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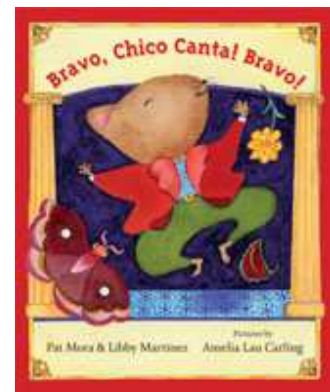
**Two spring books from a new writing duo:
Pat Mora and her daughter, Libby Martinez**

Annapolis, MD - This April, mother-and-daughter writing partners Pat Mora and Libby Martinez will see their first two collaborative children's books published.

I Pledge Allegiance (Random House, 978-0307931818), illustrated by Patrice Barton, is a family story featuring Libby's great aunt, Lobo. Lobo is from Mexico, but the United States has been her home for many years, and she wants to become a U.S. citizen. At the end of the week, Lobo will say the Pledge of Allegiance at a special ceremony. Libby is also learning the Pledge this week, at school—at the end of the week, *she* will stand up in front of everyone and lead the class in the Pledge. Libby and Lobo practice together—asking questions and sharing stories and memories—until they both stand tall and proud, with their hands over their hearts



Bravo, Chico Canta! Bravo! (Groundwood, 978-1554983438), illustrated by Amelia Lau Carling, is a sweetly funny picture book that is being published simultaneously in a Spanish edition (Groundwood, 978-1554983445). A tiny mouse, Chico Canta, saves his entire family from the clever kitten, Little Gato-Gato, when he uses his quick wits and ability to speak another language.



Pat Mora, born in El Paso, Texas, is an award-winning poet and author of many books for children, teens and adults. She is the founder of the family literacy initiative El día de los niños / El día de los libros, Children's Day / Book Day (Día). For more about Pat, visit her website: www.patmora.com.

Libby Martinez has worked in the Texas political arena, has served as the Director of School and Community Partnerships at the Philadelphia Zoo, and is the founder of a strategy consulting practice. She lives with her husband in Colorado Springs. For more about Libby, visit her website: www.libbymartinez.com.