## LEADING KIDS PUBLISHER, CRICKET MEDIA, CAPTURES FOUR NEW AWARDS FOR THEIR ACCLAIMED MAGAZINES, *LADYBUG* AND *CRICKET*

## Both Magazines Received Awards and Accolades from NAPPA (National Association of Parenting Publications) and Academics' Choice<sup>TM</sup> for Fall 2016

McLean, VA (December 19, 2016) – Cricket Media, the most award-winning magazine publisher in children's media, has just added four new awards to their overstuffed portfolio: both LADYBUG and CRICKET have received highest honors from NAPPA (National Association of Parenting Publications) and Academics' Choice<sup>™</sup> for Fall 2016.

LADYBUG magazine, perfect for pre-schoolers, is a charming collection of the best stories, poems, songs, action games, and adventures for young children. Written by some of the world's best-loved children's authors and illustrated by award-winning artists, LADYBUG is sure to spark young imaginations and develop a love of reading that will last a lifetime.

LADYBUG received a 2016 National Parenting Product Award from NAPPA. In their <u>awards</u> <u>post</u> they instruct parents to "make mail fun for your children and show them how important reading is by giving them a subscription to a magazine that it sure to engage." The magazine also received the Smart Media Award from Academics' Choice<sup>TM</sup>, the only awards company dedicated to products that stimulate cognitive development in children of all ages. In their <u>post</u>, they declared that LADYBUG "definitely sparks a love of reading…"

Since its premiere in 1973, CRICKET Magazine has delighted and entertained generations of kids with contemporary stories and classic literature from the world's best writers, paired with stunning illustrations. Delivering storytelling in its purest form, CRICKET is the world leader in providing the highest-quality fiction and nonfiction to children ages 9 to 14.

CRICKET also received both a NAPPA 2016 National Parenting Product Award, as well as a <u>Smart Media Award</u> from Academics' Choice<sup>TM</sup>, who said, "Cricket offers so much educational value. Students practice reading comprehension while they learn about poetry, history, and develop math skills". <u>NAPPA</u> called CRICKET "fun and engaging content in magazine form, packed with stories to foster creativity and imagination."

"We couldn't be more thrilled with our recent awards from NAPPA and Academics Choice," says CEO Stephanie Sharis. "It's always gratifying when your products are singled out for excellence, because a lot of creativity, thoughtfulness and hard work goes into every single issue of Ladybug and Cricket."

Consumers looking for a last-minute holiday gift can also explore Cricket Media's recently launched "Double the Giving" Campaign (DoubletheGiving.com), where they'll have the opportunity to join a movement guaranteed to spark a lifetime love of reading. Through February, any gift-giver purchasing an annual print subscription to one of four different Cricket publications – including LADYBUG and CRICKET -- will also deliver the gift of reading to a child in an underserved community through. Through the purchase of specially-discounted subscription bundles to BABYBUG (ages 6 mos.-3), LADYBUG (ages 3-6), SPIDER (ages 6-9)

or CRICKET (ages 9-14) for \$29.95 (regularly priced at \$33.95), gift-givers can select between two award-winning, charitable partners: Libraries Without Borders and Parent-Child Home Program, both 2016 Library of Congress Literacy Award Winners to receive another 9-issue annual print subscription. Visit DoubletheGiving.com for more information.

## About Cricket Media

Cricket Media is an education media company that provides award-winning content on a safe and secure learning network for children, families and teachers across the world. Cricket Media's 11 popular media brands for toddlers to teens include Babybug®, Ladybug®, Cricket<sup>™</sup> and Cobblestone<sup>™</sup>. The Company's innovative web-based K12 tools for school and home include the ePals community and virtual classroom for global collaboration as well as In2Books®, an e-Mentoring program that builds reading, writing and critical thinking skills. Cricket Media serves millions of teachers, students and parents in over 200 countries and territories through its platform and NeuPals, its joint venture with China's leading IT services company Neusoft. Cricket Media also licenses its content and platform to top publishing and educational companies worldwide. For more information, please visit <u>http://www.cricketmedia.com</u>.

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