



# ST. HILDA'S & ST. HUGH'S

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## Ms. Perna's Starr Books: National Hispanic Heritage Month

### PICTURE BOOKS

*Alma and How She Got Her Name* – written and illustrated by Juana Martinez-Neal

When Alma Sofia Esperanza José Pura Candela asks her father why she has so many names, she hears the story of her name and learns about her grandparents.

*Danza!: Amalia Hernández and Mexico's Folkloric Ballet* – written and illustrated by Duncan Tonatiuh

This celebration of Mexico's rich history of dance tells the story of Amalia Hernandez, the founder of the world renowned el Ballet Folklórico de Mexico.

*Doña Flor: A Tall Tale About a Giant Woman with a Great Big Heart\** – written by Pat Mora and illustrated by Raul Colón

Doña Flor, a giant lady with a big heart, sets off to protect her neighbors from what they think is a dangerous animal, but soon discovers the tiny secret behind the huge noise.

*Grandma's Gift\** – written and illustrated by Eric Velasquez

The author describes Christmas at his grandmother's apartment in Spanish Harlem the year she introduced him to the Metropolitan Museum of Art and Diego Velazquez's portrait of Juan de Pareja, which has had a profound and lasting effect on him.

*Imagine* – written by Juan Felipe Herrera and illustrated by Lauren Castillo

When Juan Felipe Herrera was very young, he picked flowers, helped his mama feed the chickens, and learned to say goodbye to his amiguitos each time his migrant family moved on. When he grew up, Juan Felipe Herrera became the United States Poet Laureate and read his poems aloud on the steps of the Library of Congress.

*Just Ask!: Be Different, Be Brave, Be You* – written by Sonia Sotomayor and illustrated by Rafael López

A group of children with different abilities and strengths come together to build a community garden.

*La Princesa and the Pea\** – written by Susan Middleton Elya and illustrated by Juana Martinez-Neal

A rhyming twist on a classic fairy tale in which a queen places a pea under a young lady's mattress to see if she is truly a princess.

*Mango, Abuela, and Me\** – written by Meg Medina and illustrated by Angela Dominguez

An endearing tale from an award-winning duo that speaks loud and clear about learning new things and the love that bonds family members.

*Niño Wrestles the World\** – written and illustrated by Yuyi Morales

Señoras y Señores, put your hands together for the fantastic, spectacular, one of a kind . . . Niño! Fwap! Slish! Bloop! Krunch! He takes down his competition in a single move! No opponent is too big a challenge for the cunning skills of Niño—popsicle eater, toy lover, somersault expert, and world champion lucha libre competitor!

*When Angels Sing: The Story of Rock Legend Carlos Santana\** – written by Michael Mahin and illustrated by Jose Ramirez

Carlos Santana loved to listen to his father play *el violín*. It was a sound that filled the world with magic and love and feeling and healing—a sound that made angels real. Carlos wanted to make angels real, too. So he started playing music.

## CHAPTER BOOKS AND NOVELS

*Aristotle and Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe\** – Benjamin Alire Sáenz

Fifteen-year-old Ari Mendoza is an angry loner with a brother in prison, but when he meets Dante and they become friends, Ari starts to ask questions about himself, his parents, and his family that he has never asked before. (Young Adult novel. Ages 12 and up)

*The Epic Fail of Arturo Zamora\** – written by Pablo Cartaya

When his family's restaurant and Cuban American neighborhood in Miami are threatened by a greedy land developer, 13-year-old Arturo, joined by Carmen, a poetry enthusiast, fight back, discovering the power of poetry and protest through untold family stories and the work of José Martí. (Ages 10 and up)

*The First Rule of Punk\** – written by Cecelia C. Pérez

Twelve-year-old María Luisa O'Neill-Morales (who really prefers to be called Malú) reluctantly moves with her Mexican-American mother to Chicago and starts seventh grade with a bang—violating the dress code with her punk rock aesthetic and spurning the middle school's most popular girl in favor of starting a band with a group of like-minded eccentrics. (Ages 10 and up)

*Freddie Ramos Takes Off* – written by Jacqueline Jules

Freddie finds a mysterious package outside his apartment containing sneakers that allow him to run faster than a train, and inspire him to perform heroic deeds. (Ages 7-9)

*How Tia Lola Came to (Visit) Stay* – written by Julia Alvarez

Moving to Vermont with his mother and sister, Miguel has plenty to worry about! Tía Lola, his quirky, *carismática*, and maybe magical aunt makes his life even more unpredictable when she arrives from the Dominican Republic to help out his Mami. Like her stories for adults, Julia Alvarez's middle-grade book sparkles with magic as it illuminates a child's experiences living in two cultures. (Ages 8-12)

*Juana and Lucas\** – written by Juana Medina

A spunky young girl from Colombia loves playing with her canine best friend and resists boring school activities, especially learning English, until her family tells her that a special trip is planned to an English-speaking place. (Ages 5-8)

*Lola Levine Is Not Mean* – written by Monica Brown

Second-grader Lola has a wonderful family, a great teacher, and the best friend ever, Josh, and they all help her feel better after she is teased and forbidden to play team sports at recess for having accidentally hurt classmate Juan during a soccer game. (Ages 6-10)

*Lucky Broken Girl\** – written by Ruth Behar

In this unforgettable multicultural coming-of-age novel based on the author's childhood in the 1960s, a young Cuban-Jewish immigrant girl is adjusting to her new life in New York City when her American dream is suddenly derailed. (Ages 10 and up)

*Silver People: Voices from the Panama Canal* – written by Margarita Engle

Fourteen-year-old Mateo and other Caribbean islanders face discrimination, segregation, and harsh working conditions when American recruiters lure them to the Panamanian rain forest in 1906 to build the great canal. (Ages 12 and up)

*The Poet X\** – written by Elizabeth Acevedo

A young girl in Harlem discovers slam poetry as a way to understand her mother's religion and her own relationship to the world. (Young Adult novel. Ages 12 and up)

Additional titles can be searched using the C. V. Starr Library catalog at [sthildas.goalexandria.com](http://sthildas.goalexandria.com).

Annotations are courtesy of the Library of Congress cataloging-in-publication notes.

Asterisk denotes a recipient of the Pura Belpré Book Award.