



### Florida Students Get Ready to Read

*Florida Reading Association Announces 2015 Finalists in book award including two Arbordale Publishing titles.*

Mt. Pleasant, SC (May 1, 2014) – Two Arbordale Publishing books will battle it out for the top prize this year in the Florida Reading Association Children’s Book Award. *A Butterfly Called Hope*, by Mary Alice Monroe and *Balloon Trees* by Danna Smith will be in the spotlight this year as Florida students read and vote for their favorite among the eight finalists.

The FRA Book Award encourages all children to pick up the books and vote for their favorites. Each year the committee seeks out the best of the recently published book to choose eight finalists that will encourage a love for books in Florida children. The libraries and schools in Florida play a huge role in the success of the award by getting the nominees in the hands of children and encourage them to vote.

It is an honor to have not only one book, but two books to be selected for this award and rewarding that so many children will read Arbordale books over the course of the next year. With activities and science information built into each book these two titles are exemplary representatives of the company’s goal to “spark a love for science through literature.”

While author Mary Alice Monroe may be best known for her *New York Times* bestselling adult novels, *A Butterfly Called Hope* is a wonderful story that was inspired by her research in butterfly migration for *The Butterfly’s Daughter*. With butterfly expert Linda Love, and photographer Barbara Bergwerf the trio bring to life the story of a girl that finds a caterpillar chewing away in mother’s garden. She raises the caterpillar, takes care of it through the stages of transformation and then sets free the beautiful monarch.

Author Danna Smith took on the challenge of explaining the transformation from rubber to balloon in fun rhyming text. Inspired by her husband’s work, Smith became interested in how rubber is taken from the tree to everyday objects we use including party balloons. Illustrator Laurie Allen Klein took on the challenge of drawing the manufacturing process in vibrant colored pencil. Kids will have fun following a little green bird that appears on each page, sometimes hidden within the artwork.

Both books include educational extras to enhance a child’s experience. The *For Creative Minds* section is intended to bring families together as they work through matching games and other activities. Online the book page includes teaching activities and quizzes for classroom use, as well as related resources for children that want to learn more about the topic.

For more information about the books or to access the online activities visit [www.Arbordalepublishing.com](http://www.Arbordalepublishing.com) or contact Heather Williams at [Heather\(at\)arbordalepublishing\(dot\)com](mailto:Heather(at)arbordalepublishing(dot)com) or 843-971-6722.



**Media Contact:** Heather Williams, Public Relations Coordinator  
Phone: (843) 971-6722  
Email: [heather@arbordalepublishing.com](mailto:heather@arbordalepublishing.com)