

# PRESS KIT

## About Tina Turbin

[Tina Turbin](#) is a published children's author, writer, researcher, humanitarian and the mother of three talented and successful children. Having worked extensively with kids in the entertainment business, Tina has since gone on to enjoy many years of working with and helping children and their families.

She is a tireless advocate for the numerous issues involving children, women and the family, with research and involvement in childhood allergies, celiac disease, gluten-free sensitivity and nutrition, as a way to help improve the quality of health and life for others.

Tina's *Danny the Dragon* series fulfills a passion to delight both children and their parents through her enchanting characters and truly unique stories with curious endings, and her writing style communicates a special kind of magic to the young and young at heart.

Tina's enriched life has never slowed, nor has her abundant energy, as she continues to thoroughly enjoy the "ride of life."

# BIOGRAPHY



**Tina Turbin** has led an exciting life. Born in Hawaii and featured in LIFE magazine with Bing Crosby's family at the tender age of 36 months as a top swimmer for the Red Cross, Tina has lived in England and Puerto Rico, as well as on the east and west coasts of the United States. The arts have always surrounded her and been a major part of her life. Tina wrote her first children's story at age 16 while pursuing painting and design, and the passion has never dampened. Tina married young and worked in the entertainment industry in Los Angeles while raising three very talented and successful children. She ran her own consulting business and studio, Show Biz Kidz, through which she and her staff along with local Hollywood studio staff helped many children in movies and television lead successful lives.

Living on both coasts of the U.S. since the mid-nineties, Tina wrote and traveled while lecturing on her book Show Biz Kids East Coast Guidebook, which supplies information for southern East Coast families with show-biz-bound children.

Through her work with children, Tina became fascinated with the area of child health and nutrition, leading to her research in this field, which has resulted in many wonderful insights and friends in a wide range of professions along this avenue. Her website [www.GlutenFreeHelp.info](http://www.GlutenFreeHelp.info) is just one result of those years and her continued interest in these subjects.

Tina is currently bicoastal with her husband of 28 years. She is a licensed decorator, author and researcher and continues to enjoy her abilities as an entrepreneur and in real estate. She supports endeavors involving children, family and the roles of a mother and of a woman in society, as these are sincere topics to her. She also takes pleasure in doing things through the arts to enlighten awareness and responsibility in these areas.

Tina enjoys being a mom, a woman and a friend to many.

# QUICK FACTS

**Websites** Tina is involved in many different projects and activities. Here are her websites for easy reference.

[www.TinaTurbin.com](http://www.TinaTurbin.com)

[www.DannyTheDragon.com](http://www.DannyTheDragon.com)

[www.GlutenFreeHelp.info](http://www.GlutenFreeHelp.info)

## Videos

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=POPyJJyEnc>

Tina Turbin produces and directs a variety of videos on healthy gluten-free eating that are available and promoted on her sites and on the web.

**Social Media Sites** plays a big role in Tina's online presence. Here are the sites that she is currently submitting articles, blogs and updates.

### Facebook

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Tina-Turbin/48015154817>

### flickr

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/tinaturbin>

### LinkedIn

<http://www.linkedin.com/pub/tina-turbin/a/a12/61>

### Social Follow

<http://www.socialfollow.com/profiles/tina-turbin/>

### twitter

<http://twitter.com/tinaturbin>

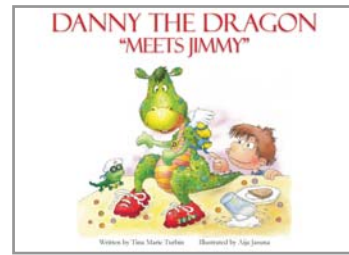
### YouTube

<http://www.youtube.com/user/tinaturbin>

<http://www.youtube.com/user/dannythedragon>

<http://www.youtube.com/user/glutenfreehelp>

# BOOK REVIEWS



- *Danny the Dragon* is a charming story about how one family handles surprises and acceptance. Beautifully illustrated, it is sure to delight both parent and child, making it a favorite book they will return to again and again.

