

## NICHOLE HANSEN BIO

**Nichole Hansen** is the CEO of Handersen Publishing LLC, a family-owned independent press focused on creating engaging books for young readers. The company started in 2016 in Lincoln with five books and a literary magazine. Three years later, the company has more than 40 children’s books published and distributed internationally. Handersen Publishing’s catalog includes picture, early reader, middle grade and young adult books. They are available in bookstores and libraries around the world, from Cambridge, England and Carmel, Indiana to Christchurch, New Zealand.

In September 2019, the *Lincoln Journal Star* newspaper presented Nichole with the “Inspire Award for Excellence in Entrepreneurship” for her entrepreneurship, leadership and service to the community. The award was presented at the Inspire Awards Luncheon attended by more than 800 people.

Hansen manages the business, marketing, design and financial side of Handersen Publishing. She works with authors and illustrators on four continents. Handersen Publishing books have won eight national awards to date and been featured in national and international media, such as *Publishers Weekly*, *Kirkus Reviews*, *Story Monsters Ink*, NET Radio, *The Lincoln Journal Star* and *The Bellevue Record*.

Hansen is also a poet and the author of seven children’s books including the award-winning non-fiction book *The Thumb Book of Kindness*. Her poetry collection *When I Was a Grownup* is used by educators across the country.

Hansen presents poetry, theater and literacy workshops at libraries, schools, YMCAs, after-school clubs, community learning centers, museums and arts festivals across the Midwest. Active in her community, she has partnered with local nonprofits such as the Lincoln Housing Authority’s “Reading Matters” program (getting age-appropriate books to children whose families reside in low-income housing) and the Lincoln Arts Council’s UpstArt program for Title I schools in Lincoln, Neb.

To serve both a global audience, Handersen Publishing translates its most popular books into many languages including Arabic, Spanish, Portuguese, French and Chinese.

Hansen is also an active parent to two young children. She and her husband Tevin Hansen have made their family life and their children part of the Handersen Publishing business – even incorporating their children's handprints in the company logo.

Hansen earned a B.A. degree in psychology from Bethany College in Kansas. She lives in Lincoln, Neb. To learn more about Nichole Hansen or attend an upcoming event, follow on Facebook, Twitter or YouTube or visit [www.HandersenPublishing.com](http://www.HandersenPublishing.com) or [www.NicholeHansen.com](http://www.NicholeHansen.com).

For interviews, contact Linda Stephen at Unfolding Communications, [Linda@UnfoldingCommunications.com](mailto:Linda@UnfoldingCommunications.com) or 402-483-0747, or call Handersen Publishing at 402-904-9618.

**Nichole Hansen – short CEO bio**

**Nichole Hansen** is the CEO of Handersen Publishing, an independent press founded in 2016 to create engaging books for young readers. Handersen Publishing books have won eight national awards to date and are available in libraries and bookstores around the world, from Cambridge, England and Carmel, Indiana to Christchurch, New Zealand. Nichole works with authors and illustrators on four continents and is the winner of the 2019 Inspire Award for Excellence in Entrepreneurship, which was presented by the *Lincoln Journal Star*. She is also the author of seven children's books including the award-winning non-fiction book *The Thumb Book of Kindness*. Nichole presents literacy programs across the Midwest to schools, libraries, museums, arts festivals and more. She lives in Lincoln, Neb with her family. Learn more at [www.NicholeHansen.com](http://www.NicholeHansen.com) or [www.HandersenPublishing.com](http://www.HandersenPublishing.com).

**Nichole Hansen – short author bio**

**Nichole Hansen** is the author of seven children's books including the award-winning non-fiction book *The Thumb Book of Kindness*. She presents poetry and literacy programs across the Midwest to schools, libraries, museums, arts festivals and more. She lives in Lincoln with her children and husband, the author Tevin Hansen. Learn more at [www.NicholeHansen.com](http://www.NicholeHansen.com).





