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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Teaching with Story Wins 2015 Anne Izard Award

Resource book by Margaret Read MacDonald, Jennifer MacDonald Whitman and Nathaniel Forrest Whitman will receive an Anne Izard Storytellers' Choice Award.

White Plains, New York – June 4, 2015, August House Inc. is pleased to announce that **Teaching with Story: Classroom Connections to Storytelling** will receive a 2015 Anne Izard Storytellers' Award from the Westchester Library Association. This prestigious award recognizes distinguished books that promote greater awareness of storytelling with resources and rich source material. The award committee commented that **Teaching with Story** "can be used with confidence as a resource for storytellers," and that it "deepens and enriches a storyteller's understanding of the meaning and uses of story." The co-authors Margaret Read MacDonald, Jennifer MacDonald Whitman and Nathaniel Forrest Whitman will be recognized along with the other 12th bi-annual Anne Izard Award winners, on June 16th, 9:30 AM at the White Plains Public Library in New York. As a 2015 Anne Izard Storytellers' Choice Award winner,

Teaching with Story contains a range of valuable resources for teachers and librarians who want to use storytelling more effectively in their classrooms. The authors use the 7Cs: **C**ommunity, **C**haracter, **C**ommunication, **C**urriculum, **C**ultural connections, **C**reativity, and **C**onfidence to demonstrate how educators can more effectively integrate storytelling into the classroom. The 7C's model explains how storytelling can help enliven the curriculum, develop literacy skills, build positive character traits, teach creativity, and build a stronger sense of community. In addition, **Teaching with Story** provides teachers and children with techniques for learning to tell stories, as well as lesson plans and classroom activities correlated with the Common Core Standards.

Teaching with Story is the fourth time that a book authored or, in this case, co-authored by Margaret Read MacDonald has received the Anne Izard Storyteller's Choice Award. Previously, MacDonald won the Anne Izard award for her picture books **Go to Sleep Gecko** (2007) and **The Boy from the Dragon Palace** (2013), and for her resource book **The Storyteller's Sourcebook** (2002). In 2013,

August House author Willy Claflin was also honored with the Anne Izard award for his Maynard Moose picture book **Rapunzel and the Seven Dwarfs: A Maynard Moose Tale** one of four Maynard Moose picture books.

Although **Teaching with Story** is MacDonald's first collaboration with Jennifer and Nat, she has published over 55 books and has traveled the world extensively performing her stories for appreciative audiences and sharing her love of folktales. Jennifer currently is a Kindergarten teacher at the International School in Bangkok, Thailand, and Nat serves as the Elementary School librarian at the same school. Along with their work as educators, Jennifer and Nat are also professional storytellers.

August House Inc, the publisher of **Teaching with Story**, is a highly acclaimed and award-winning multimedia publisher of children's stories, folktale anthologies, and resource books. Located in Atlanta, GA, August House Inc has developed one of the most highly respected collections of folktales from the world's great oral traditions.

You can find more information about August House at www.augusthouse.com.

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