**Susan Gilbert, author of *The Land of I Can***

- With its heart-warming and creative illustrations, *Danny the Dragon* communicates the character-building values of helping others, acceptance of the differences in each others' beliefs, and treating others as one would want to be treated. A great book to be enjoyed and shared with a child!

**Sue Snow, mother, president of Parenteen Solutions**

- I was very impressed with *Danny the Dragon* and the message that he helps promote of politeness and responsibility. Even my six-year-old son grasped this important message. Boys and girls in the primary grades will certainly take a quick liking to this set of friends!

**Stephen Billhardt, principal of Cunniff Elementary School (K-5<sup>th</sup>), Watertown, MA**

- *Danny the Dragon* harks back to a safer, friendlier, more magical space and time—the world as seen through the eyes of inquisitive children. The beautiful illustrations perfectly complement the story, which culminates in a satisfying “to be continued” ending. Who will Danny and Skipper meet next? I for one would like to find out.

**Frank Riemer, father, author of *Riding the Wave* (Pacifcan Books)**

- What a precious reading for both parents and children! *Danny the Dragon* stirs the curiosity in all of us. This story encourages children to explore their imagination and welcome new experiences.

**Angelina Musik, author of the 7 Steps to Believe and Achieve series, founder of MOMtrepreneurs Network**

- *Danny the Dragon* is a wonderfully original and enjoyable story. The illustrations are beautiful and filled with yummy detail. A great family book. I highly recommend it.

**Bodhi Elfman, father and actor**

- Sweet, charming, light and happy! Good reading.  
**Anita Livingston, mother** (also known as Dr. Anita Pepi)
- The precious simplicities of childhood are beautifully presented by story and illustration in Tina Turbin's *Danny the Dragon*. Danny and Skipper have so much more to tell us. No doubt, this is the beginning of a beautiful relationship that I'll love sharing with the children in my life.  
**Jan Meekoms, mother and executive**

**Renowned Author Judy Blume**  
Congratulates Author Tina Turbin



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- Contributions
- Cook Book
- cooking

**Renowned author Judy Blume congratulates author Tina Turbin**

July 31, 2009

I was thrilled to receive the following letter from multi-award winning, ground-breaking author Judy Blume – here it is to share with you:

"Thanks so much for your warm note and congratulations on getting your first book published! I'm touched by how well you remember my books. Readers like you have made my career, and I can never thank you enough. If you have a chance check out my blog and let me know what you think.

Love,  
Judy"

<http://www.dannythedragon.com/childrens-book/renowned-author-judy-blume-congratulates-author-tina-turbin/>

## Book Review of Danny the Dragon on USABookNews.com

### USA Book News

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## CHILDREN'S PICTURE BOOK SOFTCOVER FICTION

**DANNY THE DRAGON  
"MEETS JIMMY"**



**Danny the Dragon Meets Jimmy by Tina Turbin, Illustrated by Aki Jassano**

Danny's mannerisms are absolutely charming and appealing as he strolls through the pages meeting Jimmy's family and friends in the MOST unusual way, imparting his delightful acts of wisdom and kindness while Skipper continues to take notes in his traveling journal for future adventures. Where are they from? Why are they here? Where are they going? Danny and his little traveling companion, Skipper, are quite the adventuresome and fun duo. This children's book is for the young and young at heart. Written by Tina Turbin and illustrated by multi award winning artist Aki Jassano, this is the first story in the Danny series. Danny the Dragon Meets Jimmy is loaded with vivid illustrations and a captivating storyline, leaving anyone at any age with a smile on their face and that feel-good feeling. What other thrills will Jimmy experience with his new friend Danny and his traveling companion Skipper?

