

# Ezra Jack KEATS

2018 Bookmaking Award Catalogue



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## Ezra Jack Keats Bookmaking Awards

### Exhibition

**May 1-20, 2019**

**Brooklyn Public Library**

**Central Library**

10 Grand Army Plaza  
Brooklyn, New York 11238  
718. 230.1001

### Catalogue

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# Ezra Jack KEATS

## 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Bookmaking Award Catalogue

# 2019

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## About the Ezra Jack Keats Foundation

The **EJK Award, Bookmaking Competition** and **Mini-Grant Program** together further the two central goals of the Ezra Jack Keats Foundation to support public education and to promote the creation of outstanding diverse literature for children.

**The Ezra Jack Keats Award**, now in its 34th year, recognizes children's authors and illustrators early in their careers, encouraging them to continue creating exceptional books that reflect our diverse culture. Many past winners are now celebrated leaders in the field.

**The Ezra Jack Keats Bookmaking Competition** was designed to give teachers an effective teaching tool and demonstrate to students that learning can be fun. The program has flourished in New York City for over 30 years and expanded to San Francisco and Atlanta.

**Ezra Jack Keats Mini-Grants** support public school teachers and librarians for their own special programs that enhance the learning experience. Since 1986 thousands of grants have been awarded to educators in all 50 states.

The Ezra Jack Keats Foundation was established by the late children's book author and illustrator, Ezra Jack Keats, whose 1962 book *The Snowy Day*, broke the color barrier in children's publishing. More recently, *The Snowy Day* was adapted by Amazon as a holiday special (winner of two Emmy Awards), and a set of Snowy Day stamps were issued by the U.S. Postal Service. For more about all of the Foundation's activities, visit [www.ezra-jack-keats.org](http://www.ezra-jack-keats.org).

### Ezra Jack Keats (1916-1983)

Ezra Jack Keats was born in Brooklyn. His parents were Polish immigrants and the family was very poor. Even when he was very young, he loved to draw. In junior high he won a medal for drawing, which he treasured his whole life because it encouraged him to persevere and become an artist.

The first book Ezra illustrated and authored was *The Snowy Day*. It won the Caldecott Medal in 1963, the highest honor a children's book could win at that time, and it remains a beloved classic.

Ezra went on to write and illustrate over 20 children's books, including *Goggles!*, *A Letter to Amy* and *Peter's Chair*. He is considered a pioneer in the field for his realistic, urban, multicultural portrayal of childhood. He believed no child should be an outsider and wanted to cultivate a love of reading and learning that would last a lifetime.

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From Richard A. Carranza, Chancellor,  
NYC Department of Education

Dear Student Authors and Illustrators, Educators, and Parents,

Picture books, as demonstrated in this catalogue of creative student work, offer readers of all ages a fusion of text and art that teaches and enchants us. You can see how these talented young authors and illustrators powerfully share personal and universal themes, whether their book is based on real world events, their own deeply felt experiences, or fantastical flights of fancy.

This catalogue honors City and Borough winners by grade-level, honorable mentions, and school-wide champs. Congratulations to all for the originality, imagination, and effort they put into their stories and illustrations. These books are testaments to the determination required to complete the long, challenging process of creating works of art. From sketchbook to storyboard to narrative draft to the finished book, these authors and illustrators proceeded from start to finish as professionals.

Each of the 24 students highlighted in these pages studied the picture book genre, learned how other authors and illustrators make choices, and then developed their ideas into the exceptional results you see here. Their work is displayed along with each student's personal statement conveying the thoughts that went into each book.

Across New York City schools, hundreds of students participated in the picture book project, supported and nurtured by visual arts and classroom teachers, librarians, administrators, and families. The work presented in this catalogue provides a compelling microcosm of all the talent and creativity citywide among elementary, middle, and high school students from traditional, alternative, and special education learning environments. I am so proud of all the students and adults who once again made this undertaking such a success.

On behalf of The New York City Department of Education, I also wish to thank the Ezra Jack Keats Foundation. Its generous support provides for all the professional learning events, medals, awards, and this beautiful catalogue.

With best wishes for continued success to all our outstanding authors and illustrators!

Richard A. Carranza  
New York City Schools Chancellor



From Deborah Pope, Executive Director,  
Ezra Jack Keats Foundation

Dear Students, Educators, Friends and Families,

Congratulations to all of you! This year you wrote and illustrated a crop of extraordinary books. You innovated in your classrooms and inspired your students. You supported your child's determination to succeed at a difficult, though rewarding, task. You all took on a valuable challenge and triumphed!

We hear, most often, how much students enjoy writing and illustrating their own books, despite the demanding nature of the work. They tell us the experience has motivated them to read more, to think more and to be more confident. This response is what all educators are aiming for with every lesson they teach and so these student reviews are especially meaningful to us.

We hope you'll weigh the benefits and gains yielded by participating in EJK Bookmaking and decide to join in the fun again next year. I guarantee it will be even more enjoyable because now you know what you can do to make it better!

I'd like to thank those in the Department of Education who make this program possible. Karen Rosner and Paul King, in the Office of Arts and Special Projects, have championed this program for over a decade. Melissa Jacobs, Director of Library Services, a long time Bookmaking jury member, added enormous professional development support for librarians this year, making it possible for many more to participate. It is through their efforts and vision that we are here today

Linda E. Johnson, President and C.E.O. of the Brooklyn Public Library, has embraced this program and given us a warm home in the Central Library. Kimberly Grad, Rachel Payne, Brandon Graham and Paquita Campoverde of the BPL have, with their skill and dedication, made the jury deliberations and exhibition successful and beautiful.

Keep this catalog in a safe place. You will want to look at it again someday to remember this great celebration. Enjoy!

Sincerely,  
  
Deborah Pope

# Dasha Villalba Mariana Ramos

## 9/11: The Day that Changed the World Forever

Grade: 5  
Teacher: Maria Panotopoulou  
Librarian: Kathleen Cavanagh-Fleishmann  
School: P.S. 63Q, Old South School  
Principal: Diane Marino



Dasha: Mariana and I decided to create this book based on what happened during the Twin Towers terrorist attack and how people remember their lost family and friends. We worked together writing and illustrating the book. **The hardest part for me was the Memorial page because by researching we realized how many people were lost.** Although it took us a long time, I felt very happy when we finished our book. I feel like an adult professional author and illustrator. When I grow up I would like to continue writing books because it is so much fun!



