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Contacts:

Julia Monti

The Rosen Group

julia@rosengrouppr.com

212.255.8455 x33

Mascot Books and Rusty Staub Team Up for Mets Kids Book

New York, NY—Mascot Books, Inc., the leading publisher of children’s sports books in the nation, has teamed up with Major League Baseball and the New York Mets to produce *Hello, Mr. Met!* by Rusty Staub. Part of a series of high-quality children’s books geared toward young—and young at heart—fans, *Hello, Mr. Met!* features the sights and sounds of game day as captured by legendary broadcaster Rusty Staub, with illustrations by Danny Moore. *Hello, Mr. Met!* can be purchased for \$17.95 wherever books are sold and at www.mascotbooks.com.

“Featuring Shea Stadium and more, *Hello, Mr. Met!* touches upon the heart and soul of the Mets while encouraging the love of the game in its youngest fans,” says Mascot Books founder and president Aimee Aryal.

Hello, Mr. Met! is expected to be one of the hottest-selling children’s books in the tri-state area this holiday season. “We created Mascot Books to fill a void in the sports market: books for kids featuring their favorite sports teams and personalities,” said Aryal. “Rusty Staub is a Mets and baseball legend.”

Fan favorite Staub, known as “Le Grande Orange” for his red hair, was a renowned outfielder, first baseman and record-setting pinch-hitter. He is the only player to have collected at least 500 hits for four different teams. Staub retired in 1985 after a 23-year major league career, including nine with the Mets. He went on to be a successful restaurateur, Mets announcer, Mets ambassador and philanthropist. He formed The New York Police and Fire Widow’s and Children’s Benefit Fund Foundation, Inc., which has raised more than \$145 million since 1986.

Founded in 2003 after Aimee Aryal recognized a void in the sports market—children’s books—Mascot Books has become a mainstay in sports publishing, reaching fans of all ages and selling 300,000 books. Partnerships with Major League Baseball, the National Basketball Association, the National Hockey League and top NCAA teams have bolstered its roster, which now includes nearly 60 publications. Its full product line, including a series focusing on the importance of good sportsmanship, can be found at all major bookstores and at www.mascotbooks.com.

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