



**Behind the Book**  
**Annual Report 2021-2022**

Our mission is to develop engaged readers and writers in underserved NYC public schools by designing and delivering programs that are multi-disciplinary, culturally responsive, and promote deeper connections to books and their authors.



Dear Friends,

The 2021-22 school year was a time for transitions, growth, and new avenues of exploration. It was also not without its challenges, as we negotiated the continued uncertainty of Covid-19 in our classrooms and grappled with learning loss and burnout in students and staff. However, our team of teachers and literacy professionals were up for the challenge. It was a rewarding year, both bittersweet and hopeful, as Jo announced she would be stepping down as executive director. Here are some of the highlights.

We held an all-school program at P.S. 125 with wonderful authors Nikole Hannah-Jones and Renée Watson, who shared their children's book collaboration *The 1619 Project: Born on the Water* with more than 100 3rd-5th graders. This model was new for us at BtB, and we plan to offer more of these programs to our partner schools in the coming years. We followed this up with an exciting evening event with the two authors who shared their thoughts on bringing this important work to children.



A new partner, Harbor Heights Middle School in Washington Heights, joined our ranks. This school serves Spanish-speaking students who have been in the United States for less than three years; most of them are from the Dominican Republic, and some of them have limited formal schooling. In order to best serve these students, we used our modified curriculum to support English language learners. Most importantly, all of the students loved the book selections which featured narratives about young people like them. The partnership has been a huge success, and we will be back in the school next year in every grade.

In total, we served 1,756 students at 14 Title One schools, conducting 76 traditional programs and one all-school program. We gave away over 17,300 books to young people, schools, libraries, and community organizations, more than ever before. This speaks to our commitment to ensuring that quality books are available to the students who need them most. There is nothing quite like the smile on a child's face when they get to choose their own books and keep them for good.

This was Jo's final year at Behind the Book after founding this wonderful organization twenty years ago. We will miss her greatly. After an exhaustive search, we were thrilled to hire Andrew Frank, who comes to BtB with many years of experience leading arts and culture nonprofits in NYC, most recently the New York Children's Theater.

Thank you to our funders, sponsors, volunteers, Young Executives and Governing Board for supporting us as we continue to grow and serve more students. Thanks to our wonderful staff, and the teachers and schools we work with, who make our programs possible. All of you share our values and mission, and we look forward to continuing this journey together.

Happy Reading,

Jo and Susan

## 2021-2022 School Year



- Harbor Heights Middle School joined 13 of our returning schools for a total of **77 programs**, consisting of **470 workshops** in PreK-12th grade classrooms.
- Special visitors included an exoneree from the Innocence Project, a *New York Times* reporter, a Lenape tribal leader, an adaptive accessibility designer, a spoken word artist, cultural musicians and dancers, local immigration and refugee experts, and many more.
- Hosted our first all-school program featuring Nikole Hannah-Jones and Renée Watson at P.S. 125.
- Published **12 student anthologies with 23 classrooms**, making **539 students published authors**.
- Donated **17,300 books** to students, shelters, public housing, and the communities around our schools.



## Cultural Responsiveness

Behind the Book has always understood the importance of books and authors who reflect the communities and lived experiences of our students. Representation matters, and we make sure our students see themselves in the books we provide.

This year **88% of our programs' books** had BIPOC main characters.

**73% of our programs** featured BIPOC authors.

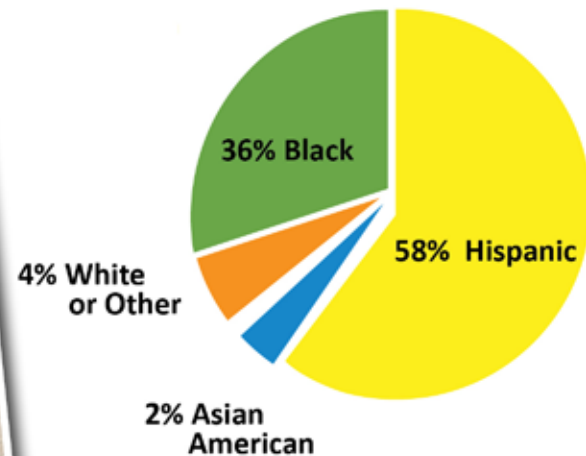
## Since 2003, we have:

Worked in **897 classrooms** serving over **21,650 students** in Title I public schools.

Donated more than **100,000 books** to students, classroom & school libraries, and community organizations.



## Our Students



We served **1,756 students**  
**89%** qualified for free lunch.

**39%** of our programs were customized for **Special Education classes**.  
**31%** of our programs were customized for **English language learners**.



## OUR PARTNER SCHOOLS

### Elementary

- P.S. 4 The Duke Ellington School  
Washington Heights, Manhattan
- P.S. 43 Jonas Bronck  
Mott Haven, the Bronx
- P.S. 125 The Ralph Bunche School  
Harlem, Manhattan
- P.S. 154 The Harriet Tubman School  
Harlem, Manhattan
- P.S. 197 John B. Russwurm School  
East Harlem, Manhattan

### High Schools

- Explorations Academy High School  
Morrisania, the Bronx
- Frederick Douglass Academy III  
Morrisania, the Bronx
- International Community High School  
Mott Haven, Bronx
- The Laboratory School of Finance and Technology:  
MSHS 223 South Bronx
- Thurgood Marshall Academy for Learning  
& Social Justice  
Harlem, Manhattan

### Middle Schools

- Harbor Heights  
Washington Heights, Manhattan
- The Laboratory School of Finance and Technology: MSHS 223  
South Bronx
- M.S. 328 Community Math & Science Prep  
Washington Heights, Manhattan
- M.S. 296 South Bronx Academy of Applied Media  
Mott Haven, the Bronx
- Thurgood Marshall Academy for Learning & Social Change  
Harlem, Manhattan
- Urban Assembly Bronx Academy of Letters  
Mott Haven, the Bronx

*I feel happy and proud because my goal, my dream was to publish a book where my idea is there and when I see my story being published [with Behind the Book] it makes me write more.*

**12th grade student,  
International Community High School**

# BTB'S PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE

## A Conversation with Jo Umans and Andrew Frank



At the close of FY 22, and after 20 years of shepherding Behind the Book, Founder Jo Umans handed the reins to new executive director Andrew Frank. Jo and Andrew sat down to talk about the organization's past, present, and future, as well as what is next for her. Here is their conversation (edited for clarity and concision).

