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Now available from Magnolia Publishing,  
the fourth novel from author, Vicki Allen

**\*\*\*CALENDAR ADVISORY\*\*\***

## **AMITE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS MEET AUTHOR FOR LITERARY MENTOR EXPERIENCE—“IDOL-STYLE”**

### **High School Teachers’ Effort to Enrich Literature Curriculum Leads to Three-Year Relationship with LOUISIANA Author, Vicki Allen**

ALEXANDRIA, La., April 24, 2009—Three years ago, Amite High School English teachers, Anita Morse and Wilkie Magee assigned their students to read and do a project based on *For Molly*—the first novel by Pineville, La. author Vicki Allen—and *The Return*—Allen’s third novel and the mystery/suspense sequel to *For Molly*. That assignment prompted Allen to visit the classroom and, eventually, to invite them to Pineville for the “For Molly Tour,” an excursion to see the key locations described in the book.

**ON MAY 1**, in conjunction with the release of Allen’s fourth novel, *DRINK ONE TO ME, CHRISTIAN BENNETT*—the fictional account of an American photographer traveling in Mexico—Amite High School students will once again spend time with this Louisiana author-cum-literary mentor when she returns for her third visit.

#### **MAY 1 Media Opportunities**

- **9:30 a.m.—10:30 a.m.—AMITE HIGH SCHOOL**—Interview and capture still/video images of:
  - Louisiana’s own, Vicki Allen interacting with **some 120 Amite High School students**
  - Amite High School students—Harley Davis (11<sup>th</sup> grade), Jasmine Chaudrey (11<sup>th</sup> grade) and Joseph Mensah (12<sup>th</sup> grade)—**aspiring writers who will read their work aloud** so that Allen can—just as *American Idol*<sup>®</sup> guest coaches do—provide feedback, encouragement and coaching
  - Amite High School English teachers, Anita Morse and Wilie Magee
  - Amite High School Principal, Michael Stant, who has encouraged creative enrichment programs
- **3:00 p.m.—5:00 p.m.— BAYOU BOOKSELLERS**—Interview and capture still/video images of Local fans as they meet the author to get their books signed at: Bayou Booksellers @ 203 East Thomas St, Hammond
- **Anytime:**
  - Review the book—Request a copy of *DRINK ONE TO ME, CHRISTIAN BENNETT* today
  - Additional media materials, including high-resolution photos and graphics are available online at [http://www.magnoliapublishing.com/press\\_room](http://www.magnoliapublishing.com/press_room).

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**About Magnolia Publishing:** Founded in 1999 and headquartered in Pineville, La., Magnolia Publishing has emerged to become the largest and oldest independent book publisher in Central Louisiana. Now entering its second decade, Magnolia—a family-owned, specialty publisher—serves up nostalgic literary treats for *Audiences Who Are Southern or Southern At Heart*. This, coupled with author, Vicki Allen—and her ability to articulate southern ideals and sensibilities—has created a loyal following of multi-generational fans. In April 2009, Magnolia released *Drink One To Me, Christian Bennett*, the fourth novel by Allen, whose previous works include *For Molly*, a southern coming-of-age story (1999); *The Search for Shannon*, fiction finalist for the Oklahoma Book Award (2000); and *The Return* (2002). Allen’s books are available in select boutiques and specialty gift shops and online at [Amazon.com](#), [BarnesandNoble.com](#), [Booksamillion.com](#), [MagnoliaPublishing.com](#) and others.