

For Immediate Release

June 19, 2012

Contact:

Elizabeth Allee

646-395-5230

ballee@mediasourceinc.com

NEWS RELEASE

Media Source Launches New Online Review and Library Collection Development Resource

*With more than 300,000 expert reviews, **Book Verdict** is the ultimate guide for book lovers*

New York, N.Y. – Combining the expertise and review resources of *Library Journal*, *School Library Journal*, *Horn Book Magazine*, *Horn Book Guide* and Junior Library Guild, Media Source Inc. has announced the launch of **Book Verdict**, www.BookVerdict.com, a new online, subscription-based resource boasting more than 300,000 reviews of books and media from these leading industry publications, including starred reviews, “Best” lists and Junior Library Guild selections from the past 20-plus years.

“**Book Verdict** is our most powerful collection development tool to date because it puts years of authoritative reviews from the most respected brands in the library industry at readers’ fingertips,” said Ian Singer, Group Publisher for *Library Journal*, *School Library Journal* and *The Horn Book*. “This website extends the value of our reviews beyond print, offering librarians one highly functional yet agile tool to support collection development efforts, while bringing online access to professional reviews of books and media to avid readers everywhere.”

All-inclusive access to Book Verdict Pro is offered through a stand-alone subscription or as an upgrade for existing print subscribers, providing a range of options tailored to the set of reviews most relevant to the needs of each reader. Pro users will also be able to create, manage, and tag lists, and have the option to publish and share them publicly with other users. They can also save searches and export metadata - making it easy to prepare orders and reading lists to support reading programs and curriculum requirements.

“The reviews on the **Book Verdict** website will be updated on a weekly basis, so users will always have information on the most recent books and media,” said Francine Fialkoff, editor-in-chief, *Library Journal*. “Moving forward, more than 19,000 reviews will be added annually to this amazing resource, including advance reviews and audio and app reviews, helping librarians build and maintain diverse collections for years to come.”

Book Verdict will be debuted during the American Library Association (ALA) Annual Conference in Anaheim, CA this week. Media Source Inc., including *Library Journal*, *School Library Journal*, *The Horn Book* and Junior Library Guild, will offer demonstrations and subscription specials as well as giveaways in booth number 2234 in the exhibit hall at the Anaheim Conference Center.

###

Media Source Inc. is the parent company of *Library Journal*, *School Library Journal*, *The Horn Book Magazine*, *The Horn Book Guide* and Junior Library Guild.

ABOUT LIBRARY JOURNAL

Founded in 1876, *Library Journal (LJ)* is one of the oldest and most respected publications covering the library field. More than 100,000 library directors, administrators, and staff in public, academic, and special libraries read *LJ*. *Library Journal* reviews more than 8,000 books, audiobooks, videos, databases, and web sites annually, and provides coverage of technology, management, policy, and other professional concerns. Visit www.libraryjournal.com.

ABOUT SCHOOL LIBRARY JOURNAL

School Library Journal (SLJ) is the most influential publication serving libraries—the largest market for new children’s and young adult books—and is the only full-service publication serving the youth and school library market. It reaches more than 35,000 elementary, middle/junior, and senior high school librarians and youth service librarians in public libraries. *SLJ* educates its readers to become leaders in technology, reading, and information literacy. Visit www.schoollibraryjournal.com.

ABOUT THE HORN BOOK

First published in 1924, *The Horn Book Magazine* provides its readership with in-depth reviews of the best new books for children and young adults as well as features, articles, and editorials. *The Horn Book Guide*, published twice annually, provides comprehensive reviews and a numerical rating for every hardcover children’s book published in the United States during the previous publishing season. Visit www.hbook.com.

ABOUT JUNIOR LIBRARY GUILD

Junior Library Guild (JLG) is a book review and collection development service that helps school and public libraries acquire the best new children’s and young adult books. Founded in 1929, JLG helps libraries of any size save money and simplify collection development. Junior Library Guild book selections go on to win awards, collect starred or favorable reviews, and earn industry honors. Visit www.juniorlibraryguild.com.