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Contact: Susanna Reich  
(914) 762-3140  
reichgolio@verizon.net

**100<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF JULIA CHILD'S BIRTH CELEBRATED**

**WITH DELICIOUS NEW PICTURE BOOK ABOUT THE BELOVED CHEF AND HER CAT**

Julia Child, the celebrated chef, author and television personality, would have turned 100 in 2012, and eight years after her death, she's more popular than ever. Her demonstration of how to make an omelette has been viewed more than 1.5 million times on YouTube, she's been portrayed by Meryl Streep in the movie *Julie and Julia*, and her 1961 cookbook, *Mastering the Art of French Cooking*, is still a bestseller. Now, kids can get to know the iconic chef in an irresistible new picture book, ***Minette's Feast: The Delicious Story of Julia Child and Her Cat*** (Abrams Books for Young Readers), written by award-winning author Susanna Reich and illustrated by *New York Times* best-selling illustrator Amy Bates. It's the first-ever children's book about the beloved chef.

*Minette's Feast* takes place in Paris, France, where Julia and her husband Paul lived in the late 1940's and adopted Minette, the first of their many cats. In a picturesque old apartment one block from the River Seine, Julia cooks while Minette catches mice. Even after Julia enrolls in the Cordon Bleu and becomes a kitchen virtuoso, her cat prefers mouse! Will Julia ever be able to whip up a meal that will entice Minette?

"A fine recipe for pleasure. *Magnifique!*" writes *Kirkus* in a starred review.

This delectable and hilarious story will delight not only kids, but foodies, Francophiles, Child fans and cat-lovers, too. The playful, poetic text is peppered with quotes from Child's letters and memoirs, and illustrated with watercolors that perfectly capture both Minette's antics and the warmth and charm of Julia Child and the City of Light. With author's note, bibliography and glossary.

Susanna Reich, [www.susannareich.com](http://www.susannareich.com), is the author of *Painting the Wild Frontier: The Art and Adventures of George Catlin, José! Born to Dance, Clara Schumann: Piano Virtuoso*, and *Penelope Bailey Takes the Stage*. Her awards include the NCTE Orbis Pictus Honor, Tomás Rivera Award, International Latino Book Award, ALA Notable, ALA Best Books for Young Adults, and Best Books of the Year honors from *School Library Journal*, *Booklist*, *Kirkus*, *Scripps-Howard*, and the Association of Booksellers for Children. She serves as Chair of the

Children's Book Committee of PEN American Center and lives in Ossining, New York, with her husband, children's book author Gary Golio, and their cat, Chloe.

Amy Bates, [www.amybates.com](http://www.amybates.com), is the illustrator of more than twenty children's books, including *Bear In the Air*, *The Dog Who Belonged to No One*, *Christian the Hugging Lion*, *Abe's Fish*, and *the Brothers Kennedy*. She is a self-described reclusive book-nerd who loves to read as much as she loves English sweets and drawing. Bates received her BFA from Brigham Young University and lives in Pennsylvania with her husband and three children.

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*Minette's Feast: The Delicious Story of Julia Child and Her Cat*

Written by Susanna Reich

Illustrated by Amy Bates

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Ages 4-8

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