



# The Monarch Award: Illinois' K-3 Readers' Choice Award

## Information Sheet

Welcome to the 2013 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. The 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.

### Materials linked under 2013 at the website include:

<http://www.islma.org/monarch.htm>

- Information Sheet (2 pages)
- Author/Title Bookmark Template (3 per page)
- 2013 Master List
- Read All 20 sticker sheet (print on 2x4 adhesive labels) and grid for attaching stickers.
- Official Student Ballot Template (2 per page)
- Vote Tally sheet with instructions
- Stickers to place on the nominated books in your collection
- 2011 Winner Certificate suitable for framing (1/2 page) and 2011 blank certificate

**Linked under 2014:** 2014 Nomination Form and Criteria for Nomination (2 pages)

### 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. The deadline is January 15, 2013. Registered schools/libraries may apply for an LBSS Endowment Grant to receive a free set of books. 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 at any time prior to March 15<sup>th</sup>; however recording the votes on the online ballot is available from February 15-March 15<sup>th</sup>.. ALL student votes/TOTAL votes must be submitted online by midnight March 15, 2013.

### Calendar

Now-February 2013	Read 2012 Monarch Master List Titles
September 15, 2012	Nomination deadline for 2013 Award
October 18-20, 2012	2012 winner recognized at ISLMA Conference, St. Charles
January 15, 2013	2013 Registration deadline
February, 2013	2014 Monarch Nominees announced
Feb. 15-Mar. 15, 2013	Submit 2013 votes electronically by midnight March 15th
March, 2013	2013 winner announced
April, 2013	2014 Children's Choice Award registration brochure mailed
May 15, 2013	Deadline to apply for LBSS Endowment Grant for 2014 books
Spring, 2013	2014 Nominee and packet Web Resources Posted

## Nominations 2014

The Monarch Steering Committee **STRONGLY** encourages participating schools and libraries to nominate titles for next year's Master List. The quality of the Master List is based on the nominations received. Nominations for the 2013 Monarch Award must have copyrights from 2007-2011 and are due by September 15, 2012. The nomination form is available at <http://www.islma.org/monarch.htm> All information must be completed including: Author, Title, Publisher, Copyright, Type—picture book, easy reader, or chapter book. Nominations received after September 15, 2012 will be considered for the 2014 award if they meet the criteria.

## Stickers

Winner and nominee stickers may be printed from the website or purchased at the ISLMA 2012 Conference or ordered via a form on the website. Stickers available to order:

Four **winner** stickers, \$2.00 (Specify year. 2005-2012 available.)

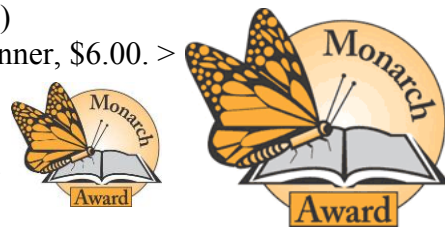
24 round Monarch **logo** stickers with no text for nominees or winner, \$6.00. >

60 smaller square **nominee** stickers, \$6.00. >

All orders should be mailed to:

Monarch Stickers, % ISLMA, P. O. Box 598, Canton, IL 61520.

Make checks payable to ISLMA.



**Nominee**

## Voting Ideas

Number pictures of the nominees on a bulletin board to correspond with the numbers on the paper ballot to facilitate voting for younger readers. Other possible ideas include a ballot with pictures of the books, 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. Just a reminder: some techniques, such as a show of hands, are prone to peer pressure and may affect the outcome of the vote. Secret ballots are preferred.

## 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 who read the top 100 nominees and narrow the list to 50 titles. In a face-to-face meeting in January, 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/monarch.htm](http://www.islma.org/monarch.htm) If the 2013 Readers' Committee is already filled, your name may be held for future years. Submitting your name each year ensures that you remain on the volunteer list.

## Ideas/Suggestions/Questions

Check out the **FAQ** on our website. Post your ideas and questions to ISLMANET. If you still have questions or suggestions contact Peggy Burton, Monarch Award Chair at [dsmma@frontiernet.net](mailto:dsmma@frontiernet.net) or 217- 238-2800(W) or 217- 768-4461(H).

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