

## SIGNING TIME! AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE DVD SERIES WINS UTAH'S 2006 BEST OF STATE AWARD

**Salt Lake City, UT – June 22, 2006** – Two Little Hands Productions received Utah's 2006 Best of State Award in the Instructional/Corporate Video category for their children's home video series, *Signing Time!.* 

The 2006 Best of State Awards were created to recognize outstanding individuals, organizations, and businesses in Utah. Medals will be awarded at the annual black-tie gala on Saturday, June 24<sup>th</sup> at the Salt Palace Convention Center Ballroom, Salt Lake City. More information is available at <u>www.bestofstate.org</u>.

With an unparalleled multi-sensory approach *Signing Time!* reaches children with diverse learning styles (auditory, visual, spatial, and tactile) and abilities by encouraging interaction through signing, singing, and speaking. Featuring Rachel Coleman, her daughter Leah (who is deaf), along with Alex (Leah's cousin, who can hear), and their animated pet frog Hopkins, the *Signing Time!* series teaches hundreds of American Sign Language (ASL) vocabulary-building signs that are useful in daily life. *Signing Time!* is currently being aired on several public television stations across the country and is also offered as a DVD/VHS series.

As early as nine months, hearing babies and toddlers can learn to communicate through sign. Research shows that children who learn to sign may experience reduced frustrations, fewer tantrums, enhanced cognitive development, higher IQ scores, increased bonding with parents, greater interest in books, and quicker development of speaking, spelling, and reading skills.

"We are proud to be recognized locally for our work," said Rachel Coleman, co-founder of Two Little Hands Productions. "We are touched that our own community acknowledges what our *Signing Time!* program is doing for children everywhere."

The revolutionary ASL program recently released four new titles - *My Day*, *My Neighborhood*, *Time to Eat*, and *Welcome to School* – for a total of 13 DVD and video titles.

## About Two Little Hands Productions

Two Little Hands Productions is the company that produces and distributes *Signing Time!*, a captivating and entertaining sign language public television and home video series that specifically targets children who are just learning how to speak, as well as

children with special needs. *Signing Time!* makes learning American Sign Language easy and fun for all children.

Formed in the spring of 2002 by two sisters, Two Little Hands Productions was created and the first Signing Time video, *My First Signs*, was released. Other titles in the series include *Playtime Signs*, *Everyday Signs*, *Family*, *Feelings & Fun*, *ABCs*, *My Favorite Things*, *Leah's Farm*, *The Great Outdoors*, *The Zoo Train*, *My Day*, *My Neighborhood*, *Time to Eat*, and *Welcome to School*. In addition to the home video collection, the company has released three board books - *My First Signs*, *Playtime Signs*, and *Everyday Signs* - to reinforce the lessons learned in the videos. Two Little Hands' mission is to empower all children to communicate with sign language, regardless of ability. Two Little Hands Productions is located in Salt Lake City, Utah.

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