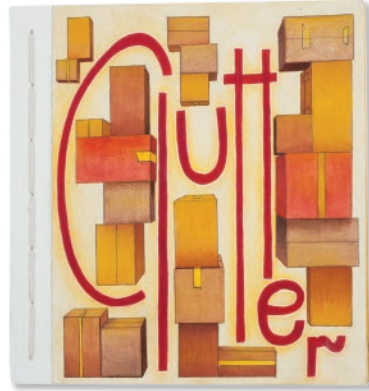
Mariana: The day we started working on the Ezra Jack Keats Bookmaking Competition was September 11, 2018. Dasha and I were sitting next to each other and by looking at the date we knew what our book was going to be about. The toughest part was the Memorial page because it involved a lot of collage work, especially since we gave special attention to details. Together we worked very hard to create each page. **We accomplished our goal. When we finished binding our book we were very happy because we loved what we created.** Writing this book was just an amazing experience.



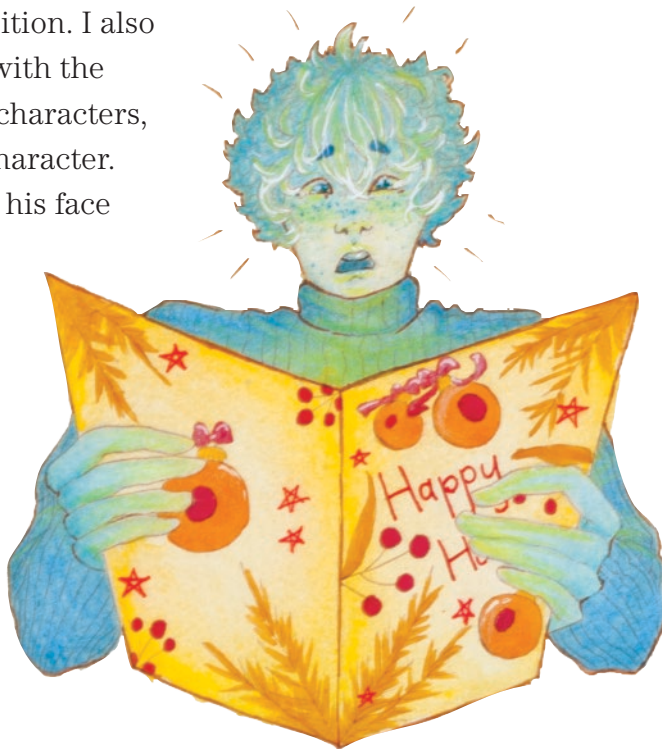
# Sofia Kudelina

## Clutter

Grade: 8  
Teacher: Meredith Samuelson  
Librarian: Marietta Falconieri  
School: I.S. 98K, Bay Academy for the Arts and Sciences  
Principal: Maria Timo



The main character in my story sorts through the clutter in his room uncovering items that have strong emotional connections to him. **I thought that it was important to show that letting go of the 'clutter' in one's life can be beneficial in finding a purpose in life.** Creating my picture book, I wanted the process to be challenging and the end result unique. I decided to play around with colors to convey the character's feelings and moods as well as certain themes within the book. Cool and warm colors complemented each other and combined to create one compelling composition. I also wanted to experiment with the facial structures of the characters, particularly the main character. I added some shapes to his face that I normally do not use and attempted to mimic the way a person's face would change throughout the years. This book was a perfect opportunity for growth and exploration.



interesting things. I love the furor of color, it brings life into this tiny room. catches my eye. It's a herbarium that was buried at the back of the shelf. In it, amongst the



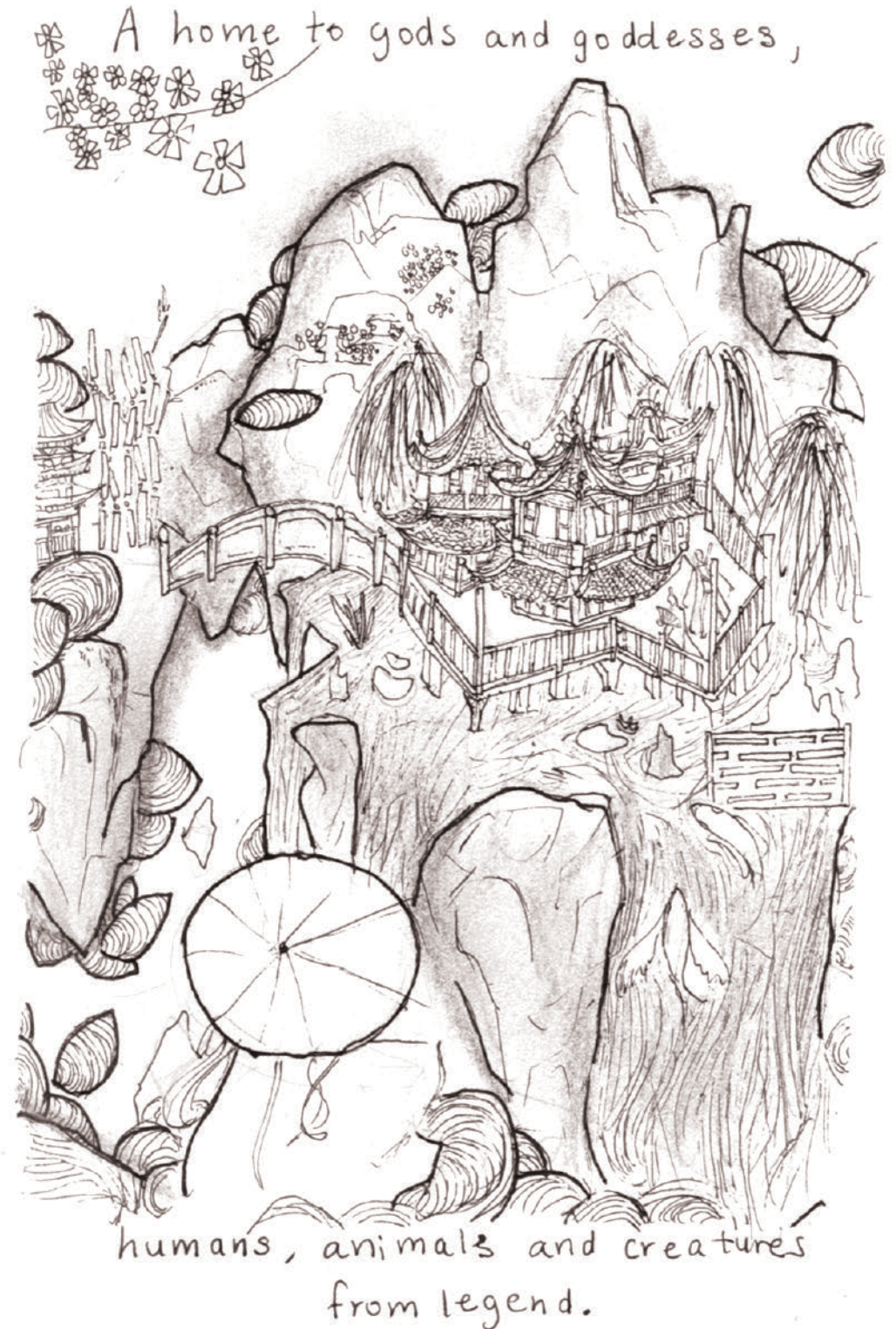
## Annie Li

### A Magical Place

Grade: 10  
Teacher: Monica Rowley  
School: Brooklyn Technical High School  
Principal: David Newman



