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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Janna Morishima launches Janna Co., a literary and illustration agency**

### **Specializing in children's and YA graphic novelists and visual storytellers, the new agency targets a hot category**

**Metuchen, NJ. For Immediate Release** - Today, Janna Morishima announced the formation of her new literary and illustration agency, focusing on children's graphic novels and visual storytelling.

"This is the culmination of many years in children's book and graphic novel publishing, entrepreneurship, and creative business management. My heart tells me it's the perfect time to bring together these disparate parts of my career in support of the authors, artists, and industry I love," Morishima says.

### **A children's graphic novel veteran looks to the future**

Morishima began her career in publishing in 2002 as the assistant to creative director David Saylor at Scholastic. Two years later, she co-founded the Graphix imprint with Saylor and editor Sheila Keenan, and helped to bring Raina Telgemeier and Jeff Smith's *BONE* to the inaugural list. In 2007, she left Scholastic to helm the Kids Group at Diamond Book Distributors, where she worked with publishers like Marvel, Oni, Image, and Dark Horse, and helped launch Francoise Mouly's Toon Books.

Morishima recently announced two new book deals: ***Ain't Gonna Let Nobody Turn Me 'Round***, an illustrated chapter book memoir by activist and debut author Kathlyn Kirkwood, signed by Erika Turner at the Versify imprint at HMHCo.; and ***Bounce Back***, a graphic novel by manga artist Misako Rocks!, signed by Liz Szabla of Feiwel and Friends at Macmillan. Both books are slated for release in Fall 2021.

She currently represents 22 artists, authors, and production studios from across the comics and children's publishing landscape.

“As much as the graphic novel industry has grown over the past decade,” Morishima observes, “it has the potential to grow as much or even more over the next 10 years. We are seeing more and more different types of stories told in comics format, and at the same time, comics easily cross entertainment media boundaries and are impacting publishing, animation, gaming, and technology alike. Most importantly, we can see the tremendous fan enthusiasm for the form in the seemingly unstoppable growth of comics conventions and festivals aimed at every niche audience imaginable.”

For more information, please email [janna@jannaco.co](mailto:janna@jannaco.co).

## **About Janna Co.**

Janna Co. is a literary and illustration agency specializing in children’s and YA graphic novelists and visual storytellers. Visit [jannaco.co](http://jannaco.co) to learn more.

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