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KANE MILLER BOOKS AUTHOR FEATURED ON GIRL SCOUTS' THE STUDIO

Debra McArthur, author of ***A Voice for Kansas***, a middle-grade work of historical fiction, is featured on The Studio website of the Girl Scouts of America, "a showcase for inspiring storytellers of all kinds, who offer an inside look at how they do what they do." ***A Voice for Kansas*** is a recent release from Kane Miller Books, a Division of EDC Publishing.

Working through the Children's Book Council, The Studio offers selected authors a forum to share their work, methods and advice with site visitors. The website aims to "create a community of girls who can share their creative work with others and learn from professionals working in a variety of creative careers."

The well-researched ***A Voice for Kansas*** is set in Kansas Territory in 1855, in the midst of the conflict between the proslavery Border Ruffians and the Insiders, recent settlers like Lucy Thomkins' father who are determined to make Kansas a free state. Struggling to adjust to conditions in her new home, Lucy, a thirteen-year-old poet, eventually comes to realize that her words and poems are meaningless unless she takes action to support them.

The idea for the book first came when Ms. McArthur, then teaching high school in Kansas, once assigned a classroom journal writing project based on the settling of Kansas territory. Her own participation in the process was the starting point of a years-long project that eventually became ***A Voice for Kansas***.

Now a writing instructor at Park University in Missouri and the author of several nonfiction works for children, Ms. McArthur also makes presentations at bookstores, in classrooms and for community groups on the writing process and on Kansas history. More information can be found at debramcarthur.com.

Since 1983, Kane Miller Books has specialized in publishing children's books from around the world. Kane Miller Books bring the children of the world closer to each other through sharing stories and ideas, while exploring cultural differences and similarities. For information please visit www.kanemiller.com.

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