**Nichole Hansen**

402-904-9618

editors@handersenpublishing.com

PO Box 21843 • Lincoln, NE 68542

[www.handersenpublishing.com](http://www.handersenpublishing.com)

## Social Media Links

Website: [www.NicholeHansen.com](http://www.NicholeHansen.com)

Facebook: @HansenNichole

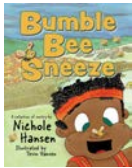
Instagram: @NicholeHansenAuthor

Twitter: @NicholeHAuthor

## Books by Nichole Hansen



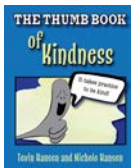
*Zany Can Do Anything* (February 2019, picture book, Handersen Publishing)



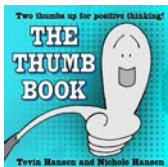
*Bumble Bee Sneeze* (September 2018, poetry collection, Handersen Publishing)



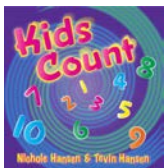
*Sharky Dream of Pizza* (August 2018, picture book, Handersen Publishing)



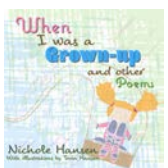
*The Thumb Book of Kindness* (January 2018, picture book, Handersen Publishing)



*The Thumb Book of Positive Thinking* (September 2015, picture book, Handersen Publishing)



*Kids Count* (August 2015, picture book, Handersen Publishing)



*When I was a Grown-up* (April 2015, poetry collection, Handersen Publishing)



**Nichole Hansen**

402-904-9618

editors@handersenpublishing.com

PO Box 21843 • Lincoln, NE 68542

[www.handersenpublishing.com](http://www.handersenpublishing.com)

## Interactive Events with Author, Nichole Hansen



### #GetZany

-Ages Pre-K-4<sup>th</sup>

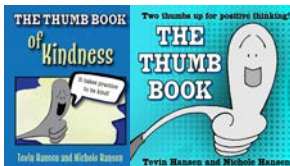
Learn to Work Hard, Dream Big and Be Yourself in this interactive event that includes art, rhythm, games and more. Featuring the book *Zany Can Do Anything* by Nichole Hansen.



### Sharky Dreams of Pizza Storytime

-Ages Infant-8

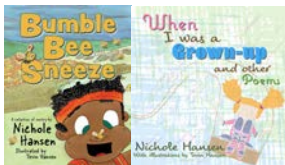
This event features a reading from *Sharky Dreams of Pizza*, followed by a pizza rhythm circle. Can also include a craft, either origami bookmarks, or ocean adventure.



### Positive Thinking and Kindness with Thumb Theatre

-Grades pre-k-4th

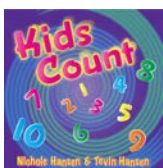
The Thumb Theatre presentation combines parts of both books and additional staged skits (with audience participation). After the attendees can make their own mini Thumb Theatres and costumes.



### Rhythm, Rhyme & Motion

-Can be modified for grades pre-k-4th

This event includes interactive rhythm, movement and poetry by author, Nichole Hansen. Can also include poetry writing and craft. (Pre-K and Kindergarten include rhyming games)



### Kids Counting Storytime

-Ages Infant-5

Features a reading from *Kids Count*, followed by a sing-a-long and craft.

