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**The Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art
Announces 2014 Carle Honors Honorees**

*Ninth annual awards celebrate the creative vision and long-term dedication
of leaders in the world of picture books*

Amherst, MA (May 7, 2014) - The Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art is pleased to announce the 2014 Carle Honors honorees to be awarded at Guastavino's in New York City on Thursday, September 18, 2014. The ninth annual gala and fundraiser will fête the talented people who have played an instrumental role in making children's books a vibrant and influential art and literary form in America. This year, the Carle Honors will award the following:

Artist: Jerry Pinkney

Celebrated illustrator of over 100 children's books and winner of numerous awards, including the 2010 Caldecott Medal for *The Lion and the Mouse*.

Angel: Reach Out and Read represented by Brian Gallagher and Dr. Perri Klass

Tireless promoters of early literacy and school readiness, as exemplified through the Reach Out and Read program established in thousands of pediatric exam rooms nationwide.

Mentor: Henrietta Smith

Influential children's librarian, scholar, and author; leading advocate for quality and diversity in children's literature.

Bridge: Françoise Mouly

Publisher and editorial director for TOON Books, high-quality comics for young children; art editor of *The New Yorker*.

The Carle Honors celebrates individuals and organizations who bring creative vision and long-term dedication to children's books and the many ways they open children's minds to art and literacy. The awards are selected each year by a committee chaired by children's literature historian and critic Leonard S. Marcus, who was central to the founding of the Honors. The committee recognizes four distinct awards: **Artist**, for lifelong innovation in the field; **Angel**, whose generous financial support is crucial to making illustrated children's book art exhibitions, education programs, and related projects a reality; **Mentor**, editors, designers, and educators who champion the art form; and **Bridge**, individuals who have found inspired ways to bring the art of the picture book to larger audiences through work in other fields.

The Carle Honors is a critical fundraiser for The Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art, helping to support the Museum's in its mission to inspire a love of art and reading through picture books. The

annual event also includes a silent auction featuring artwork from top illustrators, including Eric Carle. For ticket and sponsorship information, please contact Rebecca Miller Goggins, Director of Development at 413-658-1118 or rebeccag@carlemuseum.org.

About The Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art:

The mission for The Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art, a non-profit organization in Amherst, MA, is to inspire a love of art and reading. The only full-scale museum of its kind in the United States, The Carle collects, preserves, presents, and celebrates picture books and picture book illustrations from around the world. In addition to underscoring the cultural, historical, and artistic significance of picture books and their art form, The Carle offers educational programs that provide a foundation for arts integration and literacy.

Eric and Barbara Carle founded the Museum in November 2002. Eric Carle is the renowned author and illustrator of more than 70 books, including the 1969 classic, *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*. Since opening, the 40,000-foot facility has served more than half a million visitors, including 30,000 schoolchildren. Its extensive resources include a collection of more than 12,000 picture book illustrations, three art galleries, an art studio, a theater, picture book and scholarly libraries, and educational programs for families, scholars, educators, and schoolchildren. Educational offerings include professional training for educators around the country and Master's degree programs in children's literature with Simmons College. Museum hours are Tuesday through Friday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday 12 noon to 5 p.m. with special extended summer hours. Admission is \$9 for adults, \$6 for children under 18, and \$22.50 for a family of four. For further information and directions, call 413-658-1100 or visit the Museum's website at www.carlemuseum.org.

For media inquiries, additional press information and photo requests, please contact Sandy Soderberg at Sandys@carlemuseum.org/413-658-1105 or Alexandra Pearson at Alexandra@rosengrouppr.com/646-695-7048.

Butterfly from *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* copyright 1969 and 1987 by Eric Carle.

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