<http://www.usabooknews.com/childrensmainpage/picturebookpbfiction.html>

## Danny the Dragon Book Review on www.childrensbooksreviews.com

### CHILDRENS BOOKS REVIEWS

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By admin  
In Featured  
07/06/09 at 17:04  
0 Comments

#### Featured Children's Book: Danny the Dragon

"This series fulfills a passion of mine to delight children and their families with some magic, the spirit of fun and imagination, which I feel really should be preserved in every child at all stages."  
[Danny the Dragon](#) author [Tina Turbin](#)

**Praise for Danny the Dragon**  
I was very impressed with Danny the Dragon and the message that he helps promote of politeness and responsibility. Even my six-year-old son grasped this important message. Boys and girls in the primary grades will certainly take a quick liking to this set of friends!  
Stephen Elkhart, father  
Principal, Curwitt School, Watertown, MA  
(Kindergarten - Fifth Grade)

Tags: [book review](#), [children's books](#), [Danny the Dragon](#), [school](#), [Tina Turbin](#)

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<http://childrensbooksreviews.com/?p=8>

# TINA TURBIN

## FEATURED OR CONTRIBUTING WRITER

- **National Foundation for Celiac Awareness**

Tina Turbin is a monthly featured writer for the NFCA Newsletter featuring products reviews, recipes and articles every month.

[www.celiaccentral.org](http://www.celiaccentral.org)

- **National Association for Divorced Women and Children**

Tina Turbin is on their list of Professionals as the *Children's Literature Specialist* for help on successful education, resolving children's study troubles and all aspects of children's literature.

[www.NADWC.com](http://www.NADWC.com)

Article by Tina Turbin  
on BabyBoomerKnowledgeCenter.com



The information destination for the baby boomer generation  
**Baby Boomer [Knowledge Center]**™  
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**Senior Singles**  
Near You!



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Tuesday, July 21, 2009

**You Need to Keep Those Marriages “Sparked” after Retirement**

**You Need to Keep Those Marriages “Sparked” after Retirement**  
by Tina Turbin—Special Guest Contributor

Most baby boomers are planning to retire at some point in their life. So what are you going to do after the full work-a-day week is over? Many have plans to travel to those distant far away places always dreamed of, yet never time to go with their beloved ones, some swear they will sit and do nothing for awhile, some say more time alone and then there are those that just want to get out of the rut of their schedule.

If you are retiring, your schedule will no doubt be drastically different and you will find you and your spouse will have a lot more time to pick and choose your days and eves at will. At the same time you will find there is not the “space” you had from another as before. For example, you’re both home often and at the same time. This is new, this is unusual. Do you like it, or not. There is a lot of free time now, the kids are gone and what is there to do? What is fresh and new to talk about? Where is the excitement?

Divorce statistics for the over 50’s continue to rise steadily. It has been speculated that the most common triggers for this are: children leaving home or retirement. Couples start to feel they have nothing in common anymore and marriages that have lasted for 30 years or more are coming to an end. Don’t become another statistic.

<http://www.babyboomerknowledgecenter.com/search?q=tina+turbin>

## Article by Tina Turbin Printed in July/August 2009 Issue of Awareness Magazine



**Indigenous Women's Rights & Health Care**  
by Tina Turbin

Native American women were revered from their land many years ago and shared many rights of a woman. This reality was ignored and their rights to be properly educated, and to receive good health care concerning their health, family and broader issues did not exist.

The abuse Native American women received in the late 19th century was amplified for decades to come, but there was also a "Save the Babies" campaign from 1910-1918. This was when federal agents took children from their own homes, and placed many healthy women with the "boarding schools."

Statistics revealed that the Indian Health Service treated 25-50 percent of Native American women between 1870 and 1970. Complications subsequently led to a General Accounting Office investigation, demonstrating conditions which included mistreatment of babies.

These indigenous women began to come forward, and two years before the investigation in 1914, they protested the conditions of the boarding schools on their reservations where malnourished women, including women, had been deprived of the opportunity to be properly educated, and their own children were taken from them, with limited parental involvement and rights (to be studied before being so), and not allowing them the efforts would be permanent.

