teen Literature



“No one has felt like this. Ever.” So thinks a teen in *Dizzy in Your Eyes: Poems about Love*, Pat’s second collection for young adults. Pat also wrote *My Own True Name: New and Selected Poems for Young Adults* and seven poetry collections for adults: *Encantado: Desert Monologues*, *Adobe Odes*, *Aunt Carmen’s Book of Practical Saints*, *Agua Santa: Holy Water, Communion, Borders, and Chants*. *The New York Times* wrote that “Ms. Mora’s poems are proudly bilingual, an eloquent answer to purists who refuse to see language as something that lives and changes.”

Her nonfiction books for adults include her acclaimed memoir, *House of Houses*, *Zing! Seven Creativity Practices for Educators and Students*, and *Nepantla: Essays from the Land in the Middle*.

Among her awards are Honorary Doctorates from North Carolina State University and SUNY Buffalo, Honorary Membership in the American Library Association, Life-time Membership in USBBY, a Civitella Ranieri Fellowship to write in Umbria, Italy, and a Distinguished Alumni Award from the University of Texas at El Paso. She was a recipient and judge of a Poetry Fellowship from the National Endowment for the Arts and a recipient and advisor of the Kellogg National Leadership Fellowships.

Next fall, Lee and Low Books will publish *My Magic Wand: Growing with the Seasons*. Pat’s many other children’s books include *Bookjoy*, *Wordjoy*. With her author/lawyer daughter, Libby Martinez, she wrote *I Pledge Allegiance* and *Bravo, Chico Canta! Bravo!* A literacy advocate excited about sharing what she calls “bookjoy,” Pat founded Children’s Day, Book Day (CDBD). This year-long commitment promotes creatively linking all children and families to books, and establishing annual April Children’s Day, Book Day celebrations across the country. April 2021 is Día’s **25th Anniversary**. Pat’s *Book Fiesta* captures the CDBD spirit.

A former teacher, university administrator, museum director, and consultant, Pat is a popular national speaker who promotes creativity, inclusivity and bookjoy. She has three adult children and a sweet granddaughter. Pat is married to anthropology professor Vern Scarborough and lives in Santa Fe, NM.