When I was a child, my mother made me watch Chinese movies that took place in ancient China. I would gawk at the details of the palaces, the beauty of the clothes, but mostly at the magic. There would always be a scene where a person with long flowing hair and golden silk robes stood on top of a mountain playing a porcelain flute. Five seconds later, a gigantic golden dragon would emerge from the clouds and that person would ride on the dragon while fighting his/her enemies. My inspiration comes from the beauty of Chinese culture, the magic, the legends and how flawless everything was. *Magical Place* is drawn in an accordion book format so all the scenes are connected. **I want readers to open the pages and go on an adventure, through the scary dark environments that gradually turn into a fantasy kids want to visit.** The purpose of this book is to plant an image in people's heads so that after they finish reading my book they will appreciate the culture and think, "Wow, I really want to visit that place one day!"



# London Sims Naomi Tom

## I Miss My Dad

Grade: 4

Teachers: Leanne Anderson

Ryan Nicholson

Dion Seraneau

School: P.S. 156K, The Waverly School Of The Arts

Principal: Nayima Moore-Allen



London: Mrs. Anderson told the class to write a personal narrative and I really didn't know what to write. I started listing down seed ideas, so I could decide on a subject. Like always, my mind went straight to my dad. I knew right then what I was going to write. **This book is very dear to my heart. Every part of making this book reminds me of my dad.**

My dad is almost never with us. But I do not hate him for that. I think I love him more knowing how much he is sacrificing for us. Being a Marine sometimes comes before family events, so I miss him everyday he is not with me.

I know I'm not the only person going through this, so I wrote this book to share my story with others to let them know they are not alone, and to let children know they must love every moment they have with their parents.



Naomi: After reading London's story, my teachers helped me find the best way to illustrate her story. I was used to drawing, and Mr. Ryan helped me to better my drawings. Mr. Seraneau suggested that cutouts would be a great way to give a 3D feeling to the book. **Learning to illustrate with cutouts was a blast, and although it was hard and took me a couple of tries to get it to the level that Mr. S wanted, it was all worth it.** Illustrating this book taught me new and interesting techniques for representing London's words.



Do you ever JUST SIT AROUND AND MISS YOUR DAD LIKE CRAZY? That's how I feel everyday of my life.





# Iris Chen Zhi Xin Li

## If We Could Talk

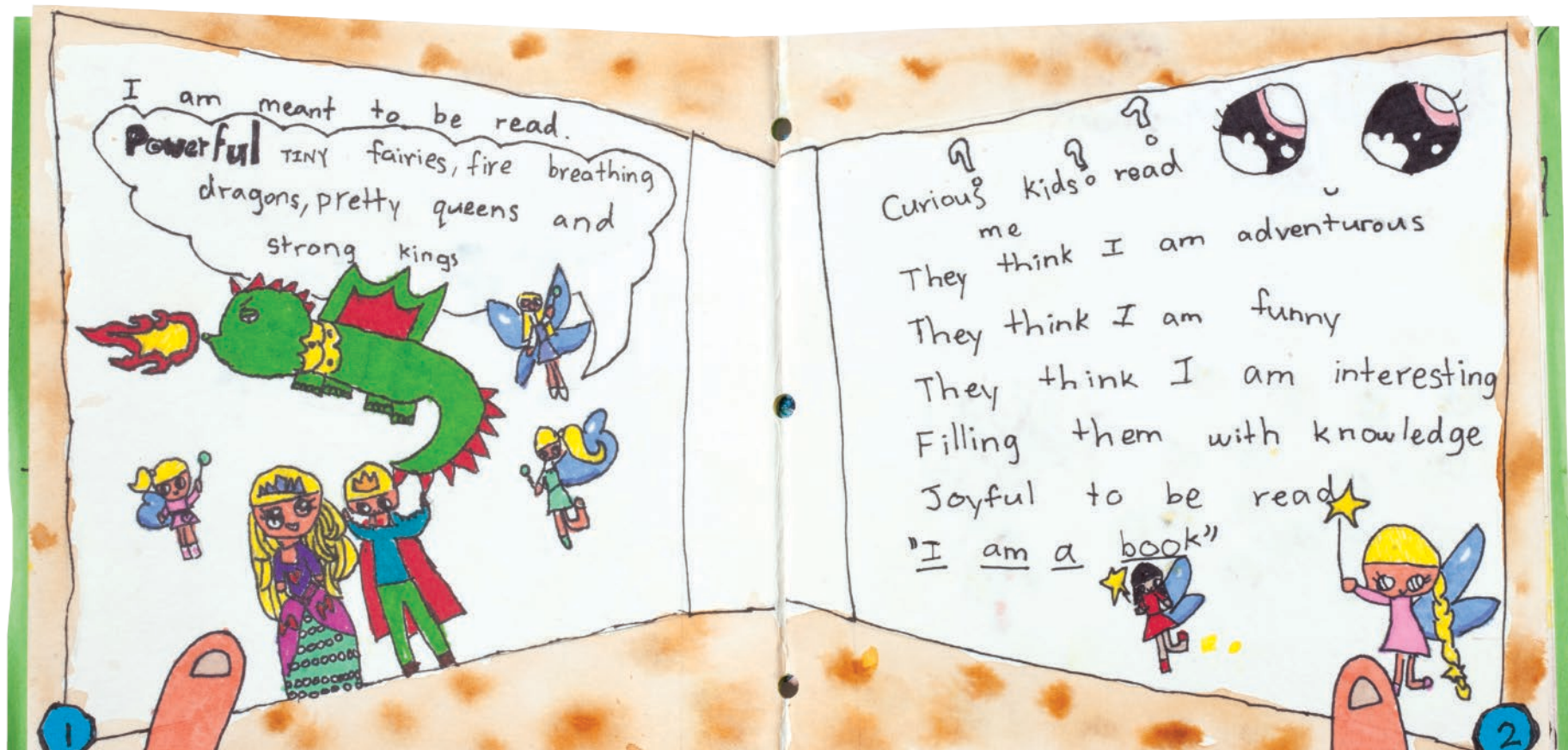
Grade: 3  
Teachers: Aizhen Li  
Park Fung  
Librarian: LeeAnne Infantino  
School: P.S. 105K, The Blythebourne  
Principal: Johanna Castronovo