Andrew: I want to start off by asking you: what are you most proud of?

Jo: That's a good question. I'm most proud of the fact that I got the organization to the place where I could hand it off. I started a nonprofit with a background in television production, which of course has nothing to do with the world of nonprofits. The first year I raised \$15,000 and I grew it to a 1.4 million dollar budget. Before leaving, I felt that programming needed to be solid, there should be an evaluation, a vision for strategic planning, and a strong board. Now it's real. People used to say, 'how is your little project going,' and I was really resentful of that. The fact that it's real, and I felt that I could pass it on, that someone would want it. And I did it!

Andrew: I love the fact that you created something that other people are really excited to work on and grow. That must be an amazing feeling. What is your favorite moment? An ah-ha moment you remember?

Jo: At CS 21 in Bed Stuy, I was working with a group of boys, and we were doing comic books. We did an outline of a comic book, and we divided the class into sections, and each section had to do their part. One kid in my group - he was in 5th grade - he never did his homework, he was failing. And as we were doing the art, I looked over at his paper, and he had perfect perspective. It was a drawing of a railroad car. I showed the teacher what he had done, and I helped them to build a relationship just from that. She started to give him more art projects around the class, do the bulletin board, and his grades started to go up, and he started to do his homework.

We were able to show the teacher how to take advantage of his artistic talent to build a relationship.

Andrew: That's great. The program really helped the teacher see her student in a new light.

Jo: Exactly.

Andrew: You did so many student books over the years - do you have one or two that stood out?

Jo: One of the books we produced was for P.S. 125 5th grade with Rita Williams-Garcia on the Black Panthers. The kids really got into it. (see picture below)

Another one was a program on space, and I took the kids to meet a real astronaut from the Intrepid, and this book is half in English and half in Spanish. (see picture below)

Andrew: Ok so now let's talk about the big picture: What are your hopes for the future?

Jo: My hope is that it goes on for more than three years past me; if that happens, I'll be confident that it will go on. I hope you're able to reach more kids without taking away anything. That you can figure out how to follow kids year after year, and I hope that as many kids as possible are able to take care of themselves in the world, have good careers, and use the tools they learn at BtB.

Andrew: What about you - what's next for you?

Jo: I'm taking a class about kids and poverty in NYC and trying to learn if there is something there I'd like to do. I'm working with Impact 100 again this year, giving grants to NYC organizations. But basically I don't want a full-time job, I'm trying to figure out next steps.

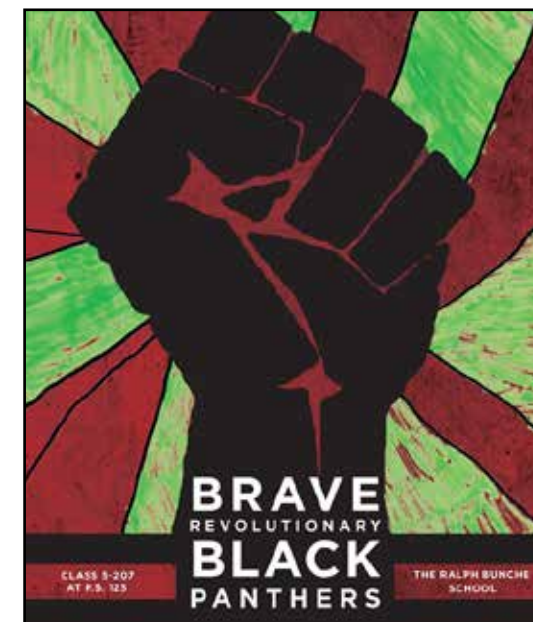
Andrew: So let's flip the script. Do you have any questions for me?

Jo: How does it feel taking over something that was someone else's baby? (laughs)

Andrew: (laughs) That's a good question. The answer is: super special. It's such a special feeling to hold something that has such a rich history of success; it's such an opportunity. I founded my own organization, and I've been the head of an organization that was 60 years old, but this particular life cycle of following a founder feels so full of importance. I'm so glad you trust me with it.

Jo: Thank you.

Andrew: No, thank you! Jo, you're amazing.





## PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT

*Layla and the Bots: Built for Speed* by Vicky Fang

3rd grade students from P.S. 4, The Duke Ellington School, read *Layla and the Bots: Built for Speed* by Vicky Fang to explore themes of accessibility, engineering, and equity. The book centers on a young girl and her team of robots, who build an accessible car for one of her disabled friends so she can participate in a race. The program began with a virtual author visit with Vicky, where she discussed how she became an author and what inspired her to write about accessibility in the Bots series. The students had many questions, of course, and were thrilled to have such a responsive and fun author visit.

Later on, a special speaker from Adaptive Designs visited the class, and spoke to students about the real-world changes the company makes for people with disabilities so they can use everyday objects most take for granted.

