



Greenville County **Museum of Art**

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News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: GCMA Exhibition Highlights Work by Children's Illustrator Raúl Colón

Greenville, SC-- As a youngster, award-winning illustrator and artist Raul Colón suffered ill health, and today, he attributes part of his success to the time he spent cooped up at home. *"As a child I had chronic asthma and would frequently be so ill that I could not leave the house for days or even weeks at a time. But all those times I spent locked up inside, I spent filling up dozens of composition notebooks with all kinds of drawings. I even tried to write my own comic books.... So my illness as a child, which kept me from going outside to play, became a blessing."* Colón's work is the subject of the exhibition *Tall Tales + Huge Hearts: Raúl Colón*, which is now on view at the Greenville County Museum of Art.

As a young boy, Raúl Colón (born 1952) moved with his family from New York City to Puerto Rico. In 1978, Colón returned to the U.S. and settled in Florida, where he worked at an educational television station, designing everything from puppets to animated films. A decade later, Colón established himself as a freelance illustrator in New York City. He has received numerous awards, including a Golden Kite Award and a gold medal in the Society of Illustrators' Original Art exhibition.

Colón combines watercolor painting, etching, and drawing techniques to create vivid colors and rich textures. Featuring 68 works of art from such popular books as *Tomas and the Library Lady* and *The New York Times* bestseller *Angela and the Baby Jesus*, this exhibition invites both young and young at heart to explore themes of family, freedom, and heritage. The exhibition was organized by the National Center for Children's Illustrated Literature in Abilene, Texas.

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Raúl Colón will visit the GCMA the weekend of November 8 & 9 for a gallery talk and two free family workshops.

Tall Tales + Huge Hearts: Raúl Colón is on view at the Greenville County Museum of Art through December 28. The Greenville County Museum of Art is located in the center of downtown Greenville's cultural campus, Heritage Green, at 420 College Street. The GCMA is open Wednesday through Saturday from 10 am until 6 pm and on Sundays from 1 pm until 5 pm. Admission is free.

Related events:

Saturday, Nov 8

Family Workshops with Raúl Colón at 11 am or 2 pm*

Participants will have the chance to work closely with children's book illustrator Raúl Colón to learn about and experiment with his techniques using watercolor and colored pencils. Recommended for ages 8 and up.

This workshop is free and space is limited. Visit gcma.org/events to register, or call 864.546.4065. *The 2 pm session is offered in both English and Spanish.

Sunday, Nov 9 2 pm

Sundays at 2: Gallery Talk with Raúl Colón

Join illustrator Raúl Colón as he discusses his path to becoming a professional illustrator and what inspires his innovative work for young audiences. Come early or stay late for book signing. Sundays at 2 events are free and are presented by Duke Energy.