The good news about all this is the outcome of a book made for the indigenous women or female "Indigenous Women's Health Book, *Wichan the Sacred Circle*." This book was written and edited by indigenous women, and encourages its readers to get active and involved in their own health care. This beautiful book is like the all-too-familiar book, "Our Bodies, Ourselves."

The indigenous women have benefited from the information in this book for just under five years, and after so many years of abuse and treatment, the information has helped countless women to get to know their own bodies, their options and choices they can make. They are now more informed about their body, can walk into an office informed, can take charge, and know where to walk out.

The book contains many chapters of advice to help women in a variety of ways, yet up to the point, so one has to read to share the information with them. It covers babies and health studies, the conventional subject of smoking, and for the first time of Native American and Alaska Native women, along with a new chapter on the indigenous people as well as on the world. The book and information are very timely, and offers us our health as a result of the change has been one-updated.

We know that none of this might concern most, as we have health, health classes on Health Education, books, magazines and great resources that allow us to improve our lives. However, these women have not had this available and do not have rights to help educate them, so to help them have a better respect for us to respect her too.

With the help of some caring indigenous women and a book of a lot of research and writing, many indigenous women are learning to respect, healthier and able to go through life with their head high, understanding their own physiology.

This book is an author, researcher, lecturer and artist, the creator of a book, *Wichan the Sacred Circle*, author of children's book series, "Damsel in Distress," and a regular contributor to [www.Indigenous.com](http://www.Indigenous.com) and [www.KitiWhangarei.com](http://www.KitiWhangarei.com). Visit [www.KitiWhangarei.com](http://www.KitiWhangarei.com)

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[http://www.awarenessmag.com/julaug09/ja09\\_indigenous\\_womens.htm](http://www.awarenessmag.com/julaug09/ja09_indigenous_womens.htm)

## Gluten Free Yummies by Tina Turbin on MixingBowl.com

<http://www.mixingbowl.com/group/usergroup/view.castle?g=833881>



<http://www.celiac.com/blogs/152/Gluten-free-Lipstick.html>

Tina continues to write for other magazines journals and periodicals. Her articles can be seen throughout the Internet.

# QUOTES BY TINA

Tina's has many interests and enjoys sharing many of them through writing. She attributes the "spark and drive she has at every waking moment" to her three children and her own beliefs. Here are some replies by Tina Turbin.

## *How did you come up with the concept of Danny the Dragon?*

"This series fulfills a passion of mine to delight children and their families with some magic, true kindness, the spirit of fun, and imagination, which I feel really should be preserved in every child at all stages. I truly believe there is no reason the "flame of life" should burn out just because we grow older and have to take on more responsibilities."

## *What other things do you like to do?*

"I like to spend as much time as I can observing, gathering data, researching and writing ([www.TinaTurbin.com](http://www.TinaTurbin.com); [www.GlutenFreeHelp.Info](http://www.GlutenFreeHelp.Info)), and I love to develop recipes. I also love to draw and design and am a licensed decorator, so I am always playing around with fabrics and redesigning things for myself and friends. I totally enjoy being with my husband, my kids, and my genuine, upbeat friends. Oh, and I love swimming and Pilates too."

## *Will you continue to visit schools and libraries?*

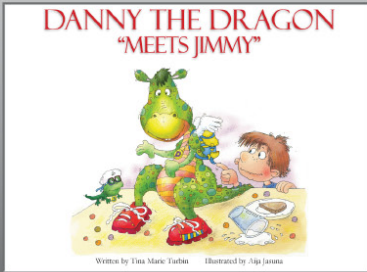
"Yes, along with visiting schools and libraries, I now visit hospitals and special needs schools where I can read " Danny the Dragon" to them. In fact I was honored to do a reading for a wonderful school for the blind while the entire group had an interpreter doing sign language. This is just another way I can be out there helping to put a smile on people's faces and lightening their hearts with some fun and imagination."

