

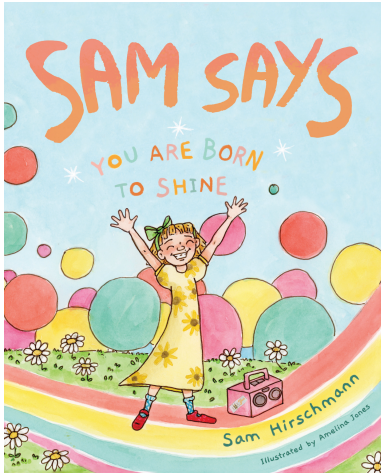
February 6, 2024



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

New Children's Book Encourages Kids to Shine Bright and Don't Dim Their Lights

LOS ANGELES — Mascot Books announces the release of *Sam Says: You Are Born to Shine*, written by Sam Hirschmann, and illustrated by Amelina Jones.



Shine bright and don't ever dim your light. These are the words Sam's mom tells her every night. When Sam begins at a new school, her classmates make fun of her colorful clothes and vivacious dance moves. Not letting her inner light dim, Sam shows them that the joy you exude when you're unapologetically yourself is contagious!

In *Sam Says: You Are Born to Shine*, readers learn the power of expressing their true selves, something the author said she has struggled with most of her life, beginning when she was in third grade and got reading glasses.

"I didn't want to be different or weird," Hirschmann said. "When I couldn't read the teacher's writing on the dry erase board, I would sneakily hold up my glasses to look through them and then quickly put the glasses away hoping no one saw."

Hirschmann said that feeling of being different manifested into different kinds of wanting to fit in as she moved through middle school, high school, college, and into the professional world. It wasn't until she went to acting school that she realized that her "weirdness" was actually her unique superpower.

"Not only does it feel so good and freeing to let your light shine by being yourself, unapologetically, but it inspires and uplifts everyone around you," said Hirschmann. "I would've loved to read this story with this message as a young kid, where I could understand that my uniqueness was a gift, rather than a secret I had to hold in."

To continue the book's excitement with young readers, Hirschmann included a QR code at the end of the book that links to a Sam Says Dance! Playlist, curated by the author herself. These songs are designed to make readers feel good.

Sam Hirschmann is the creator and writer of *Sam Says: You Are Born to Shine*, and is a true dancer of life. After playing Division I volleyball and working on the trading floor in New York City, she decided to take an acting class, which Sam thanks for sparking her journey into seeing life in color. She left finance to study acting at the William Esper Studio, which took her down the path of finding her true self and how to authentically let her light shine in every situation. While pursuing acting, Sam began teaching Breathwork classes and sharing her insight on social media in hopes of inspiring others to find their joy within and to let their inner light shine.

Sam Says: You Are Born to Shine (ISBN: 978-1-63755-752-5) will be available on February 6, 2024, from Amazon, Barnes & Noble, and Amplify Publishing Group (APG). It is distributed by APG, Ingram, the American Wholesale Book Company, Baker & Taylor, and Follett Library Resources.

Follow the author on her [website](#) or [Instagram](#). To set up an interview, reading, signing, or for information regarding *Sam Says: You Are Born to Shine*, please contact info@forewordpublicity.com.

About Amplify Publishing Group

Amplify Publishing Group is a leading independent hybrid publisher that is passionate about ideas and voices that need to be heard. APG publishes across a wide variety of genres and is the culmination of twenty years of experience acquiring, producing, marketing, and distributing books. It is home to a number of distinct imprints, including Amplify Publishing, Mascot Kids, and Mascot Books.

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