



# The Monarch Award: Illinois' K-3 Children's Choice Award

## Information Sheet

Welcome to the 2006 Monarch Award Program! The Monarch Award is designed to encourage Illinois children to read critically and to become familiar with children's books, authors and illustrators. This award is named for the Monarch Butterfly and symbolizes the growth, change and freedom that characterize the emergent reader. The Monarch Award is given annually to an author and/or illustrator of a book voted as their favorite by participating K-3 children in Illinois.

### This packet includes one of each of the following:

- Information Sheet
- 2006 Monarch Award Winner sticker (details for purchasing additional stickers on back)
- 2006 Master List with annotations and ISBNs (2 sides)
- 2006 Nominee Ideas sheet (2 sides)
- Nomination 2007 Form and Criteria for Nomination (2 sides)
- Official Student Ballot (2 per page)
- Author/Title Bookmark Master (3 per page on reverse of Student Ballot)
- Official Tally Sheet (1/2 page with mailing label)
- 2005 Winner Certificate suitable for framing (1/2 page)

Other Monarch Award program resources are available at [http://www.islma.org/grants\\_awards.htm](http://www.islma.org/grants_awards.htm)

### Quick facts for participating schools and libraries:

The Monarch Award may be administered by school libraries, public libraries and/or teachers.

The registration fee for the Monarch Award is \$10 per year.

Participating schools or public libraries will implement activities to promote the Monarch Award.

12 of the 20 titles on the Master List must be available for reading.

Children who have read or had read to them at least 5 of the 20 Master List titles are eligible to vote.

Schools and libraries will develop a procedure for determining voting eligibility.

Voting may take place on any convenient day in February.

The enclosed ballot may be used or the other voting suggestions given on the back may be used.

ALL student votes must be tallied, postmarked by February 28, 2006 and sent to:

2006 Monarch Award Ballot, c/o ISLMA, P. O. Box 598, Canton, IL 61520

### Calendar

- |                            |  |
|----------------------------|--|
| August, 2005-February 2006 | Read Monarch Master List Titles  |
| October 15, 2005           | Deadline to nominate for 2007 Monarch Award                                      |
| January 15, 2006           | Deadline to register for 2006 Monarch Award                                      |
| February 28, 2006          | Postmark Official Tally Form by this date  |
| March, 2006                | Announce 2006 winner   |
| Spring, 2006               | 2007 Brochure with Master List and Registration Form mailed                      |
| October 15, 2006           | Deadline for nominations for 2008 Master List                                    |
| Fall 2006                  | Recognize 2006 winning author and/or illustrator at the ISLMA<br>Fall Conference |

## **Nominations 2007**

The Monarch Steering Committee encourages participating schools and libraries to nominate titles for next year's Master List. The nomination form included in this packet has the criteria printed on the back. Nominations for the 2007 Monarch Award must have copyrights from 2001-2005 and are due by October 15, 2005. All information must be completed including: Author, Title, Publisher, Copyright, Type—picture book, easy reader, or chapter book. The nomination form is also available online at [http://www.islma.org/grants\\_awards.htm](http://www.islma.org/grants_awards.htm) *Online nominations are strongly encouraged*; use the enclosed nomination form to keep track of titles nominated until you can submit them. If online nomination is not possible, this form may be duplicated and mailed to: Monarch Award 2007 Nominations, c/o ISLMA, P. O. Box 598, Canton, IL 61520. Nominations received after October 15, 2005 will be considered for the 2008 award if they meet the criteria.

## **Stickers**

One dated *winner sticker* is provided with this packet. Additional winner stickers may be purchased at the ISLMA 2005 Conference or ordered. To order four additional 2006 *winner stickers*, send \$2.00 to Monarch Stickers, % ISLMA P. O. Box 598, Canton, IL 61520. A sheet of 24 round Monarch *logo* stickers with no year will also be available at conference or may be ordered from the above address by sending \$6.00. These stickers could be used to mark nominees or winners.

## **Voting Ideas**

Due to the age of the Monarch readers, using a paper ballot may present a challenge. Other possible ideas include a ballot with pictures of the books, numbering the titles on the ballot and a corresponding bulletin board, using pennies or tokens and containers with pictures of the books, allowing a student to put a sticker next to a picture of the book to cast a vote. Use your imagination! Just a reminder, some techniques, such as a show of hands, are prone to peer pressure and may affect the outcome of the vote.

## **Readers' Committee**

The Readers' Committee is comprised of 50 volunteers from throughout the state of Illinois and includes school library media specialists, children's librarians and educators. The top 100 nominees are read, evaluated and narrowed to 50 titles. In a face-to-face meeting, the readers narrow the list to the Master List of 20 titles based on the criteria for the Monarch Award.

## **Volunteers**

Those who wish to be involved in Monarch Award activities can find a volunteer form at [www.islma.org/grants\\_awards.htm](http://www.islma.org/grants_awards.htm) The 2007 Readers' Committee is already filled, but you may volunteer for other committees. You must submit your name each year to remain on the volunteer list.

## **Questions/Suggestions**

Please contact Pam Storm, Monarch Award Chair at [pstorm@charleston.k12.il.us](mailto:pstorm@charleston.k12.il.us) or 217-639-4012 (work) or 217-345-2768 (home).

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*The Monarch Award is sponsored by the  
Illinois School Library Media Association.*