After providing the students with examples of such modifications in an interactive presentation, students brainstormed their own ideas. The overall goal for the lesson was to get students to develop new, and redesign commonly used, products to be inclusive and accessible to people with diverse abilities. Students had fun sharing their thoughts out loud with their classmates before moving on to the writing project.

In keeping with the theme of the book, modifications for Special Education students in this program included: graphic organizers to help students organize their ideas and provide a visual display of information, group work and discussions, adult guidance, and videos with captions. The program culminated in a student book titled *Redesigning for Accessibility*, which can be found on our website. This program is just one example of how the books we use integrate reading, STEAM education, diversity and social justice issues, providing students with real-world knowledge while giving them a chance to be creative and express themselves.

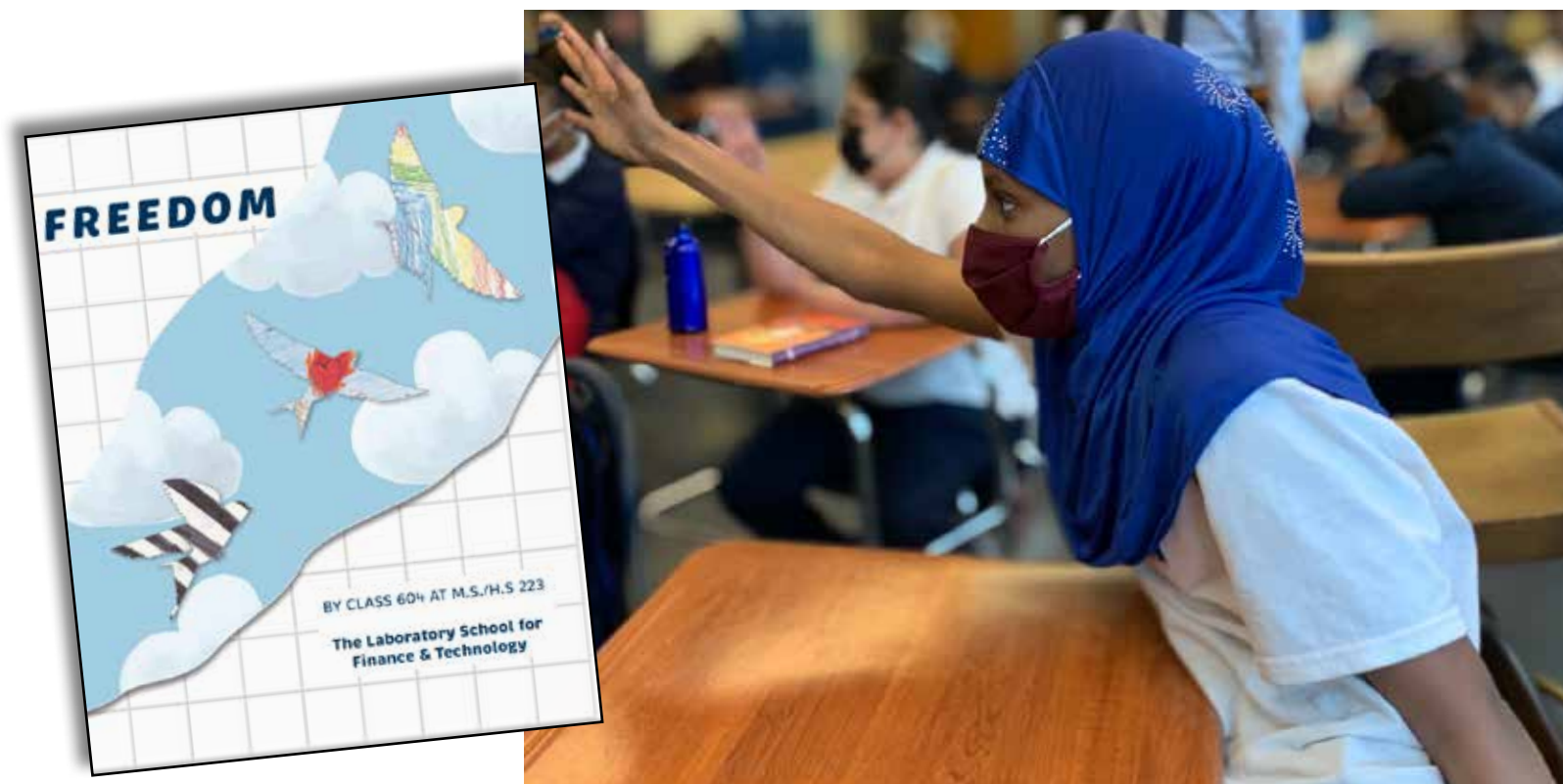
## PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT

*From the Desk of Zoe Washington* by Janae Marks

What do we do when we believe the criminal justice system has failed? Middle school students from M.S. 223 read *From the Desk of Zoe Washington* by Janae Marks. In this story, a character named Zoe Washington receives a letter from her incarcerated father on her 12th birthday. When she learns that her father has been wrongfully convicted, she fights to find a way to prove his innocence.

To engage the students in the book, Janae came to the classroom and led the students in a discussion exploring the program's essential question: What recourse do we have when a person is wrongfully convicted? To further enhance students' real-life engagement with the book, BtB partnered with the Innocence Project, a non-profit organization which exonerates such cases through DNA testing and works on criminal justice reform. They sent a guest speaker, one of their real-life success stories, to talk to the class about their experience.

Inspired by this visit, students then engaged in a writing assignment to design and compose a postcard to someone who had been exonerated through the Innocence Project. Students were prompted to imagine that the person they were writing to was still in prison and to think about what kind of message they would want to send to them: a message of hope, support, release, or activism. The workshop began by viewing and discussing the artworks of exonerated artists Richard Phillips and Valentino Dixon, as well as The Window Project, presented by Mark Strandquist and Prison Health News. The students then created their own postcard designs and participated in a share and reflection session. The program culminated in the student book *Freedom*, which can be found on our website.



