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About the Lucy Daniels Award

The Lucy Daniels Center is the largest and most comprehensive non-profit agency providing children's mental health services in the Triangle region of North Carolina.

Founded in 1989 with a generous start-up gift from Lucy Daniels, Ph.D., a local writer and clinical psychologist, the Lucy Daniels Center (LDC) provides assistance to children facing mental health challenges through services including specialized early childhood education programs, outpatient clinics, and in-home therapy. The Center also provides valuable support for children's mental health through public outreach efforts including the "Ask Lucy Daniels Center" column and the "Mental Health Matters!" blog, in partnership with *Carolina Parent* magazine; workshops and publications for parents and professionals; and Lucy's Book Club.

Launched in 2009, Lucy's Book Club (LBC) seeks to support healthy social and emotional growth in young children by encouraging parents to read to them books that approach important developmental themes in a safe and reassuring way. Each year, three reading lists are developed by a panel of the Center's mental health professionals and a Wake County librarian and distributed to more than 200 community partners on brightly colored, oversized bookmarks. The program is free and reaches more than 30,000 families with young children each year.

In honor of founding benefactor Lucy Daniels, the Center and Lucy's Book Club in 2010 created The Lucy Daniels Award, given annually during the **Bookmarked!** festival, to recognize an author or author/illustrator whose body of work demonstrates outstanding contributions to children's literature that supports social and emotional growth.

Acclaimed author Judith Viorst (*Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day*) was the first recipient of the Lucy Daniels Award in 2010; three-time Caldecott Honor Award winner Molly Bang (*When Sophie Gets Angry* and *All of Me*) received the award in 2011.

Bookmarked! 2012's featured author, Audrey Penn (author of the Chester Raccoon series, including back-to-school favorite *The Kissing Hand*), will become the award's third recipient during this year's festival.

For more information about Lucy's Book Club and **Bookmarked! 2012**, visit www.lucysbookclub.org.

Now celebrating its 20th anniversary, the Lucy Daniels Center, formerly the Lucy Daniels Center for Early Childhood, is devoted to promoting the healthy emotional development of young children. It is the Triangle area's largest and most comprehensive non-profit agency providing mental health services exclusively for children. For more information, please visit www.lucydanielscenter.org.

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