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The Children’s Literacy Foundation Awards $25,000 Year of the Book Grant to Ten Schools

Waterbury Center, VT: The Children’s Literacy Foundation (CLiF) has awarded its $25,000 Year of the Book literacy grant to five elementary schools in Vermont and five elementary schools in New Hampshire for the 2019-2020 school year. The Year of the Book grant involves a full school year of exciting programming, including several visits from NH and VT authors, illustrators, poets, graphic novelists, and storytellers, family literacy events, special literacy programs selected by each school, funds for classroom projects, and new books for classrooms, the school library, and the local public library, as well as ten new books for each child to choose.

The grant is intended to create a culture of literacy within a community, to supplement schools’ literacy efforts, to provide low-income, at-risk, and rural children access to high-quality reading materials of their choice, and to get kids excited about reading and writing. Selected schools demonstrated a commitment to literacy and creative ideas for promoting reading and writing, as well as high percentages of low-income students and students underperforming on reading and writing assessments.

Schools selected for the 2019-2020 school year are:

- Barton Academy & Graded School, Barton, VT
- Barre City Elementary and Middle School, Barre, VT
- Bridgewater-Hebron Village Elementary School, Bridgewater, NH
- Disnard Elementary School, Claremont, NH
- Enosburg Falls Elementary School, Enosburg Falls, VT
- Hartland Elementary School, Hartland, VT
- Hinsdale Elementary School, Hinsdale, NH
- Benjamin Franklin Elementary School, Keene, NH
- Laconia Middle School, Laconia, NH
- Echo Valley Community School District – Washington Village Campus, Orange and Washington, VT
“These ten schools have made tremendous steps, with very small budgets, to bring literacy activities to their schools,” says CLiF Program Director Meredith Scott. “The CLiF Year of the Book grant combined with their existing initiatives will have incredible and long-lasting impact on communities where families face many challenges. CLiF is very proud to partner with the dedicated staff, faculty, students and volunteers in these diverse schools.”

About the Children’s Literacy Foundation (CLiF)

CLiF is a non-profit organization whose mission is to nurture a love of reading and writing among low-income, at-risk, and rural children up to age 12 throughout New Hampshire and Vermont. Since 1998, CLiF has supported and inspired 250,000 young readers and writers through its literacy program grants and has given away $6 million in new, high-quality children's books. For more information about CLiF, visit www.clifonline.org.

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