



## Grace for President

By Kelly DiPucchio

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**Grace for President** By Kelly DiPucchio

"Where are the girls?"

When Grace's teacher reveals that the United States has never had a female president, Grace decides to be the first. And she immediately starts off her political career as a candidate the school's mock election!

Author Kelly DiPucchio not only gives readers a fun introduction to the American electoral system, but also teaches them the value of hard work, courage, and independent thought--and offers an inspiring example of how to choose our leaders.

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### Editorial Review

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DiPucchio and Pham are game gals. Explaining the electoral system to adults isn't easy, but they make it understandable to kids. When Mrs. Barrington shows her class pictures of the presidents, energetic African American Grace asks, "Where are the girls?" Responding to Grace's shock, Mrs. Barrington arranges for an election in which Grace runs against Tom, with each of the remaining students in the multiethnic class representing a state. It looks like popular Tom will win since the boys have the most electoral votes, so Tom just sits back while Grace advances campaign promises. When the votes are counted, Sam, representing Wyoming (where the first woman was elected to the House), throws the winning votes to Grace, because he "thought she was the best person for the job." The attractive paint-and-collage art captures the excitement of the race in layouts as diverse as the kids. However, there's one big problem in the author's note, which explains why individuals should vote even if they are not electing directly: "It's those individual votes from regular people that add up to become the popular vote in each state." The concept of larger versus smaller states isn't really explained, leaving the idea that the winner of the popular vote will be president. As Al Gore knows, that's not true. Grades 1-3. --Ilene Cooper

#### About the Author

Kelly DiPucchio ([www.kellydipucchio.com](http://www.kellydipucchio.com)) has written several children's picture books including the *New York Times* bestseller *Grace for President*, *Bed Hogs*, *Liberty's Journey*, and *Mrs. McBloom, Clean Up Your Classroom!* A graduate of Michigan State University, Kelly lives in southern Michigan with her husband and three children.

LeUyen Pham (<http://www.leuyenpham.com>) is the prolific and bestselling illustrator of many books for children, including *Grace for President* by Kelly DiPucchio, *Freckleface Strawberry* by Julianne Moore and *God's Dream* by Archbishop Desmond Tutu. Pham has also written and illustrated her own works, including *All the Things I Love About You* and *Big Sister, Little Sister*. A former animator for Dreamworks, she lives with her husband and two sons in San Francisco

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##### **Daniel Hendrix:**

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**Margaret Hall:**

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