

One Mississippi

A NEW CHILDREN'S BOOK BASED ON
THE NEWLY ADOPTED STATE SONG OF MISSISSIPPI



OXFORD, MS — Two award-winning creative talents — Steve Azar and Sarah Frances Hardy — have partnered to produce a new children’s book for the Magnolia state — *One Mississippi*.

“One Mississippi” — the newly-adopted official state song of Mississippi — was the premise for the book. The lyrics, crafted by Greenville’s Steve Azar, accompany the illustrations created by Oxford’s Sarah Frances Hardy.

Neil White, creative director and publisher at The Nautilus Publishing Company, said, “I realized, immediately, that these two would produce a fantastic children’s book. Steve and Sarah Frances are both treasures for our state — and now they’ve come together to create a children’s book that reflects the best of Mississippi.”

The book will premiere at the Mississippi Book Festival at the State Capitol on August 19, 2023. Azar will perform the song and both Hardy and Azar will discuss the process that led to this original work.

The book will be for sale at fine bookstores across the state. It is also available at

<https://www.nautiluspublishing.com/nautilus-store/>

PUBLICATION PROFILE

Title:	<i>One Mississippi</i>
ISBN:	978-1-949455-42-7
No. of pages:	32
Trim Size:	10" x 8"
Cover:	Hardcover, Smyth Sewn
Text:	100lb matte enamel stock
No. of Illustrations:	40
Retail Price:	\$18.95
Launch date:	August 19, 2023

About the Authors

Steve Azar, a Mississippi delta native, is a hit songwriter, recording artist, and music producer. He has released seven critically acclaimed studio albums, as well as several No. 1 music videos. His latest release, *My Mississippi Reunion*, winner of the 2021 Mississippi Institute of Arts and Letters award for best contemporary album, features a collection of past and new songs inspired by Azar's roots. The song "One Mississippi" is the official state song of Mississippi. www.steveazar.com

Sarah Frances Hardy, a Mississippi native who calls Oxford home, earned a law degree from the University of Mississippi School of Law, an art degree from Davidson College and studied at Parsons School of Design in New York and Paris. Hardy has exhibited her work in galleries throughout the Southeast as well as a gallery in SoHo, New York. Hardy's published children's picture books include *Puzzled by Pink* (Viking Children's Books), *Paint Me!* (Sky Pony Press), and *Dress Me!* (Sky Pony Press). www.sfhardy.com