## *Why do you do what you do?*

"Many artists throughout history to present day have helped open my eyes to see the impact they have on others by sharing dreams, visions and desires through some aspect of the Arts. In my "Danny the Dragon" series, I am sharing just one of my 'fantasies and dreams.' As an author, I get to take my readers to places they may not have dreamed of while getting to know characters they have not yet met. Life to me is exciting with endless interests and unlimited possibilities. I truly believe this!"



# Imagination Publishing Group



# MEDIA & MEDIA INTERVIEWS

- **GUEST SPEAKER TINA TURBIN ON RADIO SHOW SINGLE AGAIN! NOW WHAT?**

"50% OF THE NATIONS' UNEMPLOYED YOUTH AGE 16-21 ARE FUNCTIONALLY ILLITERATE."

<http://tinaturbin.com/r/?4>

Tina Turbin—children's author of the *Danny the Dragon* series, writer, humanitarian and researcher—revealed an in-depth look at the subjects of children's literature, the home environment and the role of parenting, and provided as well proven solutions to successfully turn the raising of our children in our favor.

- **TINA TURBIN FEATURED ON THE GARDEN OF THE SOUL RADIO SHOW**

"CREATING A BRIGHT FUTURE THROUGH CHILDREN'S LITERATURE"

<http://tinaturbin.com/r/?2>

Lynn Serafinn, host of the *Garden of the Soul* radio show, recently had the pleasure of interviewing two children's authors—and Tina Turbin was one of them. During a highly insightful program, the discussion included the focus of Tina's *Danny the Dragon* book series: mainly to inspire simple values of kindness and friendliness in children, as well as healthy eating and dietary awareness. Many other important topics were also explored, such as the ways in which authors, parents and teachers can use literature to spark positive change in our children, despite a media-saturated society.

- **ARTHUR FROMMER TRAVEL SHOW AND TINA TURBIN**

SYNDICATED TO OVER 100 STATIONS ACROSS THE UNITED STATES WITH 13 MILLION LISTENERS

On WOR News Talk Radio 710, Pauline Frommer (daughter of renowned travel authority Arthur Frommer) broadly congratulated Tina Turbin for her success and progress with her *Danny the Dragon* 2009 East Coast Book Tour.

- **THE BURBANK LEADER**

LIVING: "STEPPING INTO THE SPOTLIGHT"

BY KEVIN SMITH    PHOTOS: BONNIE BURROW

Tina Turbin was interviewed and featured in the Living section of the *Burbank Leader* newspaper (CA) for her instrumental efforts to help children in Arts and Entertainment in the Los Angeles area. Tina made it known she would be expanding her endeavors by sharing her views internationally, helping to strip away the falsehoods surrounding the Arts and kids' involvement in this creative medium. She stresses that with the right tools and drive, anyone can succeed. Tina has since written her three-times-published *Show Biz Kids East Coast Guidebook*, Imagination Publishing [www.showbizkidsbook.com](http://www.showbizkidsbook.com)

# COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

## Book Reading-Shriners Hospital



### Author Tina Turbin Visits Shriners Hospital

To my surprise, most of the kids I visited last week at Shriners Hospitals for Children in Tampa had flown in from all over the world for the intimate care given at Shriners. The hospital caters to kids under 18 and accepts no payment from parents or insurance companies, with all their money being raised by donations and the hard work of the Shriners.

I read my Danny the Dragon Meets Jimmy book and followed this with some creative time between just the children and me. Well, to my surprise, they eagerly wanted to make a "combined-efforts book," as a companion for Danny. I left with a new work, created by us all, which will sit in the Shriners personal library in Tampa, Florida. The name of our new book: Danny and Friends.

