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A Sandy Grave Wins Coveted Purple Dragonfly Book Award

CHANDLER, AZ (June, 2014) – The judges of the **Purple Dragonfly Book Awards** contest, which recognizes excellence in children’s literature, have spoken, and *A Sandy Grave* by Donna M. McDine and illustrated by Julie Hammond, won first place in the Picture Books 6 and Older category.

“Winning any place in the Purple Dragonfly Contest is a huge honor because in order to maintain the integrity of the Dragonfly Book Awards, a minimum score is required before a First or Second place or Honorable Mention will be awarded to the entrant – even if it is the sole entry in a category,” explains Linda Radke, president of Five Star Publications, the sponsor of the Dragonfly Book Awards. “Competition is steep, too, because there is no publication date limit as long as the book is still in print.”

Violations of the Endangered Species Act and the Mammal Protection Act come into play during summer vacation in protection of a beached whale in *A Sandy Grave*. It can be purchased at Amazon, Barnes and Noble, Guardian Angel Publishing and other online retail stores, in addition to personalized autographed copies directly from the author at www.donnamcdine.com.

For a complete list of winners including all first and second place and honorable mention recipients, visit www.FiveStarBookAwards.com and click on “Winners.”

The next Purple Dragonfly Book Awards contest is already underway. Submissions postmarked March 1, 2015 or earlier are eligible for the Early Bird reward: a free e-copy of *The Economical Guide to Self-Publishing* or *Promote Like a Pro: Small Budget, Big Show* written by Radke. Final deadline for submissions is May 1, 2015. The Early Bird deadline for the Royal Dragonfly Book Awards Contest, which recognizes outstanding literature in all categories, is August 1, 2014. October 1, 2014 is the final deadline. For complete rules and submission forms for either contest, visit www.FiveStarBookAwards.com and click on the contest of choice.

To learn more about Five Star Publications, celebrating 28 years of doing business in Chandler, Ariz., access www.FiveStarPublications.com, email info@FiveStarPublications.com or call 480-940-8182.

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