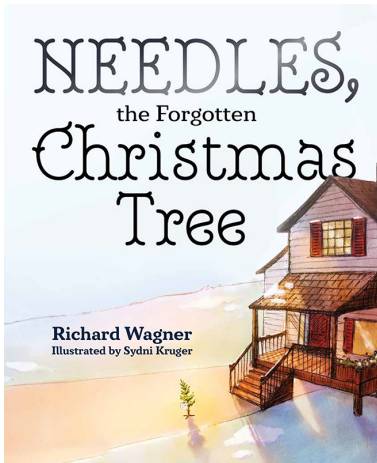


November 1, 2022

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Prominent Business Executive Richard Wagner Writes Heartwarming Holiday Picture Book, *Needles, the Forgotten Christmas Tree*

NEWPORT BEACH, CA. — Mascot Books announces the release of *Needles, the Forgotten Christmas Tree* written by Richard Wagner, with illustrations by Sydni Kruger



The world is not always perfect. A scraggly little tree named Needles must endure taunts, criticism, and setbacks to realize his goal of becoming a beautiful Christmas tree.

Needles, the Forgotten Christmas Tree is a story of hope, dreams, desires, determination, and never giving up. It also offers the observation that what others think is beautiful may not really matter.

“Paired with the spirit of Christmas, I hope that this book may help make the world just a little better,” Wagner said.

Needles, the Forgotten Christmas Tree has earned a Gold Mom’s Choice Award. The Mom’s Choice Award is recognized globally as the reliable symbol representing the best in family-friendly products.

Additionally, the book received a 5-star review, the highest rating, from Readers’ Favorite Book Reviews.

“Hope springs eternal in *Needles, the Forgotten Christmas Tree* by Richard Wagner. Needles teaches us that it is always too soon to abandon hope...(and) that beauty is in the eye of the beholder. A Christmas book must include the joy of giving, and Needles finds his destiny due to an act of giving.” – Readers’ Favorite.

Wagner grew up in Southern California. When he was 14-years old, a business friend of his father’s had a small Christmas tree delivered as a thank you. Their family already had a large tree decorated in the house. Not being able to find anyone who needed a tree, that small Christmas tree stood outside by itself for the remainder of the Christmas holiday.

“This book serves as a tribute to that little tree and what might have been, but more importantly, to all the beauty, goodness, and hope that Christmas brings to us all,” said Wagner, who still resides in Southern California with his wife and two children.

Wagner hopes that this charming and beautifully illustrated book will become a part of family Christmas traditions.

Needles, the Forgotten Christmas Tree (ISBN: 978-1-64543-708-6) is available now at [Mascot Books](https://www.mascotbooks.com) and will be sold on Amazon, Barnes & Noble on March 7, 2023. An accompanying eBook will also be available. The book is distributed by APG, Ingram, the American Wholesale Book Company, Baker & Taylor, and Follett Library Resources.

To set up an interview, reading, signing, or for information regarding *Needles, the Forgotten Christmas Tree*, 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.