



OCEAN COUNTY LIBRARY

Connecting People ... Building Community...Transforming Lives

101 Washington St., Toms River, NJ 08753-7625

Telephone: 732-349-6200

www.theoceancountylibrary.org

Susan Quinn, Director

Oct. 1, 2015

PRESS RELEASE

WHAT: Showcase of Artist, Daimon Santa Maria

WHERE: Toms River Branch, 101 Washington St.

WHEN: 7 p.m. Monday Oct. 12

CONTACT: Bob Vosseller, 732-349-6200, ext. 5909
rvosseller@theoceancountylibrary.org

Halloween safety guide to be showcased at artist reception

TOMS RIVER – When he's not working as a forensic sketch artist in the Ocean County Sheriff's Office, Daimon Santa Maria writes and illustrates children's books.

The artist's work will be showcased during a reception at 7 p.m. Monday, Oct. 12th at the Toms River Branch; 101 Washington St. Santa Maria will present his newest project, an illustrated Halloween safety guide called "Don't Go Alone."

"Children have to follow so many rules and precautions these days that I wanted to take out all of the discipline from Halloween and just make it more about having fun," Santa Maria said. "It's nice to have that one day out of the year where a community can actually get outside and go door to door to be friendly with neighbors in person."

Santa Maria said his exhibit is more about setting some basic guidelines than enforcing rules. "I have 28 years of Halloween experience under my belt and the 13 guidelines that I have included in "Don't Go Alone" will work. If applied properly, they will provide a good night of trick or treating and more fun than ever thought possible," Santa Maria said.

"My line of work has influenced "Don't Go Alone" but by no means is this exhibit an extension of what I do for the Sheriff's Office. Working for the Crime Scene Unit of our Ocean County Sheriff's Office I see things that are scary, Halloween is not one of them," Santa Maria said.

The author will also read from two of his children's books, "You Can't Scare an Alligator" and "Monkey Can't Sleep" during the program. His books will be available for purchase and signing.

The police sketches I do for the Sheriff's Office are very serious so writing and illustrating children's books is my way of balancing out my creativity," Santa Maria said.

This family program is free, but registration is required. To register telephone the Toms River branch 732-349-6200 or 609-971-0514 or go to the library website:

www.theoceancountylibrary.org , click on the "Events & News" icon, then click on "Calendar of Events."