

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**New Award-Winning Children's Picture Book, "Jisel's Gifts," Shares Heartfelt True Tale of a Young Child's Kindness and Community Service**

**Title:**

"Jisel's Gifts:

An Inspiring True Story of Empathy, Kindness, and Giving Back to the Community"

[2024 National Parenting Product Award Winner \(NAPPA\)](#)

Long Beach, CA, 5-16-2024 - Children's book author Angela Russ-Ayon and illustrator Passant Ablal are thrilled to announce the release of their latest multicultural collaboration, "Jisel's Gifts." This touching picture book tells the inspiring true story of a thoughtful biracial (African American and Hispanic) little girl named Jisel, who discovers the joy of giving back to her community. Readers follow her as she learns that there are children less fortunate than herself, gains insight into the value of money, and finds a way to distribute new toys and other essentials to children who might not have any. Her friends and peers pitch in by donating gifts and helping with assembly, showcasing the power of small acts. The characters who help Jisel reflect a rich tapestry of backgrounds one would find in a typical diverse environment.

"This book is more than just a true story — it's a call to action," says author Angela Russ-Ayon. "We want to inspire children to observe what's happening around them and be creative in their giving as agents of change. It doesn't matter how small they may feel or how big their act is. What's important is that they understand how they can make a difference in the world by assembling care packages, fundraising, volunteering, or through other kind deeds."

"Jisel's Gifts" is an engaging story and a valuable educational tool at home or school. Through Jisel's journey, young readers learn about empathy, teamwork, and the importance of community involvement. Readers are inspired to recognize their good fortune and look at the lives of other children through a different lens.

"At its core, 'Jisel's Gifts' is our family's story about the impact we can have when we care enough to come together," adds Russ-Ayon. "We began our journey by saving, collecting, and

distributing Kid's Meal toys in stockings. As our children grew older, their charitable acts evolved into collecting and distributing toiletries, socks, and clothing for more mature people experiencing homelessness. We hope this book will inspire children to discover their passions for giving back and to support one another in their endeavors."

"One of the greatest attributes we can cultivate in our children is the desire to show up in the world with kindness and the willingness to help others," says Elena Epstein, Director of the National Parenting Product Awards (NAPPA Awards). "This is why we are celebrating *Jisel's Gifts* as a NAPPA Award winner. Its message of empathy and community will resonate with children and parents. We hope it inspires families to find their own unique ways to make the world a better place." The National Parenting Product Awards (NAPPA) is one of the country's longest-running and most respected awards programs, connecting families with quality products. For more information, visit [www.NappaAwards.com/](http://www.NappaAwards.com/). NAPPA has a national and community reach through its L.A. Parent Magazine and "Play Learn Connect" consumer newsletter, social media, and collaboration with parenting publications nationwide.

"[Jisel's Gifts](#)" is now available in English online and at select retailers - ISBN: 978-1-958627-08-2 (glossy interior) and ISBN: 978-1-958627-10-5 (matte interior).

"[Los Regalos de Jisel](#)," a Spanish edition with English translation - ISBN: 978-1-958627-12-9 (glossy interior) and ISBN: 978-1-958627-11-2 (matte interior), will be available for purchase by June 30, 2024.

"*Jisel's Acts*," the picture book sequel showcasing Jisel helping her friends with their endeavors, will release in the fall - ISBN: 978-1-958627-13-6.

#### **About the Author:**

Angela Russ-Ayon is an award-winning children's book author, early childhood music producer, keynote speaker, professional development trainer, and educator known for her interactive workshops and performances. Through her writing, she aims to promote social responsibility in children worldwide. Angela Russ-Ayon is available for author visits and educational presentations. For more information about the book and its creators, visit [AbridgeClub.com](http://AbridgeClub.com).

#### **About the Illustrator:**

Passant Ablal is a talented illustrator based in Cairo who brings Jisel's world to life by painting vibrant watercolor illustrations highlighted by distinct black-and-white sketches.

#### **Bulk Discounts:**

This title is available in bulk directly from the publisher for early childhood programs, conferences, non-profit initiatives, licensing, or grants that promote empathy, kindness, charity,

giving back to the community, social-emotional development, compassion, volunteerism, altruism, prosocial behavior, social justice teamwork. Contact the publisher directly for orders and discounted pricing.

For media inquiries, author interviews, quotes, or review copies, please contact Angela Russ-Ayon at Russ InVision Company.

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