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Speeding Down The Spiral: An Artful Adventure

The Mom's Choice Awards® Names Speeding Down the Spiral Among Best In Family-Friendly Products (or Services)

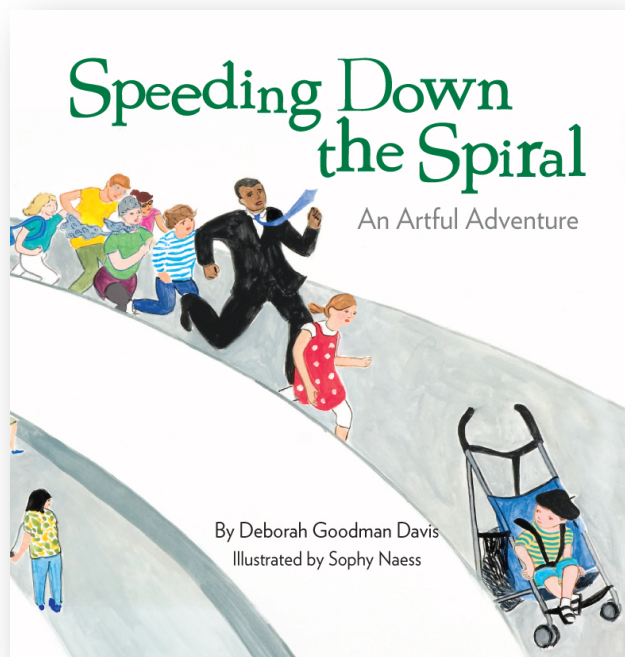
New York, NY (April 23, 2013) - The Mom's Choice Awards® has named **Speeding Down the Spiral** among the best in family-friendly media, products and services.

The Mom's Choice Awards® (MCA) is an international awards program that recognizes authors, inventors, companies, parents and others for their efforts in creating quality family-friendly media, products and services.

Parents, educators, librarians and retailers look for the Mom's Choice Awards Honoring Excellence seal of approval when selecting quality materials for children and families.

An esteemed panel of judges includes education, media and other experts as well as parents, children, librarians, performing artists, producers, medical and business professionals, authors, scientists and others. A sampling of the panel members includes: Dr. Twila C. Liggett, ten-time Emmy-winner, professor and founder of PBS's Reading Rainbow; Julie Aigner-Clark, Creator of Baby Einstein and The Safe Side Project; Jodee Blanco, New York Times best-selling author, Priscilla Dunstan, creator of the Dunstan Baby Language; Patricia Rossi, host of NBC's Manners Minute; Dr. Letitia S. Wright, D.C., host of the Wright Place™ TV Show; and Catherine Witcher, M.Ed., special needs expert and founder of Precision Education, Inc.

MCA judges are bound by a strict code of ethics which ensures expert and objective analysis free from any manufacturer association. The evaluation process uses a propriety methodology in which entries are scored on a number of elements including production quality, design, educational value, entertainment value, originality, appeal and cost.



To be considered for an award, each entrant submits five identical samples of a product. Entries are matched to judges in the MCA database. Judges perform a thorough analysis and submit a detailed assessment. Results are compiled and submitted to the MCA Executive Committee for final approval.

The end result is a list of the best in family-friendly media, products and services that parents and educators can feel confident in using.

For more information on the awards program and the honorees, visit MomsChoiceAwards.com.

For more information on **Speeding Down the Spiral**, visit

<http://speedingdownthespiral.com/>.

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BOOK DESCRIPTION

One sunny Sunday, Lizzie and her baby brother Ben visit the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum in New York City with their father. They take the elevator to the top floor and begin walking down the ramp to look at the art. After an e-mail distracts Dad, and Lizzie comes face-to-face with Lichtenstein's giant growling dog, the stroller begins speeding down the spiral with Baby Ben. And a quiet museum trip turns into a madcap chase, with Lizzie in the lead, followed by a museum guard, a teacher, students, and people with earphones listening to an audio tour.

The story is coupled with the colorful and lively illustrations by Sophy Naess, bringing to life not only the Frank Lloyd Wright's masterpiece of modern architecture but encouraging children and adults to see for themselves the Bourgeois, Brancusi, Cézanne, Chagall, Giacometti, Gonzalez-Torres, Kandinsky, Lichtenstein, Miró, Picasso, and Warhol paintings and sculptures featured in this book, along with the many other great works of art in the Guggenheim's collection.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR AND ILLUSTRATOR

DEBORAH GOODMAN DAVIS has introduced Modern and contemporary art to audiences as an art historian, art advisor and curator. She was involved in significant gallery and museum exhibitions, including *Paul Gauguin: A Retrospective* at the National Gallery of Art and the Art Institute of Chicago. She has written on the history of art, including an essay in *Felix Vallotton: A Retrospective* (Yale University Press). She received her B.A. from Cornell University and her M.A. from the University of Chicago. She works in New York City, where she loves to visit museums, living with her husband and two kids. Please visit her at www.dgdavisfineart.com.

SOPHY NAESS is an artist, illustrator, printmaker and teacher. Her illustrations have appeared in *TimeOut New York* and American Express *Black Ink* magazine. She illustrated

poet Elinor Nauen's book *My Marriage From A to Z*. Her own artist book, called *Color: A New Novel*, has been met with critical acclaim. Sophy lives in Brooklyn, NY. To learn more about her work, visit www.sophynaess.com.

PRAISE FOR THE BOOK

Deborah Davis' wonderfully written and colorfully illustrated book will delight and thrill young children and even turn them into passionate art lovers. Hopefully they'll want to visit the real Guggenheim Museum someday (and walk down the ramps really slowly!)

-Jennifer Stockman, President, Solomon R. Guggenheim Foundation

The book is unique in that it weaves modern and contemporary masterworks into the storyline, to engage young minds to truly consider these great works of art. Because the action is driven by the character's response to these works, the reader is also encouraged to look closely and respond. I liked it so much I'm sending it to my grandchildren!

-Walter E. Massey, President, School of the Art Institute of Chicago

Lovely illustration by artist Sophy Naess depicts Frank Lloyd Wright's marvelous spiral and successfully highlights the reproductions of work from the Guggenheim's collection. In addition to writing a lively story, Deborah Goodman Davis has chosen artwork that acts as an overview of seminal 20th century art, exposing young minds to the breadth of modern and contemporary art-making.

-Richard Fishman, Professor of Visual Arts, Brown University

Davis' creative story will captivate young readers and lead them on a visual journey through 20th-century art and architecture, enticing them to look closely, ask questions, and be inspired.

-Stephanie Wiles, Director, Herbert F Johnson Museum, Cornell University

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