

Maria Pallante  
Register of Copyrights

U. S. Copyright Office  
101 Independence Ave. S. E.  
Washington, D. C. 20559-6000

Re: Notice of Inquiry

Copyright Office

Library of Congress

Copyright Protection for Certain Visual Works (Docket # 2015-01)

Dear Ms. Pallante,

We are respectfully asking lawmakers not to approve “The Next Great Copyright Act.”

We have been children’s book illustrators for 44 years. This is our only source of income.

Alexandra’s education includes a BFA and an MFA from Pratt Institute in Brooklyn, N. Y. She has illustrated more than 40 books for children, has written and illustrated for children’s testing programs and magazines.

Among her awards for illustrated books are: The Teacher’s Choice Award, The Philadelphia Children’s Reading Round Table Best Book of the Month, Outstanding Book in the Field of Science, Pennsylvania Library Association Carolyn Field Award, Amelia Bloomer Project List and the Silver Medal Eureka Award.

She has taught at library conferences, The International Women’s Writing Guild and at school visits.

John graduated from Washington University in St. Louis with a BFA and from Pratt Institute in Brooklyn, N. Y. with an MFA. He has illustrated over 60 children’s picture and chapter books.

John has won numerous awards for his work in children's books among them Parent's Choice, New York Times Best Children's Books, included many times in Society of Illustrator's Annual Show.

John has taught at children's book conferences and been artist in residence.

Copyright law is not an abstract legal issue to us, but the basis on which our business rests. Our ONLY income is from the work we have done in children's books and our royalties. Our copyrights are the products we license. It means that infringing on our work is like stealing our money. It's important to our business that we are able to determine voluntarily how and by whom our work is used. Our work does NOT lose its value upon publication but becomes part of our business inventory. We continue to receive royalties that make up a large part of our income. We are now 70 years old and are totally dependent on our royalty income. Please do not take our only income from us!

In the digital era, inventory is more valuable to us and other artists than ever before.

We respectfully submit our concerns,

Alexandra Wallner and John Wallner, Greywood Studios