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Dear Friends,

Every year as we eagerly look forward to spring, my husband attempts to temper my almost desperate anticipation by reminding me that "April is the cruelest month" (with apologies to T.S. Eliot). After having endured one of the cruelest winters many of us can remember, I think we can handle whatever April has in store! Fortunately, the month is full of literary and music celebrations that might lighten our moods!

April is POETRY MONTH, NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK and JAZZ APPRECIATION MONTH; there are also holidays like EARTH DAY; as well as observances of the WEEK OF THE YOUNG CHILD and EL DÍA DE LOS NIÑOS, EL DÍA DE LOS LIBROS/ CHILDREN'S DAY, BOOK DAY.

When setting up displays tied to these events or reviewing your collections for representative materials, don't forget Live Oak Media readalongs that will add to your students' and patrons' listening enjoyment! We'd love to hear how you use our materials in your classroom or library!

Happy reading and listening,
Debra Cardillo

National Poetry Month

[Here in Harlem: Poems in Many Voices](#) written by **Walter Dean Myers**

"The poems in HERE IN HARLEM were made to be performed-listeners hear a chorus of voices from different eras and walks of life, full of joy and sorrow, pride and pain as they shed light on the African-American experience." - *AudioFile Magazine*

Audie Finalist!
ALA Notable Recording
AudioFile Earphones Award



Coming Soon ...

[Looking Like Me](#) written by **Walter Dean Myers** and illustrated by **Christopher Myers**

This father and son collaboration is a poetic celebration of the child as an individual. With hip hop verse and vibrant artwork that resonates with urban verve, this extraordinary tribute to oneself will resonate with children and adults of all ages and backgrounds.

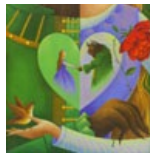
(MAY)

looking like me



[Mirror, Mirror: a Book of Reversible Verse](#) written by **Marilyn Singer** and illustrated by **Josee Masse**

The 14 pairs of poems in this collection can be



read in two ways: up and down; each is a reverse image of itself. Based on favorite fairy tales, the clever text is matched with brilliant artwork that offers split images, giving insight into the meaning of each poem. **(JUNE)**

Favorites from the backlist

Poetry Collection

Includes *America the Beautiful*; *Amber Was Brave*, *Essie Was Smart*; *A Child's Calendar*; *In Daddy's Arms I am Tall*; *Ox-Cart Man*



Jazz Appreciation Month



Live Oak Media's **Music Makers** series salutes jazz with a bounty of titles.

The award-winning **Jazz** by Walter Dean Myers is the quintessential listening experience, combining "exuberant music, powerful narration, and image-filled poetry."

[Listen to Audio Sample](#)

This Jazz Man by Karen Ehrhardt, with illustrations by R.G. Roth, reinvents the classic rhyme and presents nine jazz musicians, starting with Louis Armstrong as Number 1. **Audie Finalist!**

It's impossible not to mention Live Oak Media's recordings of Chris Raschka's groundbreaking jazz titles, **Charlie Parker Played Be Bop**, **Mysterious Thelonious**, and **John Coltrane's Giant Steps**. All are a wonderful first exposure to these remarkable artists and jazz music.



Coming Soon ...

The readalong of the picture book biography of Django Reinhardt, **Django: World's Greatest Jazz Guitarist** captures the spirit of the man, his music and his inspiring life story. **(MAY)**

django

Día's 15th Anniversary

Children's Day/Book Day, also known as El día de los niños/El día de los libros (Día), is a celebration of children, families, and reading held annually on April 30. The celebration emphasizes the importance of literacy for children of all linguistic and cultural backgrounds. This year's theme is 'Many Children, Many Cultures, Many Books.'



Día's founder, Pat Mora, is an accomplished poet and writer of books for adults and children. In the readalong of her bilingual book [Delicious Hullabaloo/ Pachanga Deliciosa](#) "Rosi Amador reads ... in both English and Spanish with a clear and rhythmic narration that enhances the author's poetry. The sound effects of the lizards and armadillos are especially entertaining ..."

- [AudioFile](#)



Add Cuban rhythms to the festivities with [Celia Cruz, Queen of Salsa](#) written by Veronica Chambers and illustrated by Julie Maren. "... holds high appeal for Latino listeners of varying ages and as a creative way to introduce students to Cruz and her music." -- [Booklist](#)

Celebrating Young Children

April 10-16 is the [Week of the Young Child](#) sponsored by National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC.) This is a week to celebrate the whole child and literacy and listening are certainly a part of that. Live Oak Media has a number of titles specially chosen for young children; the complete list, [Early Childhood Titles](#), is available on our website. We also have titles grouped into collections. Enjoy classics, fables and tales, and storytime favorites, as well as thematic sets like [Rhymes, Rhythms, and Letters](#); [Families](#); and [My World](#).



[Pre K- Kindergarten](#)

[Kindergarten](#)

[Kindergarten - 1st Grade](#)



New for Spring!

Outstanding nonfiction from Gail Gibbons ...

These picture book readalongs about creatures are now available.

[Elephants of Africa](#)

[Frogs](#)

[Horses](#)

[Monarch Butterfly](#)

[Penguins](#)



A new video recording ...

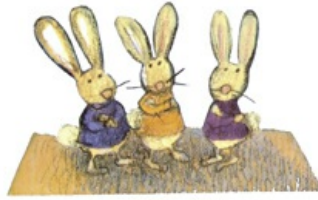
Joining the recent readalong release, [Anansi's Party Time](#) will be available on DVD at the end of March. Enjoy watching

trickster Anansi receive his comeuppance from Turtle.

Great titles for Spring ...

[Tippy-Tippy-Tippy, Hide!](#)

The three crafty bunnies from **[Muncha, Muncha, Muncha](#)** (ALA Notable Recording) are back and this time Mr. Greely is determined that those "wily twitchwhiskers" won't get the best of him!



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To make sure our newsletters are delivered to your inbox, please add debra@liveoakmedia.com to your email Address Book.

Questions or comments?

Please write us at info@liveoakmedia.com or call us at (800) 788-1121.

Debra and Arnie Cardillo Live Oak Media

Live Oak Media has a 30-year tradition of producing distinctive readalong recordings of classic and award-winning children's literature for ages 3-12. As a small, family-owned company, we are dedicated to providing our young listeners with meaningful reading and listening experiences.

