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CHRONICLE BOOKS

Chronicle Books Partners with Wildlife Conservation Society To Help Kids Say *Hello Hello* to Endangered Animals

(San Francisco – April 16, 2018) Chronicle Books announced a partnership with the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) that will help introduce young readers and budding conservationists to endangered animals.

Chronicle Books will make a donation of \$25,000 to WCS in honor of Caldecott-honoree Brendan Wenzel's acclaimed new picture book *Hello Hello*.

Hello Hello showcases species classified as endangered, vulnerable and threatened from around the world and beautifully demonstrates how the earth's creatures are connected. *Hello Hello* has been described by the *New York Times* as, "spreading its arms wide, introducing the staggering range of species that share the earth" and lauded by the *Wall Street Journal* as "a subtle exhortation to notice the beauty and variety of animals, especially rare and endangered ones."

WCS will distribute copies of *Hello Hello* to child readers during WCS Education programs at each of their five wildlife parks in New York City: the Bronx Zoo, Prospect Park Zoo, Queens Zoo, Central Park Zoo and The New York Aquarium.

Hello Hello author and illustrator Brendan Wenzel is an avid and active conservationist and long-time supporter of WCS. His brilliant murals are featured at the Children's Zoo at the Bronx Zoo.

"The care and attention WCS takes to capture every detail of the tropical forests, savannas and mountaintops in their exhibits has virtually transported me to far off places since I first began visiting the Bronx Zoo as a child. It was where I fell in love with wild animals, and became curious about the places they live, and about the larger world," said *Hello Hello* author Brendan Wenzel, "The same care, attention to detail and integrity are also alive and well at Chronicle Books, and like WCS, they offer a vision of a kinder world, and practice the values they champion. It is one of the reasons the partnership of these two groups for the release of *Hello Hello* means so much to me."

Chronicle Books Executive Publishing Director Ginee Seo said, "I can't imagine a more perfect way to celebrate the publication of *Hello Hello* than with this partnership. The respect, joy, and wonder with which WCS approaches nature is evident in everything they do, and is very much at the heart of Brendan's work as well. I'm especially thrilled that we're in a position to help WCS inspire a love of nature in children with an artist who was himself inspired by them as a child—it's a beautiful circle of creativity."

"WCS is grateful to Chronicle Books and Brendan Wenzel for supporting our mission to save wildlife and wild places worldwide," said Jim Breheny, WCS Executive Vice President and General Director of WCS Zoos and Aquarium. "Through our five wildlife parks in New York City, WCS helps establish lifelong connections between people and nature, motivating our visitors to become stewards of the planet."

About Chronicle Books: One of the most admired and respected publishing companies in the U.S., Chronicle Books was founded in 1967 and over the years has developed a reputation for award-winning, innovative books. Recognized as one of the 50 best small companies to work for in the U.S. (and the only independent publisher to receive this award), the company continues to challenge conventional publishing wisdom, setting trends in both subject and format, maintaining a list that includes illustrated titles in design, art, architecture, photography, food, lifestyle and pop culture, as well as much-admired books for children and ancillary products through its gift division. Chronicle Books' objective is to create and distribute exceptional publishing that's instantly recognizable for its spirit, creativity, and value. For more information about Chronicle Books, visit chroniclekids.com.

About WCS (Wildlife Conservation Society): WCS saves wildlife and wild places worldwide through science, conservation action, education, and inspiring people to value nature. To achieve our mission, WCS, based at the Bronx Zoo, harnesses the power of its Global Conservation Program in nearly 60 nations and in all the world's oceans and its five wildlife parks in New York City, visited by 4 million people annually. WCS combines its expertise in the field, zoos, and aquarium to achieve its conservation mission. Visit: newsroom.wcs.org. Follow: @WCSNewsroom. For more information: 347-840-1242.

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