

NEWS RELEASE

## **Massachusetts Man with Autism ‘Shoots for the Stars’ with New Children’s Book**

Reece Arnold’s book, *Mike’s Big Space Adventure*, launches the young writer into a new creative universe

**Fairhaven, MA, Wednesday, December 4, 2019** - *Mike’s Big Space Adventure* tells the story of a young boy who loves astronomy. One night, he dreams that he becomes a shooting star and travels through different galaxies in space, meeting new friends – and getting into some scary situations – but having a wonderful adventure along the way.

The newly published book, for ages 3 through 10, is poised to make its young Massachusetts author a shooting star himself in the highly competitive universe of children’s literature.

Reece Arnold is a dynamic, highly creative young man with interests in music, writing, and inventing. Fascinated by space since a young age, Arnold used his vivid imagination to create the many interesting friends the book’s main character, Mike, makes along his intergalactic journey. He created the storyline and art concepts on his own and then worked diligently with local artist and illustrator, Sandra Hall, to bring the pages to life. The book also includes an educational insert with interesting space facts.

While *Mike’s Big Space Adventure* is Arnold’s first foray into children’s book publishing, he already has a successful track record of applying his creative talents and determination in many different ways. Arnold started his own company, Reece-Cycled Fun!, with his mother, to market two mind-bending board games he created, ‘8 All-In’ and ‘Number Kruncher.’ A portion of the proceeds from Reece’s products, including book sales, benefit autism related charities.

“My goal is to inspire other people with autism and those with challenges to follow their dreams and reach for the stars,” says Arnold.

The motivation to start his own company was fueled not only by passion, but out of necessity as well. Despite his many accomplishments, Arnold, like many young adults with autism, continues to struggle to find high quality employment opportunities. Although he is a highly creative thinker with excellent computer skills and experience editing music and video, his autism does impact his ‘soft skills’ and speech pattern, making it difficult to compete for jobs in the traditional labor market.

“Good jobs for people with autism are really hard to find,” says Arnold. “I’ve had to create my own ways to earn a living. While I love inventing and writing, it can be frustrating to not have a steady job. I’m smart and creative and have valuable skills, I just need the chance to prove it.”

Arnold holds a Master Certificate in Orchestration for Film and TV from Berklee College of Music’s online program. In 2014, he was featured on WCVB’s Chronicle – *Living (and Thriving) with Autism – His Language is Music*. This segment was nominated for a New England Emmy Award by the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences Boston/New England.

He also plays the piano for music therapy for disabled adults and seniors at facilities near his home in southeastern Massachusetts.

### **Where to Buy:**

The 32-page, 10”x 8” hard cover book with full color illustrations is available for purchase (\$19.95) at <https://reececycledfun.com/>.

### **Downloads:**

Cover Art: <https://reececycledfun.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/Mikes-Big-Space-Adventure-cover.jpg>

Author’s Photo: <https://reececycledfun.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/Reece-and-book.jpg>

## **Upcoming 'Meet the Author' and Book Signing Events:**

### December 7 & 8

The Holiday Barn Sale  
775 Horseneck Road  
Westport, MA  
10 am – 4 pm

### December 14

Holiday Book Sale at The Millicent Library Auditorium  
(Part of the Old Time Holiday Celebration)  
45 Center St,  
Fairhaven, MA 02719  
9:30 am to 2:00 pm

### December 28

HMEA's Autism Resource Central  
712 Plantation Street  
Worcester, MA  
1 pm

## **About the Illustrator**

Illustrator Sandra Hall is a painter and printmaker. She is a graduate of UMASS Dartmouth with a bachelor of fine arts in painting and has completed advanced work in silk-screen printing, intaglio etching, and stone lithography. She has written and illustrated two books, "Home is the Starting Place," and "The Mouse on the Catboat." Sandra lives on the shore of Buzzards Bay and can be contacted at [saltworksstudio@comcast.net](mailto:saltworksstudio@comcast.net).

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## **FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO SCHEDULE AN EVENT WITH THE AUTHOR:**

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