*I would like to read more because [Behind the Book] helped me understand more stories and dig deeper.*

6th grade student,  
M.S. 223

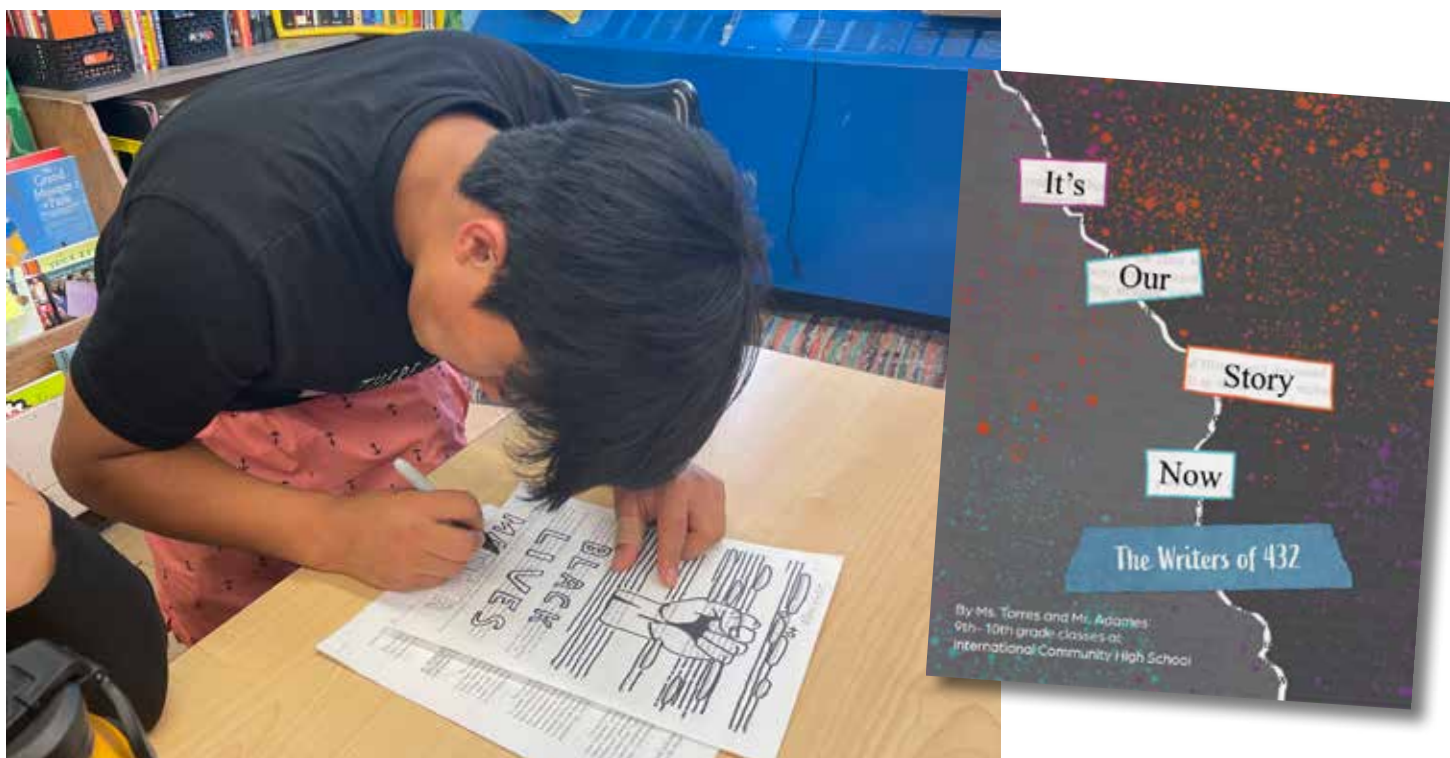
## PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT *When We Make It* by Elisabet Velasquez

The myth of the American dream is pervasive even today, and can be as much a trap as it is a path to freedom. 9th and 10th grade students at International High school read *When We Make It* by Elisabet Velasquez, a novel-in-verse that navigates the intersection of family, poverty, mental illness, sexuality, and racism for the Nuyorican teenager Sarai in gentrifying 1990s Bushwick, Brooklyn.

The essential questions that students were asked during this program was: Who decides when we make it, who can make it, or what “making it” looks like? How can writing our own stories help us reclaim our agency? The students were visited by the author, who conducted a lively workshop with them. Many were excited to meet an author who spoke Spanish, as many students are English language learners. The atmosphere was inspiring, with Elisabet later saying, “One of the first times I can point to a voice that defined my identity wasn’t even my own voice. It was how other people viewed what was happening to Puerto Ricans who lived in Bushwick in the 80’s & 90’s [...]. If I had believed what the newspapers were saying about my people, I might have begun to think there was no hope for me [...]. Shout out to Behind the Book for bringing me to talk to the students at International High who are asking their own questions and challenging existing narratives in order to reclaim their actual stories.”

To prepare the class for the writing activity, the class was visited by guest speaker Ameresoul, a spoken word artist from the Highbridge section of the Bronx who started writing poetry as a way to express the hardships of growing up in a rough neighborhood and the cruelties of the world that we live in. Ameresoul spoke about his own experiences growing up in the Bronx and then led the students in a discussion about how the different structures of poetry reinforce meaning.

