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Uncle Andy's

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Warhola, James. *Uncle Andy's*. Illustrated by James Warhola. G.P. Putnam's Sons, 2003. ISBN 0399238697. \$16.99.

Rating: Excellent

Reviewer: AnnMarie Hamar

Reading Level: Primary

Genre: Picture books;

Subject: Modern artists--Juvenile literature; Andy Warhol, 1928--Juvenile literature; Modern art--Juvenile literature; Books--Reviews;

In this delightful picture book, author James Warhola recalls a family trip to New York City to visit his uncle, pop artist Andy Warhol. It is August 1962 and Warhol is preparing for his first big exhibition. His nieces and nephews are enthralled by the unusual and interesting objects in his home, including large paintings of Campbell soup cans and Coca-Cola bottles. What the children, especially James, learn is that art is everywhere and in everything. Warhola portrays his uncle as warm and affectionate with his nieces and nephews; although a bit eccentric (he had 28 cats all named Sam and a collection of wigs for every occasion).

Warhola's illustrations are energetic, colorful, and full of such interesting objects as carousel horses, cookie jars, and ventriloquist dummies. He includes a one-page introduction to Andy Warhol at the beginning of the text. Warhola credits his uncle with encouraging him to develop his own artistic talents. While young children might not know who Andy Warhol is, they will still understand the message of finding the artist within.