It was an amazing day, to say the least. The knowledge I gained afterwards from an eye-opening tour truly expanded my awareness of the various ways in which the Shriners tend to the needs of children. I went back to my studio to delve into the history of the Shriners in order to satisfy my lingering curiosity, and discovered one of my grandfathers was a Shriner. This enables me to be a Daughter of the Nile, which means I am able to join their forces to help. I am undergoing that process now and I hope to be admitted in January 2010.

[www.DannyTheDragon.com](http://www.DannyTheDragon.com)



# A Very Special Story Time

## Blossoms Montessori School for the Deaf



While doing research on children's literature and its effects on literacy and education, author Tina Turbin stumbled upon some startling facts and an amazing school addressing the poor statistics of deaf student graduates.

Tina contacted the Blossoms Montessori School for the Deaf and was invited to do a reading of her book *Danny the Dragon* to the students, some of whom were deaf and some of whom had deaf siblings or parents. One teacher sat near Tina so that the kids could read the teacher's highly animated sign language while the children fixed their eyes on the incredible illustrations of the book, page by page.

Tina has been invited back to the school and is doing a video of her book being read and signed, enabling other young deaf children in the country to enjoy the story.

This video will be used to help promote education and literacy for the deaf, the two Montessori Schools for the Deaf in the country, and Tina's continuing support for this cause.

While reading Tina's book, one young deaf girl visiting the school for the day was quite shy, so Tina offered to have her be a helper by changing the book pages. This made the child's day, and after that, all the kids wanted to be near Tina.

[www.DannyTheDragon.com](http://www.DannyTheDragon.com)



# 2009–Danny the Dragon Hits the Book Fairs!

This year alone Danny the Dragon has traveled all over the world, as well as completing an East Coast Book Tour with the author, Tina Turbin.

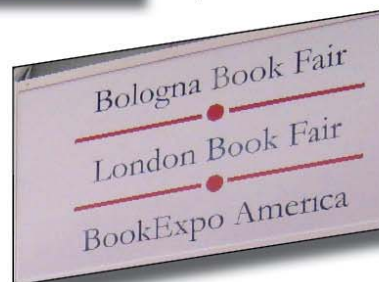
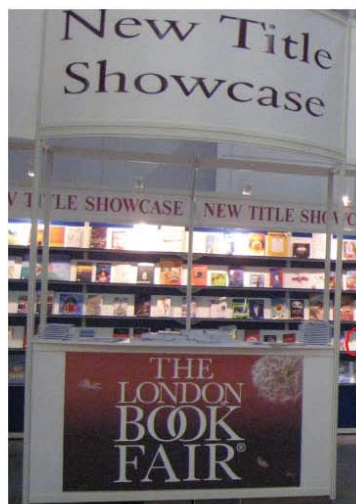
The book is making headway and this year is in two displays at the Frankfurt Book Fair. Tina plans to head to Germany to get in on the action.

“I feel I want to be part of all this. To have my book in TWO displays at the largest book fair there is, is an honor and I do not want to miss any opportunities or the excitement going on there.”

Book fairs are an integral part of an author’s agenda in making a book

more known. Tina has had her book in a number of the top fairs and has had several wonderful opportunities and met some marvelous people.

“I love to write and I love my books and creating my characters. I really enjoy all of what I do as an author and everything that goes into it. It is a lot of work and well worth it, to me.”



# Goddess in the Garden



Another Donation  
by Tina Turbin



A benefit for the Blossom Montessori School for the Deaf, Goddesses in the Garden featured a luncheon and fashion show hosted by Sr. Advisor Dick Crippen of the Tampa Bay Rays. This lovely event took place under a canopy of trees and beautiful foliage. Women were invited to take part in a wine tasting, a tarot card reading, a silent auction and a delicious meal, and could enjoy as well the luxury of sitting in a massage chair.

**Supporters included many local businesses,  
author Tina Turbin and the Rays Baseball Team.**

"I visited the Montessori School for the Deaf prior to this fund-raiser and was struck by the strong purpose of the Director of Development, Maria Kadau, in helping families with deaf children or deaf parents. This school addresses educating these kids head on, turning poor literacy statistics around so that the children are a benefit to themselves and society. How could I not support that!"