Inspired by Sarai’s struggle with agency, students created their own ‘blackout’ or ‘erasure’ poems, a form of poetry where certain words are ‘blacked out’ and others remain highlighted, often forming a shape or symbol to visually represent the poem’s theme. The students considered the formal aspects of the composition, the meaning behind their poetry, how art can give us alternative methods of expressing an idea, and how art can be used as a communication tool. The program culminated in the student book: *It’s Our Story Now*.



## ALL SCHOOL PROGRAM *The 1619 Project: Born on the Water*

Pulitzer-prize winning journalist Nikole Hannah-Jones and Newbery Honor winner Renée Watson, co-authors of *The 1619 Project: Born on the Water* (Kokila, 2021), joined BtB for an all-school author event at P.S. 125 in Harlem on February 2, 2022. Six classes of 3-5th grade students, 110 in total, took part in this special event focused on this important book, which provides a pre-colonial context for Black history, while also exploring the horrific realities of slavery and the resiliency and contributions of Black Americans.

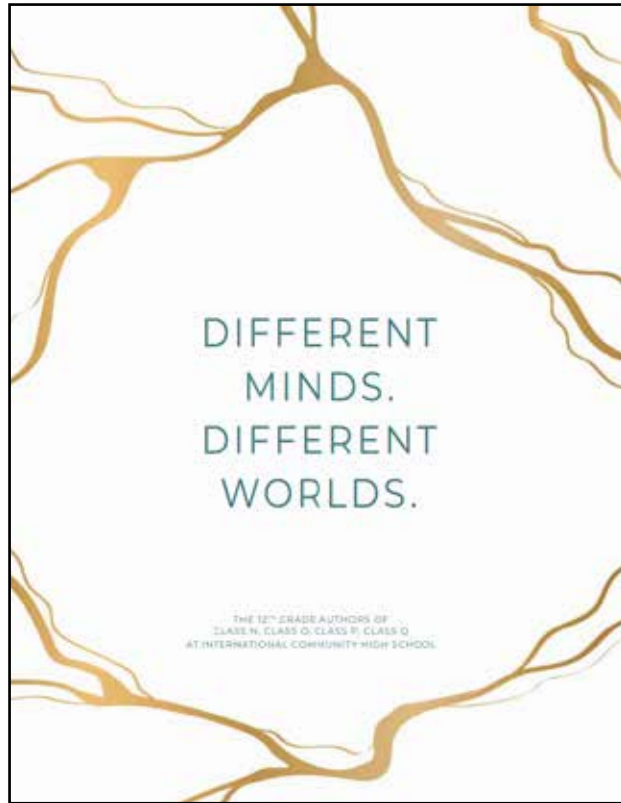
Prior to the visit, BtB held a professional development session with teachers, providing them with discussion questions, a program plan including an introductory workshop, writing, and arts activities, and graphic organizers to assist with the writing process. Each student also received a copy of the book courtesy of our partners at Penguin Random House, which they read in their supportive classroom environments.

In response to the text, students wrote “Where I Am From” poems, a perfect way for young people of all ages to explore their own complex identities. BtB’s teaching artist made a video for all classes to watch to guide them through the creative process. They drew self-portraits and created collages out of images from their poems to complement their writing. On the day of the event, the school bulletin boards were filled with beautiful writing and art inspired by *Born on the Water*.

When the authors took the stage, the students were excited and rapt through the entire workshop; they listened as Nikole and Renée read poetry and discussed their creative process and reasons for writing the book. Then students got the chance to take the mic themselves. They stood in front of their peers, the authors, and special guests to ask questions, and some even shared their poetry.

The most passionate young writers were invited to a smaller group conversation with the authors. “I liked the book because maybe people didn’t know the history of Black people,” said Shima, 9, a fourth grader. “Maybe they didn’t know it didn’t start with slavery.” Students also had the opportunity to ask questions about journalism, poetry, and other genres of writing. The event concluded with a book autograph session.

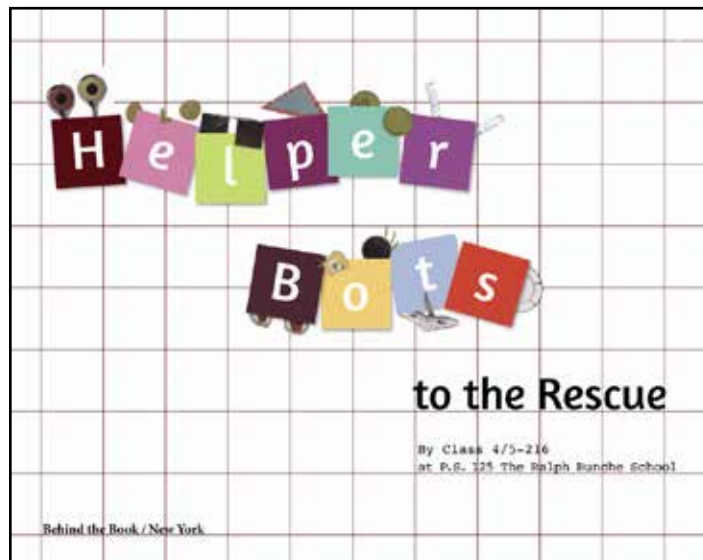
Behind the Book would like to thank Nikole and Renée, the principal, teachers, and staff of P.S. 125, our special guests, and especially our wonderful students, for making this an event to remember.



## STUDENT BOOKS

A special shout out to all of our designers: thank you for helping us bring a sense of accomplishment and pride to our students during a dark period.