## Question and Answer with Nichole Hansen, author of *Sharky Dreams of Pizza*

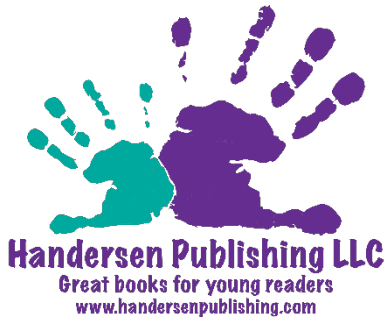
- **Why did you write *Sharky Dreams of Pizza*?** Three things inspired this project. The first was a story my daughter would tell called *Sharky and the Giant Pizza*. It was about a boy named Sharky who was best friends with a giant pizza. The second was the baby shark song, which has been stuck in my head since...forever. Also, pizza is delicious. When you combine all of these random things together you get a book about friendship, a shark and pizza.
- **Your poetry book for children, *When I Was a Grown-Up* is used in classrooms for new readers across the country. Your newest poetry book *Bumble Bee Sneeze* covers both happy and sad experiences. Why do you like writing poetry for young children?** Each poem is like its own little story. With a poetry collection you have the opportunity to tell lots of little stories that can be about SO many different things. They can be about acting like a dinosaur or hiding in laundry. You might have a heavy poem about being sick and in the hospital, but then you can lighten the mood with smelly brothers. As a writer it's fun because you aren't held within the constraints of a traditional story line.
- **What was your favorite childhood book (or author)? Why?** I LOVED reading as a child, but anything by Shel Silverstein was/is an immediate favorite.
- **When did you start writing?** I started writing when I was four years old (I think). I had the chicken pox and my mom had me tell a story which she wrote down, and then I illustrated. It was about two princesses and their pets. Since then writing has been an outlet during tough times, or anytime when my emotions were too big. Through writing you can break the big things into little parts and figure them out, one at a time.
- **What was the inspiration for your picture book *Sharky Dreams of Pizza*? Why did you imagine a shark and a boy could be friends?** I liked the idea of two creatures (natural enemies), who find something in common, even if it is something a bit absurd, like pizza.
- **You present literacy workshops and book readings for libraries, schools and museums. How do you incorporate your theater background in presentations?** The Thumb Theatre presentation is pretty obviously inspired by my theatre background. But I've found that whenever you're presenting, whether it's for kids or grownups, a theatre background comes in handy. Theatre teaches you to know your crowd, speak up, and find confidence in a roll. So, with each presentation I pick a roll. Sometimes it's a children's author, other times it's the CEO of an independent publishing house.
- **What aspects of your own life helped inspire *Sharky Dreams of Pizza*?** There are four people in my family, my husband, two children and myself. Only one person likes pizza, and that is me. Sometimes I feel like Sharky, alone and looking for a friend that understands how delicious pizza is.

## Question and Answer with Nichole Hansen, author of *Zany Can Do Anything*

- **Why did you write *Zany Can Do Anything*?** A little boy came up to me at an event to ask if we had a unicorn book because he LOVED unicorns. We didn't, and he was surprisingly sad. He also told me ALL about how difficult it was to find a unicorn book that wasn't pink and purple. He then went on to tell me all about his favorite unicorn books. I loved this kids' confidence, and that he knew what he wanted, and I wanted to write a book just for him, even though I may never see him again.
- **Your poetry book for children, *When I Was a Grown-Up* is used in classrooms for new readers across the country. Your newest poetry book *Bumble Bee Sneeze* covers both happy and sad experiences. Why do you like writing poetry for young children?** Each poem is like its own little story. With a poetry collection you have the opportunity to tell lots of little stories that can be about SO many different things. They can be about acting like a dinosaur or hiding in laundry. You might have a heavy poem about being sick and in the hospital, but then you can lighten the mood with smelly brothers. As a writer it's fun because you aren't held within the constraints of a traditional story line.
- **What was your favorite childhood book (or author)? Why?** I LOVED reading as a child, but anything by Shel Silverstein was/is an immediate favorite.
- **When did you start writing?** I started writing when I was four years old (I think). I had the chicken pox and my mom had me tell a story which she wrote down, and then I illustrated. It was about two princesses and their pets. Since then writing has been an outlet during tough times, or anytime when my emotions were too big. Through writing you can break the big things into little parts and figure them out, one at a time.
- **What was the inspiration for your picture book *Zany Can Do Anything*?** A kid at an event gave me the idea to write a book about a unicorn that wasn't pink and purple, but the true inspiration came from a family member who is also a teacher. Her school was utilizing Growth Mindset, the idea that most basic abilities can be developed through dedication and hard work. I wanted to expand on this idea by also adding the concepts of dreaming big and being yourself.
- **You present literacy workshops and book readings for libraries, schools and museums. How do you incorporate your theater background in presentations?** The Thumb Theatre presentation is pretty obviously inspired by my theatre background. But I've found that whenever you're presenting, whether it's for kids or grownups, a theatre background comes in handy. Theatre teaches you to know your crowd, speak up, and find confidence in a roll. So, with each presentation I pick a roll. Sometimes it's a children's author, other times it's the CEO of an independent publishing house.
- **What aspects of your own life helped inspire *Zany Can Do Anything*?** I may be a bit of a unicorn, myself. Or maybe I just live in a mythical world most of the time. I do know that it took me a really long time to figure out how to be myself and be okay with who that person is. I also know what it means to "Dream Big". When my husband and I started our own independent publishing house, it took a lot of hard work and big dreams to make it happen, it still does. But getting to write books, and bringing them to kids in our community is a blessing beyond words, and I wouldn't have it any other way.

