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**(FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE)**

**Book Industry Charitable (Binc) Foundation announces new board members**

*Mary Jane Karwoski and Annie Philbrick join board of directors bringing extensive book industry knowledge*

**Ann Arbor, MI** (August 13, 2014) The Book Industry Charitable (Binc) Foundation announced today the addition of Mary Jane Karwoski and Annie Philbrick to its Board of Directors. Executive Director, Pam French states, “we feel very fortunate to add Mary Jane and Annie to the Binc board. Their leadership experience, industry knowledge and passion for bookselling will help us continue to refine our strategic plan.”

Mary Jane Karwoski is currently Vice President of Human Resources for Books-A-Million, responsible for overseeing employee relations, compensation, benefits, training and development and recruiting. She also is the president of the Company’s charitable foundation, the Associate Assistance Fund. Mary Jane holds a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology and Elementary Education degree from Marymount College and a Master of Business Administration from the University of Connecticut School of Business. She recently completed the Human Resources certification, Senior Professional in Human Resources (SPHR). Prior to joining Books-A-Million, she worked for Blockbuster, Inc. as a Regional Director of Operations and most notably with Borders Group as Director of Human Resources and Regional Sales Director. Additionally, she has worked for Jamba Juice as a Regional Director of Operations and Franchise Leader.

About her new role with Binc, Mary Jane said, “I am delighted to be joining the Board of the Binc Foundation, knowing how it has helped and supported people within the book industry for years. I look forward to learning, and to making a contribution as a board member.”

Annie Philbrick has always been an avid reader. With two other women, she bought Bank Square Books in Mystic, CT in June 2006 and assumed the role of adult book buyer and event planner. Annie has been to six Winter Institutes organized by the ABA, one on a scholarship from Beacon Press in Boston, and served on the NEIBA Advisory Council for two years and was NEIBA President for the past two years. She recently became a Board member of the American Booksellers Association. Annie lives in Stonington, CT with her husband, Ben and their four kids, most of whom have flown the coop. She is a graduate of Middlebury College and the Pushkin Institute in Moscow, USSR. In her spare time she jumps horses, gardens, rows her shell but reading is her mode of transport.

“Binc played a major role in our store’s survival after Tropical Storm Sandy and has helped our booksellers with financial support and academic scholarships,” Annie said about the Foundation. “I am therefore thrilled to serve on the Board and contribute in any way I can in return for their continued support. They are a generous organization in the book industry.”

**About The Book Industry Charitable (Binc) Foundation**

The Book Industry Charitable Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that coordinates charitable programs to strengthen the bookselling community. Established in 1996, the core program provides assistance to bookstore employees who have a demonstrated financial need arising from severe hardship and/or emergency circumstances. Since its inception, the organization has provided over \$5.2 million in financial assistance and scholarships to more than 6,900 families. Support for the Foundation’s programs and services come from all sectors of the book industry.

The Book Industry Charitable Foundation’s mission is to strengthen the bookselling community through charitable programs that support employees and their families. The Foundation was imagined and built by booksellers and proudly continues to be their safety net. It is our vision to be a caring community of book people.

Additional information can be found at <http://www.bincfoundation.org>. ###