

Author nominated for award



books

By FELICITY HARROLD

MYAREE father, filmmaker and musician Martin Meader can now add successful author to his list of achievements, with his first book earning a nomination for a prestigious US writing award.

His book *The Adventures of Charlie and Moon* is a fantasy adventure for children about a boy named Charlie Ramsbottom who opens his birthday present the night before his ninth birthday.

"Moon is a young eagle who needs Charlie's help to stop an evil toymaker, Skunk Weavel, from turning all the eagles and endangered species into stuffed toys," Meader said.

The book is the first in a series of three and, after its successful launch in the US last year, Meader is now looking to appoint an Australian distributor.

Earlier this month, Meader was informed that his book had been nominated in the Juvenile Fiction category as a finalist for an award in *Forward Magazine* Book of the Year Awards.

Meader said he decided to write a book because he felt the time was right to enter a new stage of his life.

Well known for his filmmaking skills, Meader's first feature film *Paradise Road* was released in 1997 and starred Glenn Close, Pauline Collin and Cate Blanchett.

He said he was now waiting for funding for his next major film project, entitled *The Adventures of Charlie and Moon*, which will be the movie version of the book.

A panel of librarians and booksellers selected from the *Forward Magazine*'s readership will determine the winners of the awards.



Author Martin Meader with his new book *The Adventures of Charlie and Moon*. Picture: Martin Kennealey d329498