

PALM BEACH ZOO NEWS

To: News Editor

From: Gail Eaton – Director of External Communications

Re: CHILDREN’S AUTHOR TO READ AT PALM BEACH ZOO

Photo: Author Marianne Berkes

West Palm Beach, Florida, October 14, 2011 – The Palm Beach Zoo will present award-winning author, Marianne Berkes, who will be reading from her children’s books, *Over in the Jungle*, *Marsh Music*, and *Over in Australia*, on Saturday, December 3rd at 11:00 a.m., 1:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. at the zoo.

Marianne Berkes is a retired teacher and librarian who turned her love of nature and teaching into writing. Marianne’s ten books, for ages three through 10, are entertaining and educational in rhythmic text with gorgeous illustrations. She has received numerous awards and accolades, including excellent reviews in *SLJ*, *Booklist*, *Kirkus*, *Science Books & Films*, *NSTA* and *IRA Teacher’s Choice*.

She will be doing three readings and will be joined by some of the animals from her books such as a sloth, macaw, snake, blue-tongued skink, or cockatoo. Copies of Marianne’s books will be available for purchase and she will be signing books most of the day. Her newest book, *Animalogy (Animal Analogies)*, will be available.

This program is supported by a grant from The PNC Foundation, which receives its principal funding from the PNC Financial Services Group, Inc. (NYSE: PNC).

For more information: www.palmbeachzoo.org or call (561) 533-0887, Ext. 223.

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The Zoological Society of the Palm Beaches exists to protect wildlife and wildlife habitat, and to inspire others to value and conserve the natural world. We advance our conservation mission through endangered species propagation, education, health and wellness, field research, and conservation medicine. Our sustainable and responsible business practices and local, national and global partnerships enable the Palm Beach Zoo to support national and international conservation, species survival, and habitat preservation.