

Ann Morris to present the children's program at Libraries Rock

As part of the Humboldt Public Library summer reading program, "Libraries Rock," Ann (Bottelson) Morris, will present the children's program, "Author's Rock," on Friday, June 15, at 4 p.m., in the Springvale Room at the library. Beginning about 4:30 p.m., she will host a Meet and Greet Q and A program for children and adults. Ms. Morris will have autographed copies of her books available for purchase and will personalize each book sold. This event is sponsored by the Humboldt Library Foundation.



Ann Morris

Ann Morris, a Humboldt native, graduated from Humboldt High School in 1973 and is the daughter of Emery and Mavis Bottelson. She has always loved English and languages and graduated from Wartburg College in Waverly, with a degree in Spanish Education.

Morris taught high school Spanish for 18 years and loved it. She proceeded to work for 12 years for the State of Iowa with Iowa

Workforce Development, being the only bilingual representative. She worked with people from all backgrounds and cultures to help them build their language and education skills. During this time, she began to wish she had more children's books to share with the young people that would accompany their

parents to appointments. Inspired by her mother, Morris has loved to write since she was young. In different capacities through work and volunteering, she realized that there was a need for healthy learning stories for children that would also have a message for any adult sharing those books with them. Within the last 10 years, she has focused on children's stories with the intention of recording memorable experiences with young family members sprinkled with memories of her own youth. She loves to include a learning experience that includes the process of finding answers for children.

Ann Morris remains in Iowa, where she has dedicated her talents to writing children's books in English under the name of Ann Morris and a Spanish version of the same story under her Spanish name of Ana Morris. She also writes poetry and was published as early as 10 and 12 years of age through a children's magazine called 'Wee Wisdom'.

She is equally proficient in English and Spanish and visible in the city of Des Moines. She champions various minority causes, especially those that involve education. Her contribution in two languages serves a dual purpose. It provides reading material and positive interaction potential for young readers of each native language and it provides a reading challenge for those learning the other language.

She has participated in many author fairs and readings, has read to and addressed numerous elementary and junior high school students, which she enjoys dearly.

Her ultimate goal is to provide a positive adult role model for a curious child and a learning experience, which may be a learning

process or a new outlook for the child in the story.

Mommy and Mikel Go for a Walk/Mikel y Mami dan un paseo was her first pair of books released by AuthorHouse Publishing. It has been republished by Mascot Books and is a wonderful improvement to the original.

Her second pair, illustrated by Heather Varkarotas, was published by Mascot Books. *Surprise in Auntie's Garden! / Sorpresa en el jardín de la tía!* adheres to the same goal as her first pair.

Her third pair, recently released, *Everything Is Different/ Todo es distinto* is illustrated by Melissa Wright and deals with a young boy from the USA visiting the UK with his father.

Her newest book, a toddler bedtime story, will include both languages in the same book. Her next project with her publisher is a rhyming book about her granddaughters, followed by a cute story called *The Very Particular Puppy*. She has also begun her first early to midgrade chapter book, which may turn into a series.

More ideas are in the future as she plans a trip to Ghana with her sister Ruth

(Bottelson) Meyer in September. This trip is a mission of the heart that will certainly have a tale to tell!

Ann Morris will also be selling and signing her books at the Humboldt Arts Festival sponsored by the Humboldt Area Arts Council on Saturday, June 16, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., at the Humboldt County Historical Museum. Ann Morris's website is www.authorannmorris.com.