# Book Reading at Spring Valley School



"Tina, I was driving the boys to school this morning and Bodhi (my four-year-old) said, 'Mommy, did you know that dinosaurs don't have boots?' Then about a minute later he said, 'Not like Danny the Dragon; he does have boots. Dragons does have boots.'"

This letter was sent to author Tina Turbin by one of the parents three months after her reading at Spring Valley School.

Tina Turbin was warmly received at the Spring Valley School in Palm Harbor, Florida, by teachers and students alike. The children were wide-eyed at the reading and eagerly offered to be involved in a video for a future edit of book responses from kids.

Tina ended the day with a question-and-answer period, along with gifts from Danny of stickers and bookmarks, encouraging all the students to keep reading. She was delighted at the many children interested in the evolution of her characters as well as the intelligent questions about the development of a book from concept to finish.

While leaving, Tina was guided by one teacher to a young student in the corner taking his new Danny stickers and covering up his previous favorite character, Sponge Bob, with his new favorite character, Danny the Dragon.

[www.DannyTheDragon.com](http://www.DannyTheDragon.com)



# Tina Turbin Invited to Gulfport Library



## Author Tina Turbin Reads Her *Danny the Dragon* Book

Tina was delighted to be invited to the Gulfport Library, where she was welcomed by smiling kids and parents waiting in anticipation for her to read *Danny the Dragon*, the first in her children's series.

After the reading, Tina was entertained by a hand-puppet show the children had prepared for her.

Tina left with a handful of flowers, gifted to her for the wonderful smiles she had brought to the children's faces.

"Tina is coming back," if the kids have their say-so."

[www.DannyTheDragon.com](http://www.DannyTheDragon.com)

# Booths at Libraries



**Tina Turbin's books  
can be found on display  
at numerous libraries  
throughout the world.**

# Author, Tina Turbin Visits St. Joseph's Hospital



Author Tina Turbin teamed up with Borders Books for a Children's Book Day at St Joseph's Children's Hospital, to raise the spirits of children under care for numerous reasons.

Tina spoke to the children, staff and parents and then read her delightful and charming book *Danny the Dragon Meets Jimmy*, which brightened the tone of the atmosphere, while passers-by had to stop and listen.

Afterwards, Tina donated one of the pieces of furniture from her private design line (she is also a licensed decorator) for an auction conducted by St. Joseph's to raise money for maintaining the children's and women's hospitals. Borders Books generously provided a table of books to give away to the kids. The day's activities lifted the spirits of all who were present.

[www.DannyTheDragon.com](http://www.DannyTheDragon.com)



# Book Reading at Pinellas County Library



The Tampa Bay Rays along with Pinellas County Libraries and author Tina Turbin held a jam-packed event at the Pinellas Park Public Library.

“Just looking out at all these kids sitting and standing with rapt attention was a wonderful experience. The room was packed but their eyes were wide and their ears were open to everything I was saying in reply to their questions---and of course to the reading. I ended the day with a creative drawing game, which they all participated in, and we had a delightful afternoon. I am definitely going back and really enjoy working with the libraries a lot. Librarians have quite a role in life and I want to help them as well.”

The Tampa Bay Rays support a popular summer program to encourage reading, along with providing child-friendly games and contests. Tina Turbin has been involved in a number of these activities in various libraries, and this particular library is one of her favorites.



# ALTRUSA INTERNATIONAL CHOSE DANNY THE DRAGON



May 12, 2009

Dear Ms. Turbin,

My Altrusa group has chosen *Danny the Dragon* to read to the children at the first birthday party we are giving in July for the kids who reside at the YWCA Family Village apartments in Redmond. This is a transitional housing facility that provides lodging for homeless families for 18 months or until they can get on their feet and find a permanent residence. Each time an apartment turns over, we go in and refurnish and restock the apartment for the new family.