Iris: My teacher demonstrated how to create a poem by showing objects can have feelings, that can be expressed by using words to describe what the object LOOKED like, FELT like, its COLOR, or its SOUND. It was so much fun I was inspired to create a whole book of poems. I began to imagine how an object feels and I would become that object. **In my first draft, I experimented with how to make important words in my poems**

**look the way they sound, and then drew illustrations to show how they might appear.** I used markers, colored pencils and finally, watercolor to complete the book. I learned a lot in creating this book and I am very proud of the way it turned out.

**Zhi Xin: I became inspired the day my teacher taught us about poems. He explained that we needed to let the reader feel the object that we are writing about.** We used a graphic organizer with six boxes to help us organize our thoughts. My Visual Arts teacher helped in the creation of *If We Could Talk*. I worked with Iris who wrote really descriptive poems and I became the illustrator for our book. It took us a long time to finish our final draft. We used Sharpies, colored pencils and watercolor paints to highlight certain illustrations and words. I really liked creating this book and I hope readers can feel and understand our objects.



# John Guastella

## Only Oliver Knew

Grade: 5

Teachers: Laurie Berlinger

School: P.S. 23R, The Richmond School

Principal: Paul Proscia



When I heard we were going to be writing a book for the Ezra Jack Keats Bookmaking Competition I got excited. I wanted to teach kids a lesson through my book. I used to take the bus to and from school. While on the bus, I was bullied. I did not tell my parents about this until the damage was done. **This book was written to make sure kids do not make the same mistakes I did.** It was challenging but fun to make the book.

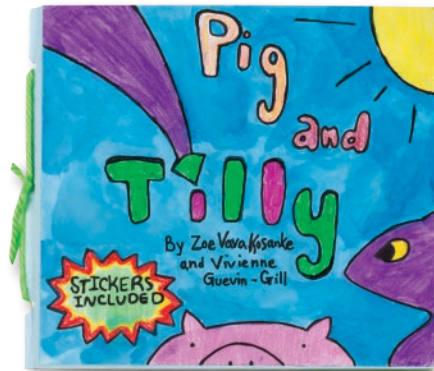


The hardest part was creating the drawings because I am not good at this. Even though I am not good at drawing, I am happy with the way the drawings turned out. The easiest part of making my book was coming up with what I had to write because my book was based on my experiences. My favorite part is the ending when Timmy, Zoe, and Oliver make up and become best friends again. I am proud of myself for the hard work and the effort I put into creating my book.

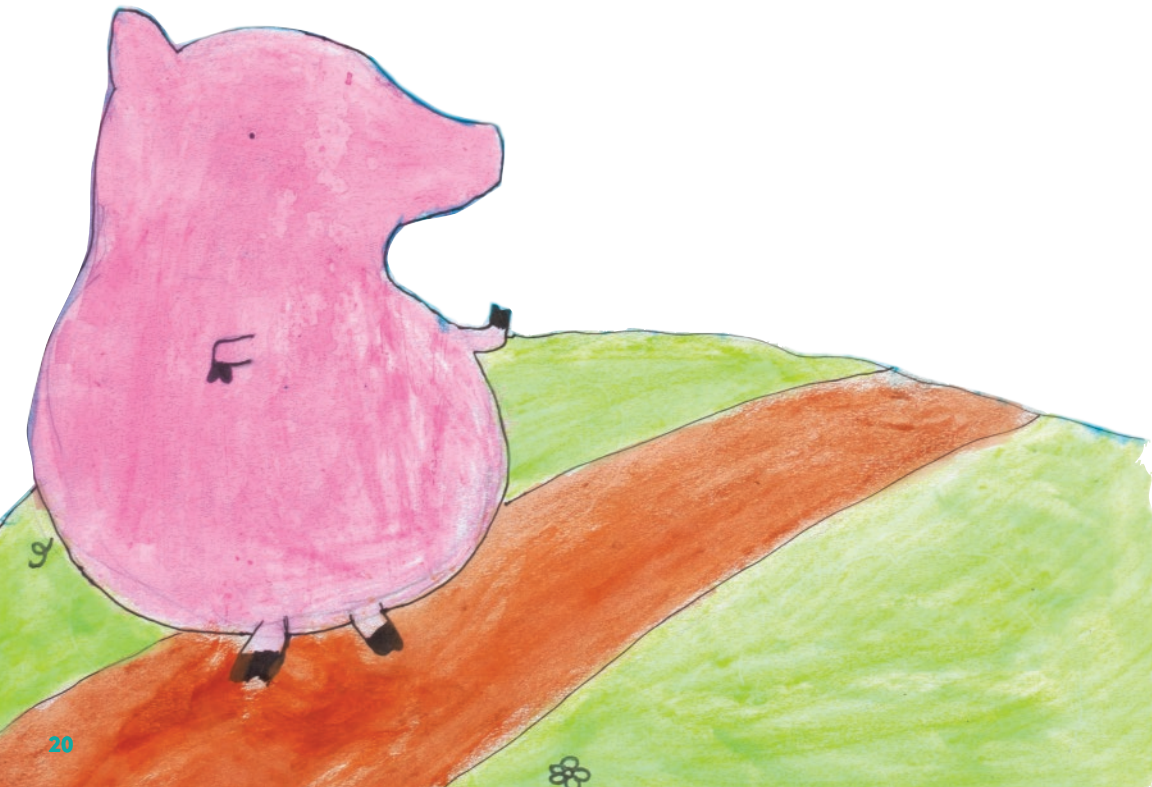
# Zoe Kosanke Vivienne Guevin-Gill

## Pig and Tilly

Grade: 3  
Teachers: David Chimoskey  
Jayne Swan  
School: P.S. 164K, Caesar Rodney  
Principal: Erica Steinberg



This book is about a pig and a dragon because they are our favorite animals. Zoe really loves pigs and Vivienne really loves dragons. Pig and Tilly became friends in the same way we became friends. We both love tea and pancakes and we both needed a friend in kindergarten, where we first met. We thought a lonely pig and a dragon meeting each other and creating a strong bond was perfect! A lot of people might think a dragon would eat a pig but not in our story. It would be a great surprise that they



actually become best friends. **So our book is about friendship, pancakes, tea, dragons, and pigs.** Making this book was really fun even though it was hard work! First we made a mini copy to get our ideas across. Then we started on the main book. We drew, outlined, used crayons and used watercolor. In the final stage, we even used stickers. We both liked coloring the outlined pictures with crayon. It took a long time but it was worth it! This book is dedicated to best friends everywhere, especially Pig, Tilly, and us!