Adriana Moreno Belle Brandon Julian Mahecha  
 Karen Evans Krystal Pratt Liliana Guia  
 Maryellen Tseng Rosie Gaynor



## SUPPORTERS

We'd like to thank everyone who supports Behind the Book:

### Government

New York City Council  
 Discretionary Funds  
 New York City Department of  
 Cultural Affairs

### Foundations

Clara & Kurt Hellmuth  
 Foundation  
 Columbia Community Service  
 David Buntzman Foundation  
 Ebb Point Foundation  
 FAR Fund  
 Glenn Markman Foundation  
 Grodzins Fund  
 Guru Krupa Foundation Inc.  
 Henry E. Niles Foundation  
 Henry Luce Foundation  
 Horace W. Goldsmith  
 Foundation  
 Hyde and Watson  
 Foundation  
 Jeff Hunter Charitable Trust  
 Korein Foundation  
 KPMG U.S. Foundation  
 Lawrence Foundation  
 Lois Lenski Covey Foundation  
 Morrison & Foerester  
 Foundation  
 National Book Foundation  
 Phyllis Backer Foundation  
 Pine Tree Foundation  
 RBC Foundation  
 RELX Cares/Elsevier  
 Foundation  
 Seth Sprague Foundation  
 Stephen Colbert Americone Dream  
 Fund  
 Taffner Family Charitable  
 Trust  
 VC Mars Foundation

William T. Grant Foundation  
 Youth INC.

### Corporations

American Express  
 Apollo Global Management  
 Bank of America Charitable  
 Foundation  
 Bank of India  
 Book Highlight  
 Brookfield Properties Management  
 Covington & Burling LLP  
 Depository Trust & Clearing  
 Corporation  
 Ernst & Young  
 Eversec Group Inc.  
 Goldman Sachs Gives  
 Gotham Charitable Foundation  
 Greater Harlem Chamber of  
 Commerce  
 Hologic Charitable Fund  
 Keystone Strategy  
 Long Investment Management  
 (LIM)  
 Macmillan Publishers  
 MSCI  
 News Corp  
 Nuveen, A TIAA Company  
 Penguin Random House  
 Pfizer Foundation Matching Gifts  
 Program  
 RBC Capital Markets  
 SecureAuth  
 SMBC Global Foundation  
 TIAA Serves Corporation  
 Twitter For Good

### In-Kind Donations

KPMG  
 Macmillan Publishers  
 Michael Brennen

Patty McCormick  
 Paul Griffin  
 Penguin Random House  
 Renée Watson  
 Scholastic Book Clubs  
 Stimola Literary Studio

### Individuals

Alan Adelman  
 Cedric Andre Allen  
 Phillip Anderson  
 Susan Appel  
 Cameca Johnson Bacchus  
 Cathy Baron Tamraz  
 Carla Burns  
 Robin Canter & Sally Susman  
 Laura Cappiello  
 Sheenam Chadha  
 Aliza Chesler  
 Jacqueline & Tim Chezar  
 Valerie Cihylik  
 Susan & Scott Coleridge  
 Anna Cordasco  
 Casey Cornelius  
 Joy & Darnell Crenshaw  
 Mila & Rahul Dani  
 D&S Davidson Family  
 Foundation  
 Douglas & Sandy Davidson  
 Susan Davis & Claudia Slacik  
 Bonnie Dry  
 Jisha Dymond  
 Tony & Swati Elavia  
 Diana & Fred Elghanayan  
 Susan Elman & Joe Ronson  
 Maria Fasulo & Laurie Olsen  
 Steven Felgran  
 John Ferretti  
 Christine Fleming & James  
 Wiggins  
 Ellen & David Freeman

*[Student engagement with Behind the Book is...] Being able to hear a pin drop as students listened to and watched Ameresoul share his spoken word work.*

8th grade teacher,  
 M.S. 223

*[Behind the Book made me want to read more] because it was really nice sharing a book where I am part of it with my proud family. [Behind the Book made me want to write more because] by writing I can express myself freely.*

12th grade student,  
International Community High School, the Bronx

Julie Gafney  
Faith Gay & Francesca  
Zambello  
Susom Ghosh  
Gail Gordon  
Catherine Gravina  
John Halpern  
Barbara & William Haney  
Kate Jonas  
Jourdan Jones  
Kim Kaufman  
Lee Kempler & Allison Pease  
Karthik Krishnan  
Gail Kyler & Wayne Cornelius  
Marvin Larry  
Helen & Mike Levy  
Kate Long  
Arjun & Anjali Mathrani  
Devika Mathrani & Ian  
Woolley  
David McCraw

Mohsin Meghji  
Nancy Merrell & John Lang  
Muffie Meyer & Ron Blumer  
Nancy Meyer & Marc Weiss  
Allan Miller  
Linda Mintz & Penny  
Zuckerwise  
Lawrence Miri  
Kathryn Ogden  
Lida Orzeck  
Overbrook Family Advised  
Fund  
Diane Parish & Paul Gelburd  
Brette Popper & Paul Spraos  
Marisabel & Jerry Raymond  
Sara Reynolds & Matt Nebel  
Hilary Rosen  
Barbara Rothenstein & Daniel  
Budassoff  
Robert & Amy Rothman  
Tracey Schusterman

Seidman Family Charitable  
Fund  
Robert & Barbara Staffaroni  
Chris Stern Hyman  
Bill Stout  
Lise Strickler & Mark Gallogly  
Marjorie & Louis Susman  
Edwina Tam  
Stephanie Tam  
Blair Thetford  
Brian Trauman  
Rob Weisstuch & Faith  
Glazier  
Derry Wilkens  
Sandra Wilkens  
Patricia Williams  
Jim Wolfe  
David Wolfowitz  
Elena Wu & Marty Accetta