**Media Contacts:**

Linda Stephen • 402-483-0747  
Linda@UnfoldingCommunications.com  
Nichole Hansen • 402-904-9618  
Editors@HandersenPublishing.com



## **Handersen Publishing Announces Publication of Picture Book *Sharky Dreams of Pizza* by Award-Winning Author Nichole Hansen**

LINCOLN, Nebraska (August 2018) – Handersen Publishing, an independent children’s press, announces the release of the picture book *Sharky Dreams of Pizza* by Nichole Hansen and illustrated by Tevin Hansen. The book will be published in August 2018.

*Sharky Dreams of Pizza* is the story of an unlikely friendship between a boy and a shark. When Sharky discovers a pizza box in the ocean, all he can think about is pizza! But will he ever get the chance to taste it? A boy sitting on the dock may just make the perfect slice of friendship.

*Sharky Dreams of Pizza* is a great read-aloud children’s picture book for all ages for any occasion. Filled with colorful illustrations, it offers an ocean of humor and friendship along with a plug for keeping our oceans clean.

*Sharky Dreams of Pizza* is available from Ingram, at [www.HandersenPublishing.com](http://www.HandersenPublishing.com), or wherever books are sold.

### **Sharky Dreams of Pizza**

Hardback ISBN: 978-1-947854-24-6 (\$17.95)

Paperback ISBN: 978-1-947854-22-2 (\$11.95)

eBook ISBN: (\$4.99)

Publication Date: August 21, 2018

Juvenile Fiction / Sharks / Friendship/ Fish Books

Ages 3-9

### **Handersen Publishing**

36 pages

8.5” x 11”



### **About the Author**

**Nichole Hansen** is the author of seven children's books including the award-winning non-fiction book *The Thumb Book of Kindness*. She presents poetry and literacy programs across the Midwest to schools, libraries, museums, arts festivals and more. She is also the CEO of Handersen Publishing, an independent press founded in 2016 to create engaging books for young readers. In 2019, she won the *Lincoln Journal Star's* Inspire Award for Excellence in Entrepreneurship. She lives in Lincoln with her children and husband, the author Tevin Hansen. Learn more at [www.NicholeHansen.com](http://www.NicholeHansen.com).

### **About the Illustrator**

**Tevin Hansen** is the author or illustrator of more than 20 children's books, from picture books to middle grade adventures. He has won national awards for *Word Dragon* (chapter book), *Yam Hill* (middle grade sci-fi), *The Thumb Book of Kindness* (non-fiction), and *Cinderella's Other Shoe* (humorous chapter book). Meet the author, watch music videos, book an event and more at [www.TevinHansen.com](http://www.TevinHansen.com).

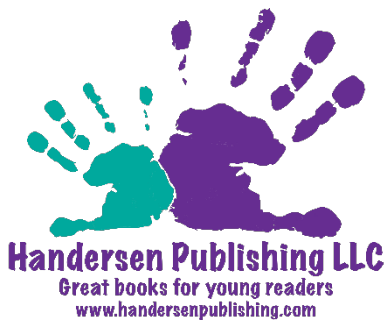
### **About Handersen Publishing**

Handersen Publishing is a family-owned, independent press focused on creating engaging books for young readers. Founded in 2016 in Lincoln, Nebraska, Handersen works with authors and illustrators on four continents and publishes books in English, Spanish, Arabic, and Chinese. Since 2016, eight of their books have won national awards. Handersen is a member of the Independent Book Publishers Association. To learn about author events or to see their catalog of picture, early reader, middle grade and young adult books, visit [www.HandersenPublishing.com](http://www.HandersenPublishing.com) or follow on Facebook, Twitter or YouTube.