# Liaba Naimi Ana Topirceanu

## Trapped

Grade: 5

Teachers: George Siassos

Mary Karalekas

Librarian: Carmela Mroz

School: PS. 70Q, Lieutenant Joseph Petrosino School

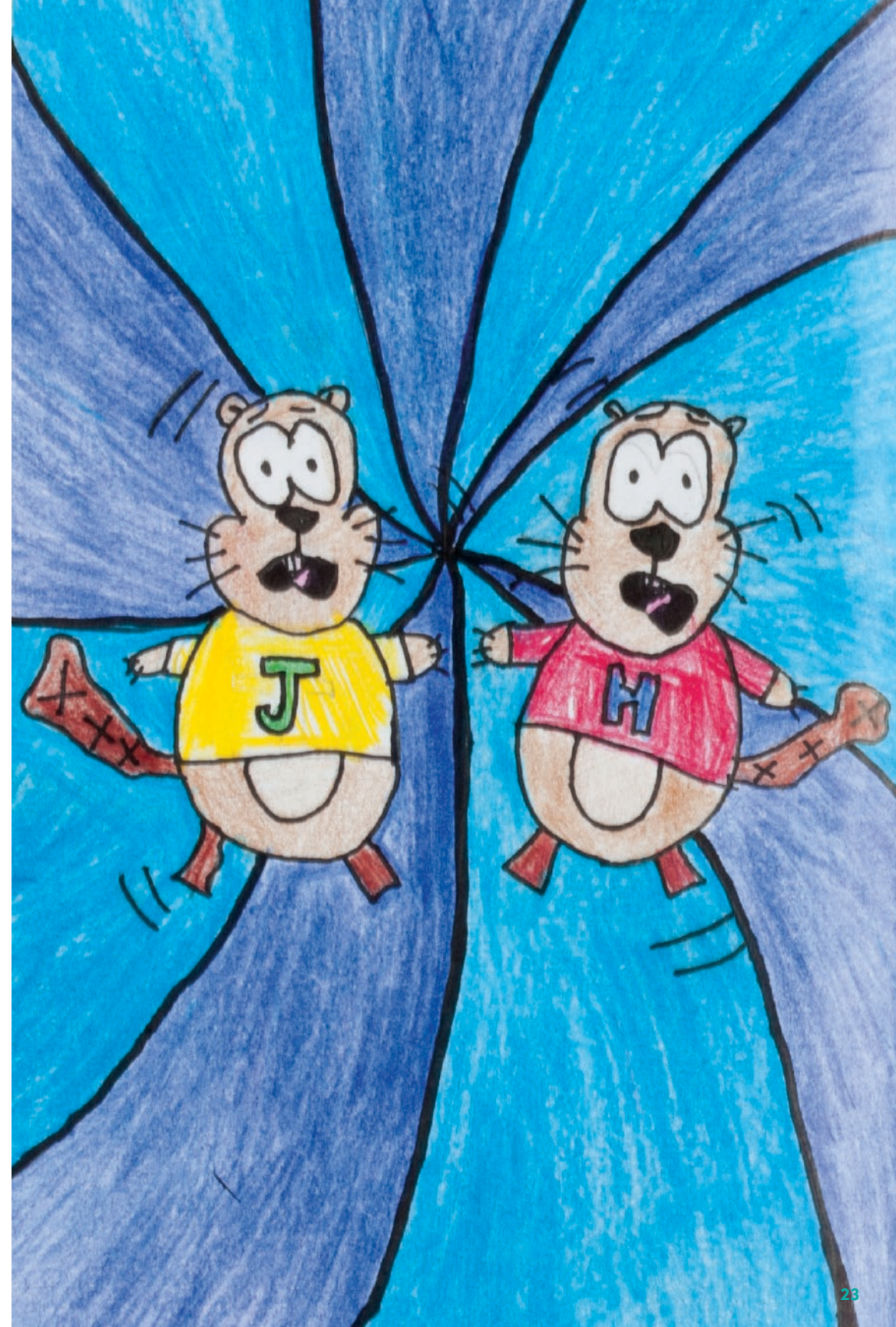
Principal: Donna Geller

**A**na: The story is about two beavers who love video games.

They played the games too often and one day they got sucked into the game. They were trapped! To get out they had to finish the level and jump over obstacles. Finally they got out. They never played video games again. When I drew the characters I wanted them to be cute and likeable. I didn't need to look at pictures of beavers to draw them. I had an image of what they looked like in my head. The hardest part was drawing the background and finding the right color brown for the beaver's fur. Liaba and I colored all the pictures together. **The drawing part was fun for me. I have always dreamed of being an artist, so this was something that I enjoyed doing.**

**The drawing part was fun for me. I have always dreamed of being an artist, so this was something that I enjoyed doing.**

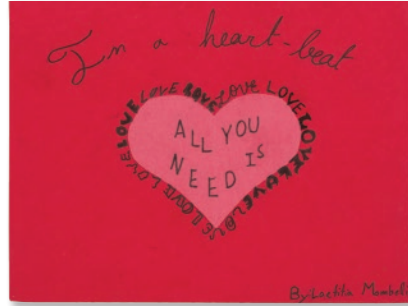
**L**iaba: We wanted something original so we picked beavers as the main characters. There are a lot of rabbits and mice as characters so we wanted to do something different. Our brothers play a lot of video games and that's how we arrived at our idea for *Trapped*. We wanted to write a simple, easy story, but the characters had to overcome obstacles. We persevered when it became difficult. We really wanted to win so we kept on working until we finally finished. **I felt like I really accomplished something when I was done. I really feel proud.**



## Laetitia Mombelli

### In a Heart Beat

Grade: 6  
Librarian: Vincent Hyland  
Teacher: Louise Butler  
School: Boerum Hill School for International Studies, Brooklyn  
Principal: Nicole Lanzillotto