### Board of Directors

Phillip Anderson  
Robin Canter  
Casey Cornelius  
Rahul Dani  
Douglas Davidson  
Jisha Dymond  
Susan Elman, chair  
Steven Felgran  
Barbara Haney  
Kate Jonas  
Jourdan Jones  
Marvin Larry  
Marisabel Raymond  
Blair Thetford  
Brian Trauman  
Derry Wilkens  
David Wolfowitz  
Ian Woolley  
Elena Wu

### Young Executive Board

Cameca Bacchus  
Andrew Beaudoin  
Sheenam Chadha  
Jenny Cheng  
Max Colbert  
Tyler DeGeorge  
Serena Elavia  
John Ferretti  
Olivia Gassner  
Susom Ghosh  
Liz Ostertag  
Spencer Reno  
Stephanie Tam  
Preneshni Veiga  
Justin White



## Staff

Keturah Abdullah  
Alexandra Berndt  
Lacresha Berry  
Karen Butler  
Amanda Carr  
Denise Cotton  
Nina Dunhill  
Chris Fleming  
Lisa Gomez  
Myra Hernandez

Candice Humphries  
Christy Hood  
Remi Klein  
Shirley Merino  
Adriana Moreno  
Roshana Nabi  
Giancarlo Romero  
Jo Umans  
Elizabeth Valentin

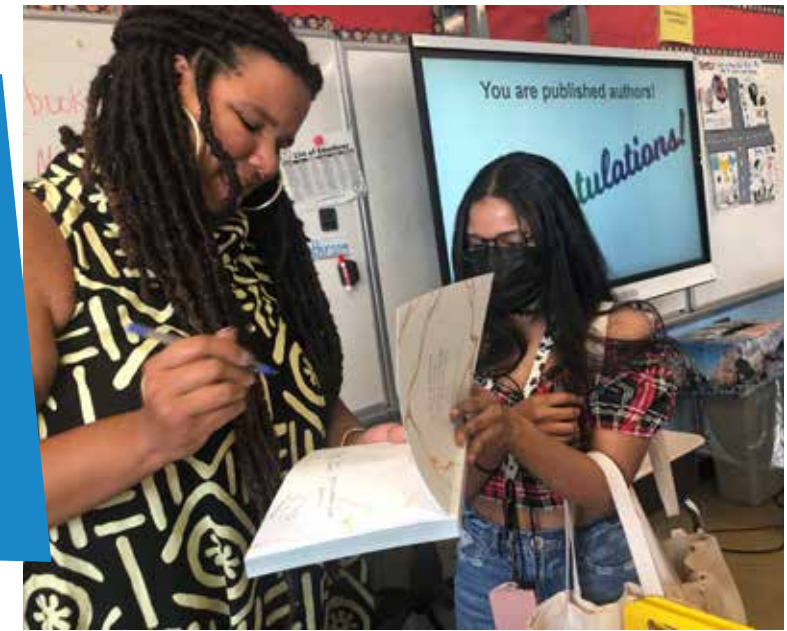


*Yes, [the publication of their work affected their work ethic]! The level of the work was exemplary. The class is full of good writers. Still, they went above and beyond for this project. They chose to use multiple sources in their research and to cite it accurately. They revised their writing- making sure that they were writing exactly what they wanted to say- and that their sentences were crafted well. They edited the work after publishing it in a Google Doc- making sure to dot every "i" and cross every "t". They showed pride in their writing.*

5th grade teacher,  
P.S. 154

*[I felt great about the author visit because] when [the author, Fred Aceves] first came to look at my paper and saw what I wrote, he understood my writing more than me and the teachers.*

6th grade student,  
Explorations Academy High School



## Authors in Schools

Fred Aceves  
Heather Alexander  
Nathan Archambault  
Rebecca Balcarcel  
Helaine Becker  
Coe Booth  
David Bowles  
Mahogany Browne  
Kerrine Bryan  
Hilda Burgos  
Ernesto Cisneros  
Anika Denise  
Angela Dominguez  
Vicky Fang  
Yasmin Faruqi  
Gabi Garcia  
Chrystal D. Giles

Paul Griffin  
Charlotte Guillan  
Nikole Hannah-Jones  
Thyra Heder  
Dan Heiman  
Donna Barba Higuera  
Ty Allan Jackson  
Victoria Jamieson  
Patricia Keeler  
Latin American Youth Center  
Writers  
Amyra Leon  
Mary Beth Leatherdale  
Carole Lindstrom  
Kevin Noble Maillard  
Melina Mangal  
Janae Marks

Stacy McAnulty  
Raakhee Mirchandani  
Greg Neri  
Raquel Ortiz  
Allison Pataki  
Martha Samaniego  
Suzanne Slade  
Cynthia Leitich Smith  
Elisabet Velasquez  
Susan Verde  
Kira Vermond  
Renée Watson



## Volunteers

Shirley Abraham  
Maddy Arnstein  
Cameca Bacchus  
Andrew Beaudoin  
Angela Brown  
Karen Butler  
Jake Campbell  
Joyce Campbell Priveterre  
Jenny Cheng  
Francisco Chocholous  
Christine Clancy  
Christopher Corona  
Gabrielle Curran  
Joni Daidone  
Asad Dandia  
Jerome Davis  
Tara DeWorsop  
Sha'tina Dockery  
Jisha Dymond  
Susan Elman  
John Ferretti  
Christine Fleming  
Ellen Freilich  
Jessie Garretson  
Susom Ghosh  
Jill Giovan  
Lisa Goiens  
Chris Haines  
Barbara Haney  
Mary Hanrahan

