

# SIMON AND BARKLEE, INC.

## NEWS RELEASE

(Effective upon receipt)

### Children's Books Spark Curiosity About World Neighbors

A new educational series has been crafted to introduce children to their global neighbors.

“*Another Country Calling: The Adventures of Simon and Barklee™*” is about global citizenship. It features multidisciplinary books designed to enrich basic reading skills with information about geography, history and culture. A layer of international adventure is added just for fun.

Children follow two engaging animal travelers that appear throughout the series. Simon T. McTwill, an operatic canary, and Barklee, a flop-eared terrier, travel the world together, following Simon's passion to sing in capitals of the world. Indigenous animal characters in the host countries serve as guides and cultural informants. While seeing new sights, meeting new friends, and coping in unfamiliar environments, Simon and Barklee learn respect for others and an abiding appreciation for the differences around our globe.

Written by David J. Scherer of Langley, WA, and illustrated by Kara Richardson, Lake Oswego, OR, the series is published by ExplorerMedia, Langley, WA. Generally, one book will profile one country. The first three are *Simon & Barklee in France*, *Simon & Barklee in England*, and *Simon & Barklee in Germany*. Each book is accompanied by an optional activity book and features regionally accurate 4-color illustrations.

- more -

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The books contain a glossary of new vocabulary words and a glossary of foreign words and pronunciation guide.

Scherer says his intent is to spark enough curiosity in children to care about the world: "Today's children, when they take their places in the world, have to have grown up with the world. They have to understand what life is like two continents from their home, not just two blocks."

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