*Elaborate, draw, cut, glue and put together.*  
*Thudump, thudump, thudump...*

*In a Heartbeat* is about the friendship between a heart and a pair of lungs

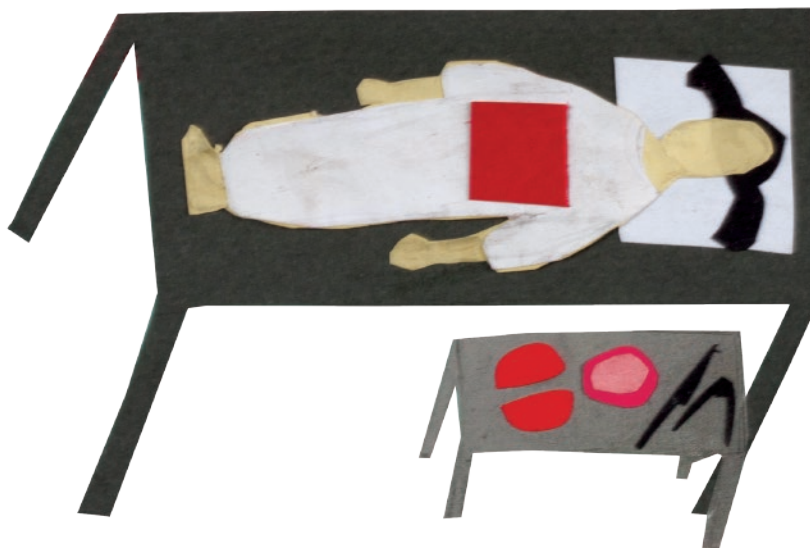
Separated when their body dies in a car crash

Only to be brought back together to save a little girl's life through a double transplant

*Elaborate, draw, cut, glue and put together.*  
*Thudump, thudump, thudump...*

It is a book meant to explain and beautify this dangerous surgery for children.

My goal was to give hope to patients and their surrounding during such dramatic moments.



*Elaborate, draw, cut, glue and put together.*  
*Thudump, thudump, thudump...*

**My concept, a heart and a lung being transplanted at the same time,**

**And ending up in the same, new body was triggered by my passion for the human anatomy.**

*Elaborate, draw, cut, glue and put together.*  
*Thudump, thudump, thudump...*

I made this as a collage, which took me 2 months to...

*Elaborate, draw, cut, glue and put together.*  
*Thudump, thudump, thudump...*

I take great joy in doing collage: it is my favorite type of art.

I do a lot of collages on real world problems such as war, racism, etc.

Although I have never been through the process of a transplant, I feel deeply attached to it.

I plan maybe on becoming a surgeon when I get older.

*Elaborate, draw, cut, glue and put together.*  
*Thudump, thudump, thudump...*

# Lucy Farley

## It'll Be Okay

Grade: 7

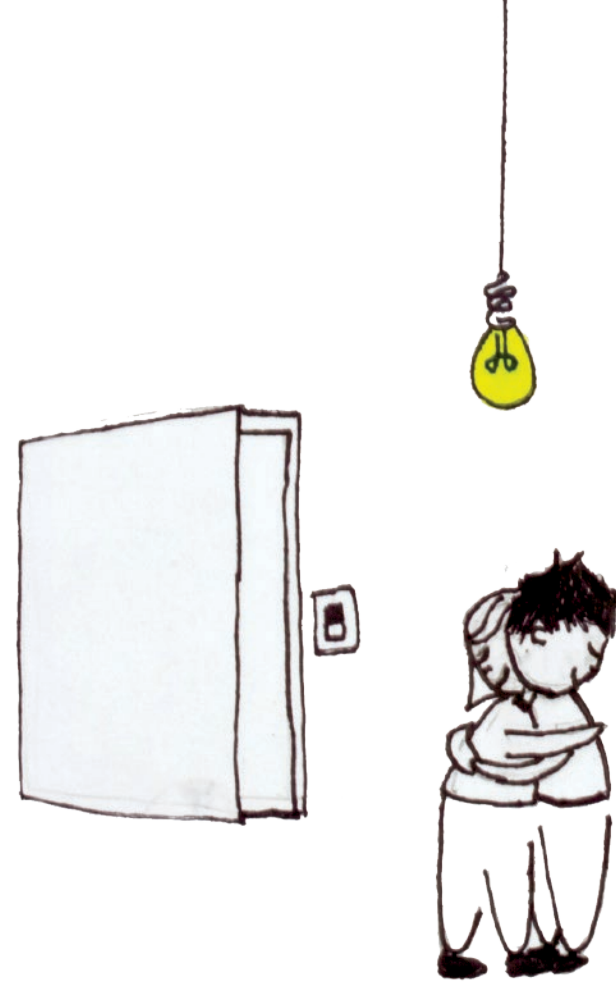
Teacher: Melina Badia

School: I.S. 187K, The Christa McAuliffe School

Principal: Justin Berman



All my life I've been extremely lucky to have amazing and supportive friends. Recently, I was struggling with anxiety and my friends were always there for me as I tried to figure everything out. When I was working on my book, I wanted to use the idea of friendship so readers could connect to my



story using their own experiences. I used the theme of light and dark to show how friends help you through your dark moments. **Even though your problems can seem complex and overwhelming, friendship can help bring simplicity and hope to a time and place where you didn't expect to find it.** I had more fun than I expected while making my book. It allowed me to be as creative as I wanted to be, and it was something I've never done before. Whenever I came across a problem it was challenging to try to solve it. This made the whole process even more exciting. I put a lot of time and effort into the project and I'm so glad I had this experience!

# Alicia Lee

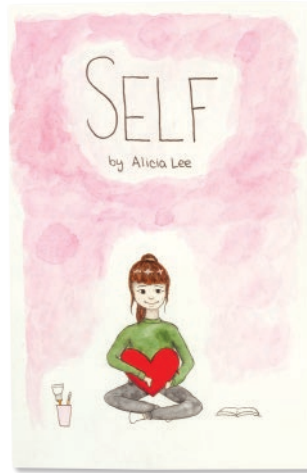
## Self

Grade: 8

Teacher: Michele Wallach

School: I.S. 239K, Mark Twain School for the Gifted and Talented

Principal: Karen Ditolla



I struggled with the idea of making a children's book but found inspiration within myself. Every line I wrote and every picture I drew was a trip into my own childhood. **The idea of writing something I would've wanted to read as a child made me grow more attached to *Self* and its main character, Eva.** It's important for me to teach young readers to value and be proud of themselves



which Eva learns while delving into her imagination. To create the book, I used a mix of pens and watercolor paints. The only exception is a two-page spread in which I used acrylic paints to emphasize the night's darkness. These media kept my images bold yet also let them blend with the muted backgrounds. To add a touch of authenticity, the text was handwritten and the binding was hand-sewn. Each aspect of the book feels personal and I think that's significant as a writer.

