



## *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*.

With her daughter, author Libby Martinez, Pat wrote *I Pledge Allegiance* and *Bravo, Chico Canta! Bravo!* Pat has written more than forty children's books, her newest, *My Magic Wand: Growing with the Seasons*, Lee & Low Books.

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.

A literacy advocate excited about sharing what she calls "bookjoy," in 1996, she founded Children's Day, Book Day (CDBD). Pat and her partners including the American Library Association, REFORMA, NCTE and First Book, nationally promote this year-long initiative of creatively linking all children and families to books and establishing annual April 30<sup>th</sup> Children's Day, Book Day celebrations across the country. April 2022 is CDBD's 26th anniversary.

Born in El Paso, Texas to a loving, bilingual family, Pat lives in Santa Fe, New Mexico. She's grateful for her siblings, three children, her enthusiastic granddaughter and grandson, her husband, Vern Scarborough, her friends and her readers. A former teacher, university administrator, museum director, and consultant, Pat is working on new books for adults and children.