###

**Media Contacts:**

Linda Stephen • 402-483-0747  
Linda@UnfoldingCommunications.com  
Nichole Hansen • 402-904-9618  
Editors@HandersenPublishing.com



## **Handersen Publishing Announces Spring 2020 Publication of Unicorn Book *Zany Can Do Anything* by Award-Winning Author Nichole Hansen**

LINCOLN, Nebraska (November 2019) – Handersen Publishing, an independent children’s press, announces the upcoming release of the picture book *Zany Can Do Anything* by Nichole Hansen and illustrated by Tevin Hansen. The book will be published in February 2020.

*Zany Can Do Anything* is an upbeat humorous picture book about a unicorn named Zany who loves learning new things and isn’t afraid to work hard. Zany learns practice is important and it’s okay to make mistakes. Zany’s motto is “Dream Big, Be yourself, Work Hard.”

Readers learn that even though they may not be like most unicorns, they can still be perfectly Zany.

The idea for Zany the unicorn came from a child who the author met at a book event. “A little boy came up to me to ask if we had a unicorn book because he LOVED unicorns,” said author Nichole Hansen. “We didn’t, and he was surprisingly sad. He also told me ALL about how difficult it was to find a unicorn book that wasn’t pink and purple. I loved this kid’s confidence, and that he knew what he wanted, and I wanted to write a book just for him.”

“The true inspiration for Zany came from a family member who is a teacher. Her school was using Growth Mindset, the idea that most basic abilities can be developed through dedication and hard work. I wanted to expand on this idea by also adding the concepts of dreaming big and being yourself.”

*Zany Can Do Anything* offers a gender-neutral storybook hero for children. The book is perfect for family reading time, group story time, or educational lessons on achieving goals.

*Zany Can Do Anything* (#GetZany) will be available in February 2020 from Ingram, at [www.HandersenPublishing.com](http://www.HandersenPublishing.com), or wherever books are sold.

### **Zany Can Do Anything**

Hardback ISBN: 978-6-47030-00-1 (\$17.95)

Paperback ISBN: 978-1647039-00-4 (\$11.95)

eBook ISBN: 978-1-647030-01-8 (\$4.99)

Publication Date: February 2020

Juvenile Fiction /Unicorns/ Growth Mindset/ Achieving Goals/ Growth and Development  
Ages 3-9

### **Handersen Publishing**

32 pages

8.5" x 8.5"

### **About the Author**

**Nichole Hansen** is the author of seven children's books including the award-winning non-fiction book *The Thumb Book of Kindness*. She presents poetry and literacy programs across the Midwest to schools, libraries, museums, arts festivals and more. She is also the CEO of Handersen Publishing, an independent press founded in 2016 to create engaging books for young readers. In 2019, she won the *Lincoln Journal Star's* Inspire Award for Excellence in Entrepreneurship. She lives in Lincoln with her children and husband, the author Tevin Hansen. Learn more at [www.NicholeHansen.com](http://www.NicholeHansen.com).

### **About the Illustrator**

**Tevin Hansen** is the author or illustrator of more than 20 children's books, from picture books to middle grade adventures. He has won national awards for *Word Dragon* (chapter book), *Yam Hill* (middle grade sci-fi), *The Thumb Book of Kindness* (non-fiction), and *Cinderella's Other Shoe* (humorous chapter book). Meet the author, watch music videos, book an event and more at [www.TevinHansen.com](http://www.TevinHansen.com).

### **About Handersen Publishing**

Handersen Publishing is a family-owned, independent press focused on creating engaging books for young readers. Founded in 2016 in Lincoln, Nebraska, Handersen works with authors and illustrators on four continents and publishes books in English, Spanish, Arabic, and Chinese. Since 2016, eight of their books have won national awards. Handersen is a member of the Independent Book Publishers Association. To learn about author events or to see their catalog of picture, early reader, middle grade and young adult books, visit [www.HandersenPublishing.com](http://www.HandersenPublishing.com) or follow on Facebook, Twitter or YouTube.

###