FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

"The Magic of Writing & Publishing Award Winning Children's Books" is the topic for the July meeting of the Ventura County Writers Club

Author Amada Irma Perez will discuss topic and unveil her latest book on writing

(Ventura, CA – June 16, 2011) What motivates a person to write and publish a children's book? What are the tips and tricks to start writing? At the July 12th meeting of the Ventura County Writers Club (VCWC), this will be discussed by award-winning author Amada Irma Perez. Ms. Perez has written three children's books, all award winning and written in Spanish and English versions. Her books are *My Very Own Room/Mi propio cuartito; My Diary from Here to There/Mi diario de aquí hasta allá*, and *Nana's Big Surprise/Nana !Que sorpresa!* All are illustrated by Maya Christina Gonzalez and published by Children's Book Press.

Ms Perez mentor, Sandra Cisneros (*House on Mango Street, Caramelo*) nominated *My Very Own Room* to the "born to read program" in Texas. Consequently, 25,000 newborns received a copy as their first book when they went home from the hospital in San Antonio, Texas in 2004.

"Children need to enjoy reading, develop a love of reading and writing to advance in the world," said Ms. Perez. "Watching young faces light up when they understand the story, to hear their laughter, brings me happiness. How to write stories that evoke those emotions takes craft. Great childrens' books are written by adults who understand the innocence and curiosity of the young mind."

Ms Perez was commissioned by Pearson Education to write a big book for preschoolers in 2009, so *Desert Quails Hit Jungle Trails* and *Del Desierto a la Jungla* were born in 2010. Her latest book, *My Handy Writing Book: A New, Fun & Easy Way to Write Stories* will be unveiled at the VCWC meeting.

In addition to writing, she is a bilingual educator, consultant, keynote and motivational speaker. Her talks include humorous excerpts from her books and the story of her life from an immigrant, to an educator, to published author. Ms. Perez speaks at national and international conferences and has made inspirational presentations in Mexico, Europe, Asia and Africa to diverse audiences of students, teachers, parents, businesses and community organizations, where she teaches important writing skills and craft techniques. For cultural events, she dresses in colorful and festive traditional Latin American costumes to become a living part of the celebration.

The opening speaker is Barbara Piszczek, the VCWC's Technology Information Administrator. Ms. Piszczek will walk audience members through the process of how to make the most out of VCWC's new website and how to set up a profile. She will discuss how to use the Consultants page, how to navigate in

the Forum, how to access contest updates and how to find writing resources. The site was designed to expand members' abilities to learn more about writing and have a great resource when searching for answers.

The meeting will begin promptly at 7 PM at the club's new meeting place, the Pleasant Valley Senior Center in Camarillo. The public is welcomed to all meetings, which are free.

CALENDAR INFORMATION

July Meeting of the Ventura County Writers Club
July 12, 7 PM
Pleasant Valley Senior Center,
1605 Burnley St, Camarillo, CA
Guest speakers: Amada Irma Perez and Barbara Piszczek
Open to Members and non-members. No fee.

For more information on the Ventura County Writers Club, visit: http://www.venturacountywriters.com/

About Ventura County Writers Club

Since its formation in 1933 with four members in Ojai, the club has grown to more than 175 members and holds regular monthly general membership meetings. Members may attend, free of charge, a variety of Writers Workshops, groups that meet one or more times a month throughout the county to read and critique manuscripts and discuss many aspects of the business of writing. Monthly meetings are open to all interested writers and are held the second Tuesday of each month (except December).

For more information, contact: Kathleen Kaiser, 805-524-6970, Kathleen@KathleenKaiser.com