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High-res photo available to the media upon request

'Priceless Penny' Earns Story Monster Approval

CHANDLER, AZ (July, 2016) – The judges of the Story Monster Approved program, which recognizes accomplished authors in the field of children's literature have spoken, and *Priceless Penny* by Lauren Kramer-Theuerkauf has earned approval.

The colorful, kid-friendly Story Monster Approved seal attracts the attention of young readers much more than a sticker intended for adult scrutiny. Kids know when they see the Story Monster Approved patch it means children their own age enjoyed the book and are recommending they read it, too. How do they know that? Because after books pass the first round of rigorous judging – which is done by industry experts, the books are then judged by a panel of youth judges who must also endorse the books before they can receive the official seal of approval.

"Who better to judge children's books than the children who read them?" explains Linda F. Radke, president of Five Star Publications, Inc., the same company that launched the <u>Dragonfly Book Awards</u> program, now in its fourth year." Judging these books gives children a wonderful sense of importance and responsibility. Some of our judging coordinators have told us that students who usually don't enjoy reading or have difficulty reading have gotten a much-needed boost due to their judging responsibilities and have requested to serve as judges again."

Authors interested in having their books considered for Story Monster Approved designation should visit www.StoryMonsters.com and download an entry form. Books are divided into the following categories with distinctions made between fiction and nonfiction: Preschool to Kindergarten, Grades 1-3, and Grades 4-6.

The cost to enter is \$85 for one title in one category. There is no deadline to enter. Books are sent for judging as they are received. Results are generally announced 4 – 6 weeks after submission.

For more information on how to get a book Story Monster Approved, visit www.StoryMonsters.com. To learn more about Five Star Publications, Inc., which is celebrating 30 years in producing award-winning books, visit www.FiveStarPublications.com, email fivestarpublications@gmail.com or call 480-940-8182.