The birthday party project is new for us and I am co-chair of this project with my friend Nancy. We will have a party each month for all the children who have birthdays and will provide cake, beverages, and—as part of our focus on literacy—a story and a book for the kids who are celebrating their birthdays, although all children at the apartment complex will be invited.

I am pleased to share with you our choice of story to read at this first ever event: your book *Danny the Dragon*. I read your book when it first came out on the Internet and cannot think of a better story to read to these lovely children.

My group is Altrusa International, Inc., of Lake Washington East. Altrusa was formed in 1917 and is an international organization. The name *Altrusa* is derived from the word *altruism*, which means to do good things, etc. Our community services projects are all on the east side of Lake Washington.

Sincerely,

Sylvia Lang

## Tina Turbin Unites with Top Players in the Health Food Industry

Tina Turbin hosted and hired a film crew at a gluten-free cupcake baking and decorating party to raise awareness for celiac disease. One of the nation's top gluten-free companies, Pamela's Products, along with the National Foundation for Celiac Awareness (NFCA) is backing up Tina's efforts with a vengeance and all money raised from this event went to the NFCA.

Pamela's supplied all the baked goods and the NFCA asked Tina to be a contributing writer for their monthly newsletter, which goes out to thousands. Tina accepted this offer and submitted her first article immediately.

Nature's Food Patch, a large health food store in Clearwater, Florida, supplied goody bags to all the families attending this event in

addition to assisting in its broad promotion, along with the local major newspapers.

The marketing director for Whole Foods of Tampa Bay generously offered to supply additional items for the event as well as for Tina's future videos, which are all



to help increase awareness of celiac disease and gluten intolerance.

The party was a success and many children and families came to support the cause and to bake, decorate and eat delicious gluten-free cupcakes. Tina recalls, "It was just a real fun day with wonderful families and a delicious ending."

Tina eats gluten-free due to

a sensitivity she has to this "protein molecule" found in particular grains, and she promotes her *Danny the Dragon* character as eating healthy; hence the saying *Danny the Dragon Eats Healthy and his Author, Tina Turbin, Eats Gluten-Free.*

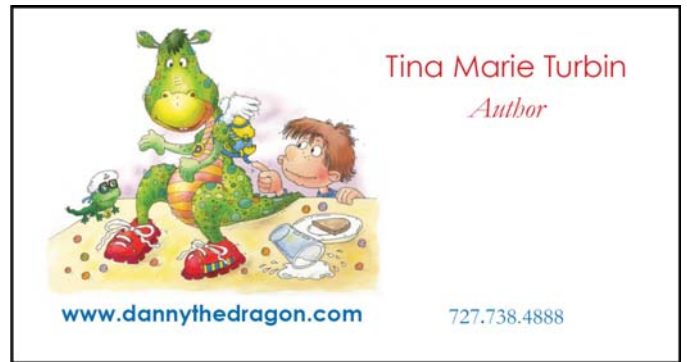
These two names, *Danny the Dragon* and Tina Turbin, are becoming quite well known in the health food and gluten-free industry.



Tina Turbin

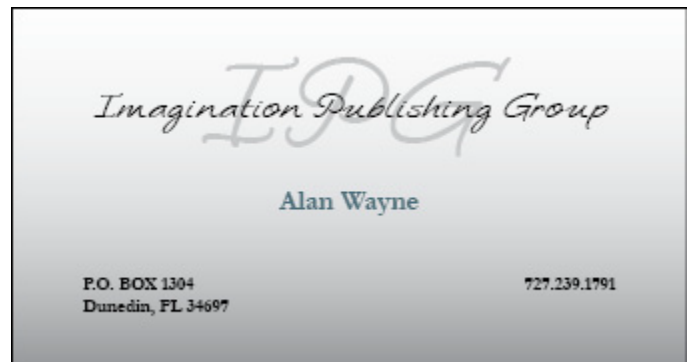


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