Mark Hofmaier  
Christy Hood  
Carolyn Horn  
Kathryn Hurley Bhirud  
Geraldine Ivins  
Kenya Kirkman  
Kim Landsman  
Marvin Larry  
Dylan Levin  
Ann Levine  
Gisselle Madariaga  
Art C. Magic  
Jacob Michelman  
Veronica Millender  
Charles Miller  
Tiara Mitchell  
Katharine Mohana  
Sabrina Morrison  
Enid Natkins  
Caroline Nguyen  
Liz Ostertag  
Linda Ouyang  
Ilitch Peters  
Hunter Phillips  
Andrea Phillips-Merriman  
Tim Pittman  
Eleanor Prince  
Sheila Quintana  
Virginia Quintanta  
Marisabel Raymond

Brad Rodney  
Mary Salvaggio  
Janelle Simmons  
Teak Sittipunt  
Maritza Struyvenberg  
Stephanie Tam  
Jennifer Thomas  
Deirdre Towers  
Brian Trauman  
Jo Umans  
Rob Weisstuch  
Justin White  
Derry Wilkens  
Ellen Woods

In FY22, we welcomed volunteers back to the classroom, and we are so grateful to all of the individuals and corporate groups who have come to our schools to support our students in their reading and writing efforts. Volunteering allows students and adults to learn from each other and share new perspectives; these visits also show students how valued and important their ideas are. Thank you to our wonderful volunteers!

*My favorite part of Behind the Book was when the writing coaches visited us because the person that sat with us and talked with us was very fun to talk to and we had lots of things in common.*

5th grade student  
P.S. 43

## Corporate Volunteers

### KPMG

Sara Basha  
Steve Revillo  
Yanxi Chen  
Natasha Lecointe  
Anthony Skoda  
Zineb Mabtoul  
Yusuf Bib

Alan Chun  
Charlie Howe  
Maria Masi

### RBC Capital Markets

Alison Lochner  
Cameron Kalogerakis  
Gabe Trank  
Brandon Zelhart  
Olivia Gassner  
Jessica Fallis  
Anunai Ishan  
John Kounelis

### Brookfield Management Company

Augustus Haney  
Michelle Fabian  
Parker Burrus  
Sean Doherty

### Twitter

Isaac Casanova  
Joshua Deitel  
Kaylee Knowles  
Tori Levine  
Eric Martin  
Sonya Penn  
Jared Podnos  
Arielle Schwartz  
Sarah Tarnopolsky  
Sushil Trivedi  
Yuanbo Wang  
Cathy Wang



# Financials

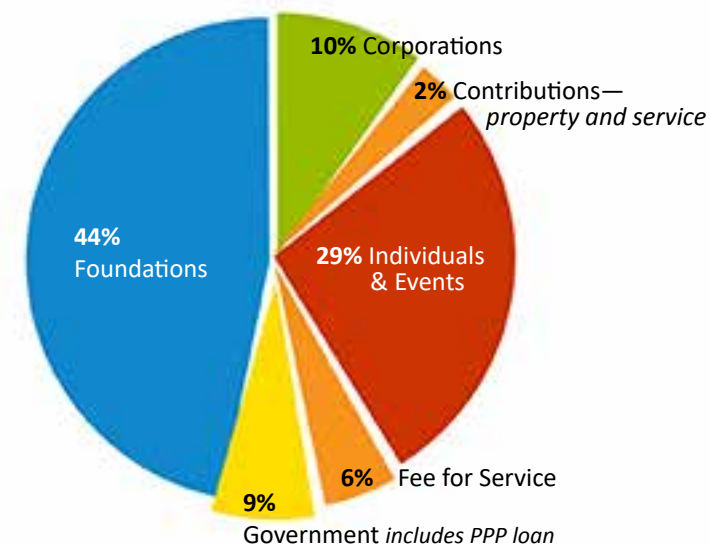
## Assets, Liabilities, Net Assets

	2022	2021	2020
Assets	\$922,285	\$779,322	\$572,434
Liabilities	\$27,795	\$107,826	\$98,986
Net Assets	\$894,490	\$671,496	\$473,448

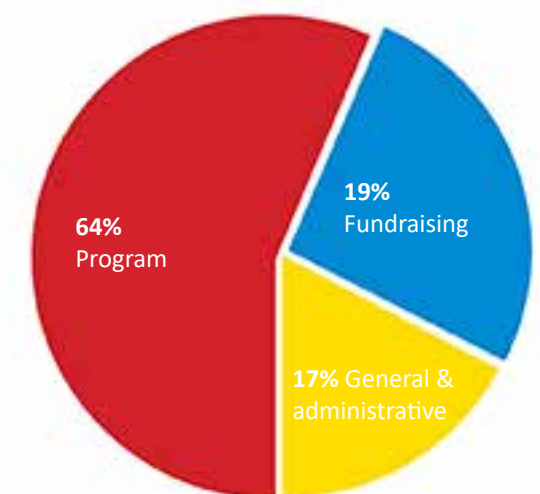
## Summary of Revenue & Expenses

	2022	2021	2020
Contributions	\$1,194,184	\$1,009,858	\$895,794
Contributions - properties & services	\$31,900	\$72,358	\$73,508
Investment Income	\$2,112	\$1,153	\$292
Program Service Income	\$75,785	\$56,099	\$69,082
Direct Cost of Special Events	(\$8,971)	(\$25,494)	(\$39,153)
Total Revenue & Support	\$1,375,710	\$1,110,676	\$999,523

## Revenue



## Expenses



*I feel great about publishing a book because  
it shows me I can accomplish anything.*

4th grade student  
P.S. 125



**Behind the Book**

216 W 135th Street, Ground Floor  
New York, NY 10030  
(212) 222-3627  
[info@behindthebook.org](mailto:info@behindthebook.org)  
[www.behindthebook.org](http://www.behindthebook.org)