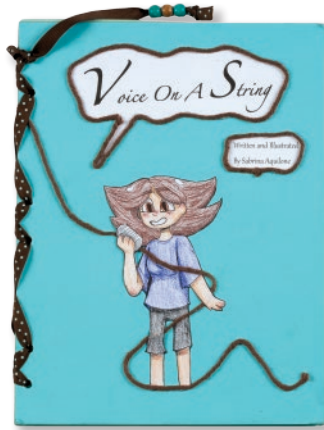


*I wish I had friends like that to spend all day with, she thought. I wish I could have as much fun as they did, but I'm too scared to talk to anyone. What if they laugh at me? I'd be so embarrassed.*

# Sabrina Aquilone

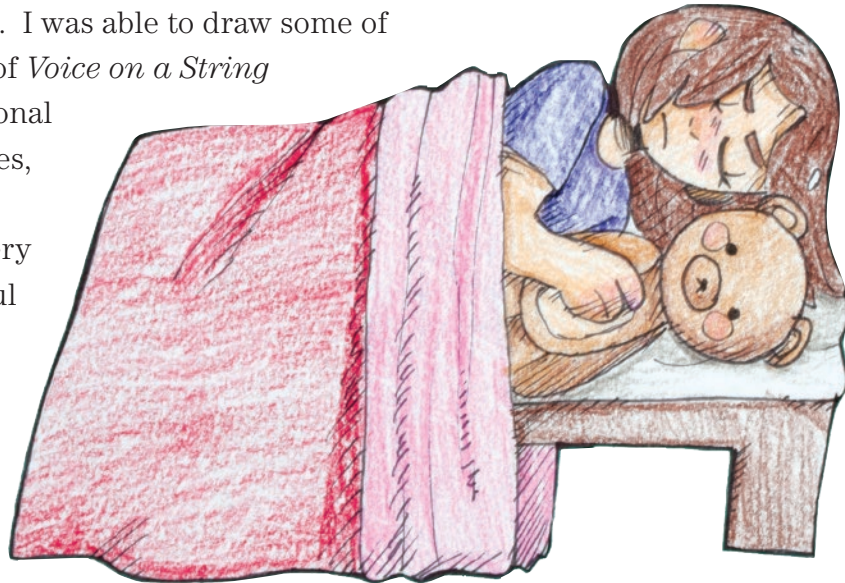
## Voice on a String

Grade: 8  
Librarian: Mary Beth Quick  
School: I.S. 7R, Elias Bernstein  
Principal: Dr. Nora De Rosa



I believe that a real friendship is valuable as long as you cherish and support each other. I present this concept through the two main characters and use their story to provide support for any child going through a situation similar to my two characters. We should always let kids know that we understand them and that we are there to help. **I think that kids who read my book will learn that they are not alone and that a new friendship can begin at any time.** When I began making my book, I started thinking about how characters looked and then wrote the plot around my illustrations. I enjoy drawing and really hope that the reader would love the look of my characters and backgrounds as much as they liked the story. Bookmaking was a long process that I enjoyed. It was an experience that made me realize that the plotline and illustrations must follow from the beginning

to the end. I was able to draw some of the ideas of *Voice on a String* from personal experiences, and that made it very meaningful to me.



My secrets, my fears, everything I could think of to say I trusted him with knowing. You could say I rushed into the friendship, but I beg to differ.



# Arian Dzaferovic Brandon Hansen

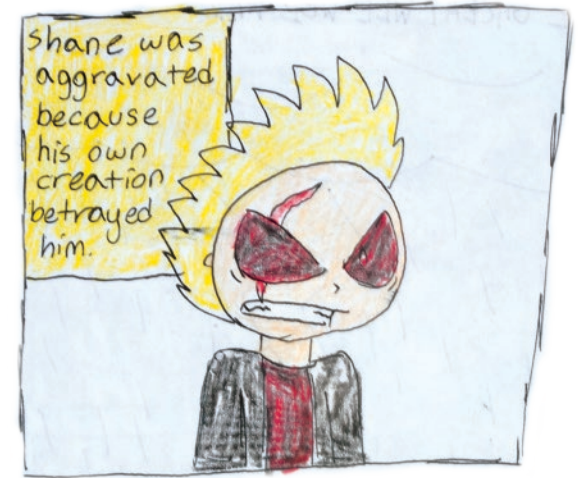
## Wee-Wee's

Grade: 6  
Teacher: Adam Mastro Simone  
School: JHS 194Q, William H. Carr  
Principal: Jennifer Miller

A group of scientists who are called the *Great Nation* create a creature called a Wee-Wee by accident. After Wee-Wee is born, other "Wee's" emerge from the rubble caused by an explosion. Wee-Wee's don't want to be bossed around and this leads to the main conflict of the story.



The idea of a Wee-Wee actually started a few months ago when Arian was doodling in his notebook. He just randomly created the character and it eventually led to creating multiple stories. We wanted to make a fun, easy-to-read comic so we took three original stories and combined them into one. We wanted to make these comics funny so we added jokes to give people a laugh. **The bookmaking process was easy for us because**



**we already had our ideas. It was a lot of fun creating the book with all the goofy characters and funny jokes.** Actually we have made five Wee-Wee comics that we would like to hand out to our friends.

