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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Wisconsin Author of *Bluefish* to Discuss Book and Share Writing Insights

**MILWAUKEE** (Oct. 16, 2012) – Pat Schmatz, a noted Wisconsin author who has written four novels for teens, will read from her most recent book, *Bluefish*, talk about her writing process and conduct a Q&A session on Oct. 23, 6:30 p.m. at Mount Mary College, Stiemke Hall, 2900 N. Menomonee River Parkway. The event is sponsored by the college’s Master of Arts in English Program and is part of its “Writers on Writing” series.

While the event is free and open to the public, space is limited so attendees should RSVP to [murrayk@mtmary.edu](mailto:murrayk@mtmary.edu) or 414-258-4810 ext 395. Copies of Schmatz’s books will be available for purchase and signing afterwards.

*Bluefish*, which was published in 2011, has been recognized as a Junior Library Guild Selection, ALA Notable Children’s Book and winner of the Wisconsin Library Association’s Elizabeth Burr/Worzalla Award.

According to Schmatz, the book tells the story of the power of small kindnesses and connections. When teens and adults really listen or pay attention to one another, they can understand and connect with someone they might have otherwise dismissed. As Schmatz explains, those simple actions are the first steps in addressing bullying.

Schmatz’s other books for teens – *Mrs. Estronsky and the UFO*, *Circle the Truth* and *Mousetraps* – have earned accolades as well. *Circle the Truth* was chosen by Wisconsin Library Association as one of the outstanding books for children by a Wisconsin Author in 2008, and was included in the 2008 Best Children's Books of the Year from the Children's Book Committee at the Bank Street College of Education. *Mousetraps* was awarded the Council for Wisconsin Writers Award for children’s fiction, and was a 2009 Lambda Literary Award nominee for best children’s/young adult fiction.

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Mount Mary College, founded in 1913 by the School Sisters of Notre Dame, was Wisconsin’s first four-year, degree-granting Catholic college for women. Located on an 80-acre campus in Milwaukee, the College offers more than 30 undergraduate majors for women and eight graduate programs for women and men. Mount Mary also emphasizes study abroad, service learning, and social justice initiatives. Its nearly 1900 students enjoy small class sizes (average 14) and over 90 percent of full-time students receive financial aid or scholarships. Through classroom instruction and community service, Mount Mary develops women to be leaders in their professions and their communities, serving as role models to inspire achievement in others. Visit Mount Mary at [www.mtmary.edu](http://www.mtmary.edu).

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