The Dr. Seuss Birthday Party at San Juan Island Library Tuesday, March 4 from 3:15-4:15 PM

SJI Library

Written by Melina Lagios



He's been called Theodor Geisel, Theo LeSieg, and Dr. Theophrastus Seuss. He even used the pen name Rosetta Stone for a time. Most people though, know him best as Dr. Seuss, the famed author and illustrator of more than 40 books for children.

In addition to creating children's stories, Dr. Seuss also worked as a cartoonist and wrote for film and television. His legacy has grown far beyond book publishing. Many of his books have been adapted for stage and/or turned into major motion pictures. *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*, starring Jim Carrey, grossed over 300 million dollars at the box office.

In 2004, the American Library Association established the Theodor Seuss Geisel Award. This literary award, named in honor of Dr. Seuss, recognizes authors and illustrators of the best beginning reader titles published in English in the United States.

Dr. Seuss's birthday, March 2, was the date chosen for Read Across America, a nationwide group reading and literacy event that began in 1998 to encourage and highlight the importance of reading in student achievement.

Lists of 100 best books for children are sure to include several titles by Dr. Seuss, including *Cat in the Hat.* This whimsical, lyrical story both educates and entertains. It contains controlled vocabulary, rhyming text, bright and original illustrations, and zany, delightful characters that keep an early reader's attention.

Thanks to his universal appeal, Dr. Seuss lives on and his timeless tales and charming characters continue to inspire a nation of readers and amass legions of fans.

Though technically March 4 is not Dr. Seuss's actual birthday, it's the day that fit best for our island celebration. All are welcome to attend the Dr. Seuss Birthday Party at the San Juan Island Library on Tuesday, March 4 from 3:15-4:15 PM. There will be a reading of a Dr. Seuss story, special activities, visits by Thing 1 and Thing 2, book giveaways for children, and of course, delicious birthday cake. The celebration is free and open to the public.

The Dr. Seuss Birthday Party is sponsored by the San Juan Island Early Learning Consortium.