PAINTING JAN BRETT BY THE NUMBERS

By any measure, Jan Brett is one of the nation’s most successful and popular children’s authors and illustrators. She has published 32 books, which have sold more than 30 million copies. Her books regularly occupy the NEW YORK TIMES’s number 1 slot for children’s picture books. Her Web site, janbrett.com, receives 10 million visits per year and contains more than 3,800 pages of activities for children. Jan receives more than 10,000 letters and e-mails a year, and she says she loves this connection with her young fans: “Kids often send me drawings of animals and ask me to write a story about them. Their pictures inspire me with their vibrancy.” Jan and her husband, Joe Hearne, have three grown children and three grandchildren. She first dreamed of becoming an artist when she was 5 years old.