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### Eleven Year Old Pens Dog's Point of View on Current Events

*Sniffing for Democracy*, written and illustrated by Nora P. Meek, chronicles a dog's search for a democracy that smells right because the one he lives in started to stink.

*Sniffing for Democracy* traces the adventures of a dog named Spangle who is arrested by the Puglians for criticizing the President of the United States of Dogs. After a dramatic escape from the pound, Spangle begins his search for a democracy that smells right. He goes to several countries around the world, meets colorful characters and learns about pollution, outsourcing, voting rights and the ancient South African concept of Ubuntu or "If I hurt you, I hurt myself." Liberté, whom he meets in Paris, becomes his traveling companion. During a cave exploration in South Africa Spangle and Liberté are thrust back in time to 1776 in Philadelphia where they meet Ben Franklin and Tom Paine who educate them about government for and about the common dog. It is at this point that the reader learns what a good democracy smells like. Spangle's nose leads him back to the year 2004 where he puts what he's learned together with his friends and comes up with a solution for the United States of Dogs. Spangle runs for President against the current one, a not very smart monkey, and debates him about what will make their democracy smell right again.

About the author and illustrator: Nora P. Meek is an eleven year old established artist. She has shown her artwork in galleries in DC, Baltimore, New Orleans, Miami and Olney, Maryland. Most often the subject of Nora's art is related to dogs. For *Sniffing for Democracy*, Nora created the characters and story line and wrote the text based on background research done by Pamela Meek. Nora drew the illustrations and cover art.

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If you'd like more information about *Sniffing for Democracy*, or to schedule an interview with Nora P. Meek, please call Pamela Meek at 301-424-0683 or pamela.meek@verizon.net.