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LOCAL ARTIST PUBLISHED IN AUTISM AWARENESS BOOK

Tallahassee, Florida March 26, 2012— Autism Speaks awareness campaign, Light It Up Blue, is now in its third year and encourages individuals to wear blue, light their homes with blue light, hold cocktail hours with blue hors d'oeuvres as well as share the message on social outlets during world autism awareness day on April 2. Daniel Lasris Ltd has goes one further and compiles an annual book of blue face and body art called Blue for Autism. 100% of the proceeds go to Autism Speaks.

Because local artist, Karen Mercer of **FairyDust Faces**, has nieces and nephews on the autistic spectrum Ms. Mercer volunteered her talents to the recently published second edition of Blue for Autism. Blue for Autism features Ms. Mercer along with 70 other artists in support of Autism Speaks mission. As an active community volunteer who mentors in the school system, works with the LeMoyne Art Center, the Tallahassee Museum and the local girl scout council Ms Mercer understands the need to make children feel special, loved and protected. “Shining a spotlight on the autistic spectrum helps parents, teachers and community members to accept and understand individuals struggling with spectrum disorders. The more help we can give them, and the earlier we can do that, the better.”



<http://www.blurb.com/bookstore/detail/3081632>

Karen Mercer, founding artist of **FairyDust Faces**, is committed to the success of art instruction in public schools and to the success of local youth organizations. She has taught face painting in schools as well as ‘storytelling for children.’ Mercer is also the co-founder of the North Florida Face Painters Guild a non-profit, educational organization for face and body artists. Experience the magic of FairyDust!