**Brief Biography for Author Mary Kay Carson**

Mary Kay Carson is the author of more than fifty nonfiction books for young people about wildlife, space, weather, nature, and history. After studying biology in college, and a stint in the Peace Corps, she began her writing career working on the classroom magazine *SuperScience* at Scholastic in New York City. Her books have received more than a dozen starred reviews, as well as multiple awards, including the 2019 AAAS/Subaru SB&F Prize for Excellence in Science Books for *Alexander Graham Bell for Kids*. She’s written six titles in HMH’s acclaimed Scientists in the Field series, including and *The Bat Scientists*, an ALA 2011 Notable Children's Books for Middle Readers and *The Tornado Scientist*, a State Library of Ohio Choose To Read Ohio (CTRO) title for 2021-22. The author also gives presentations at schools and libraries and is part of the STEMTuesday blog team. She’s been a full-time writer for twenty-five years and lives in Cincinnati, Ohio, with her photographer husband Tom Uhlman in a century-old house surrounded by urban greenspace, deer, hawks, woodchucks, and songbirds. www.marykaycarson.com

**Awards & Honors**

Choose to Read Ohio 2021 & 2022 title for *The Tornado Scientist* (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2019)

Bank Street College’s Best Children’s Books of the Year: 2020 *The Tornado Scientist* (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2019)

2019 AAAS/Subaru SB&F Prize for Excellence in Hands-On Science Book for *Alexander Graham Bells for Kids* (Chicago Review Press, 2018)

2019 Eureka Honor Book Award (California Reading Association) for

2019 Outstanding Science Trade Book for Students: K-12 (National Science Teachers Association and the Children's Book Council) for *Alexander Graham Bells for Kids* (Chicago Review Press, 2018)

2018 Ohioana Book Award Finalist for *Mission to Pluto* (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2017)

2016 Green Prize for Sustainable Literature Winner: Youth for *Inside Biosphere 2* (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2015)

2016 Outstanding Science Trade Book for Students: K-12 (National Science Teachers Association and the Children's Book Council) for *Inside Biosphere 2* (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2015)

2015 Ohioana Book Award Finalist for *Park Scientists: Gila Monsters, Geysers, and Grizzly Bears in America’s Own Backyard* (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2014)

Choose to Read Ohio 2015 & 2016 title for *Beyond the Solar System* (Chicago Review Press, 2014)

2015 Outstanding Science Trade Book for Students: K-12 (National Science Teachers Association and the Children's Book Council) for *PARK SCIENTISTS: Gila Monsters, Geysers, and Grizzly Bears in America’s Own Backyard* (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2014)

2014 Outstanding Science Trade Book for Students: K-12 (National Science Teachers Association and the Children's Book Council) for *Beyond the Solar System* (Chicago Review Press, 2014)

American Library Association Notable Children’s Book 2011 for *The Bat Scientists* (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2010)

American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics 2009 Children’s Literature Award for *Exploring the Solar System* (Chicago Review Press, 2008)

Booklist’s Top 10 Sci-Tech Books for Youth: 2008 for *Emi and the Rhino Scientis*t (Houghton Mifflin, 2007)

Booklist’s Top 10 Books on the Environment for Youth 2008 for *Emi and the Rhino Scientis*t (Houghton Mifflin, 2007)

Bank Street College’s Best Children’s Books of the Year: 2008 *Emi and the Rhino Scientist* (Houghton Mifflin, 2007)

Learning Magazine Teachers' Choice Award for *In the Deep* (Chelsea House, 2003)