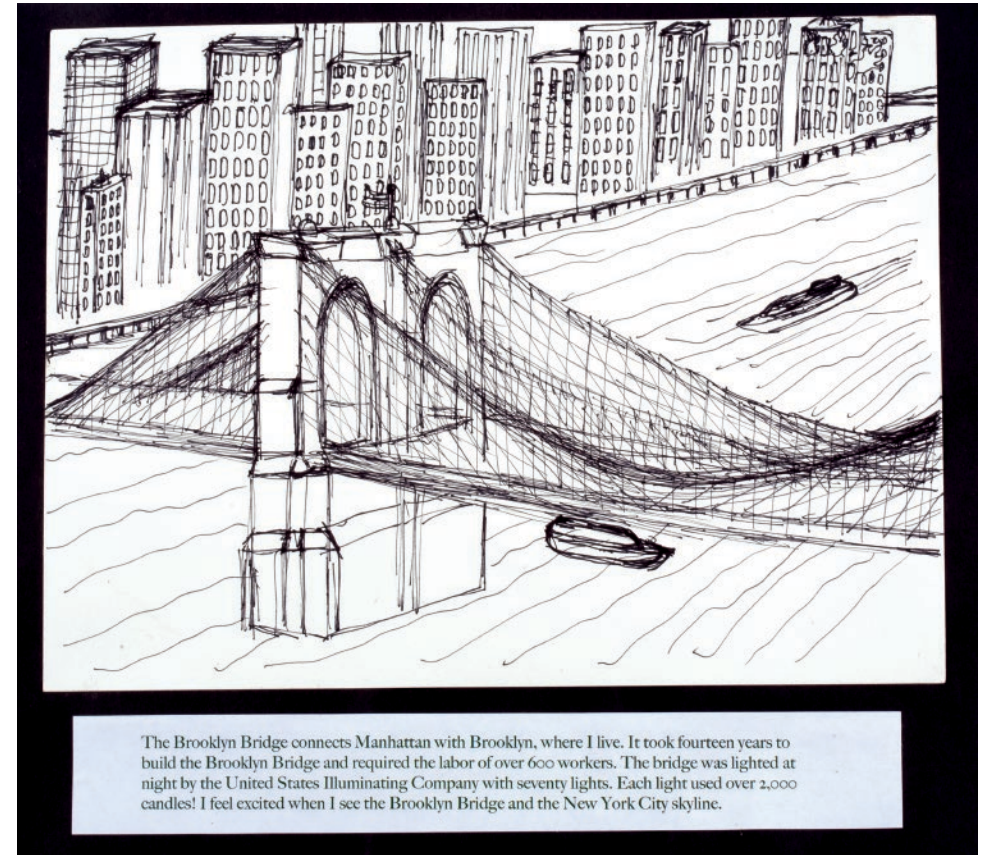
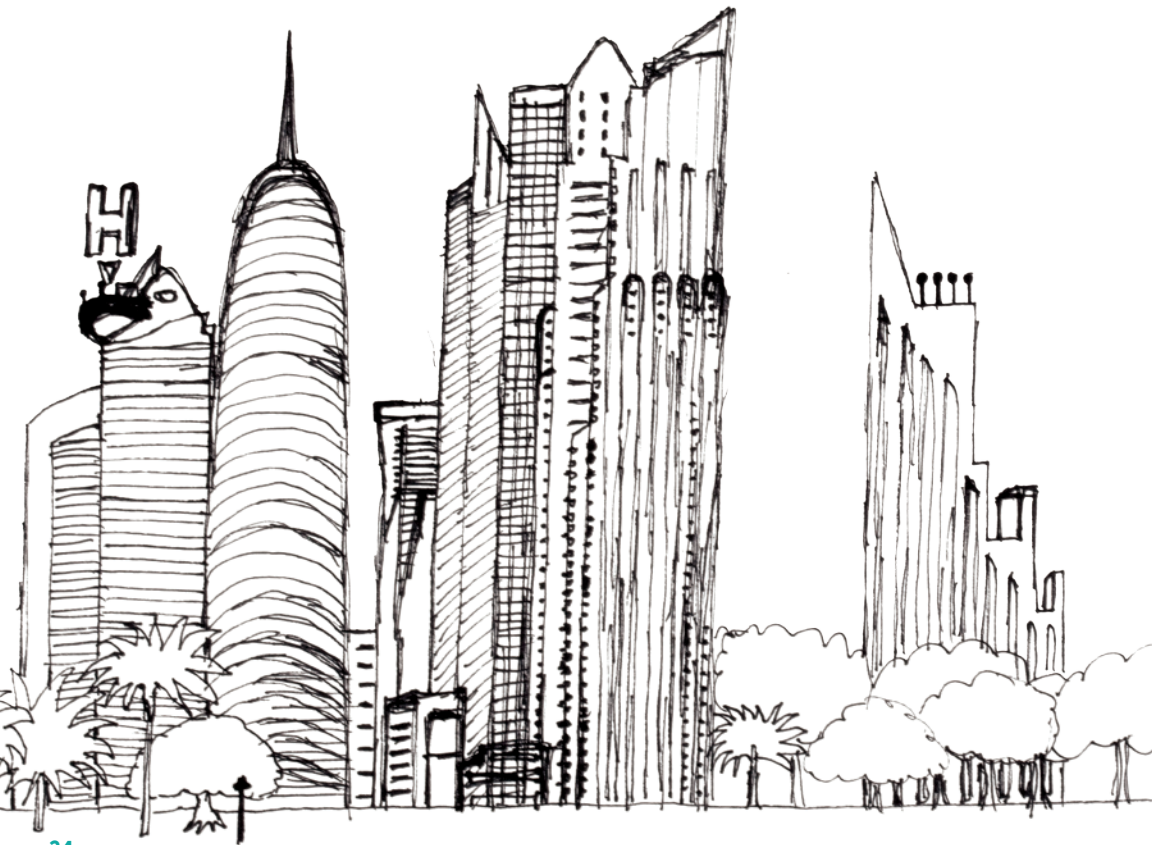


## Alex Trinidad Flying Into The Future

Grade: 12  
Teachers: Amie Robinson  
Devon O'Shanecy  
School: P77K, District 75  
Principal: Ebony Russell



My book *Flying Into The Future* is about architecture from around the world and how cities might look in the future. I used an iPad to do research and I found buildings from different cities around the world. **One day I would like to be a city planner and as I worked I imagined what it would be like to visit these buildings and landmarks.**



The Brooklyn Bridge connects Manhattan with Brooklyn, where I live. It took fourteen years to build the Brooklyn Bridge and required the labor of over 600 workers. The bridge was lighted at night by the United States Illuminating Company with seventy lights. Each light used over 2,000 candles! I feel excited when I see the Brooklyn Bridge and the New York City skyline.

The idea for this book came from looking at maps of New York City. I love looking at subway maps and different transportation routes. As I did my research I really loved finding out about tall towers and futuristic looking structures in places like Qatar. I illustrated my book using pen and ink because I am able to draw many details with a thin pen tip. I wanted my book to be in black and white so that the viewer focuses on these details. I was inspired by the artwork of Stephen Wilshire who flies in a helicopter over cities and draws them from memory. This is my second book. When I was in middle school I wrote and illustrated a book about New York City with my friend.

# Alexis Torres

## Here With You

Grade: 12  
Teacher: Laura Blau  
School: Millennium Art Academy, Bronx  
Principal: Herman Guy

I sought to create something that would be universally understood. I wanted to include a life lesson such as in a fable. Inspiration hit me when I heard my favorite song *GoodNight Demon Slayer* by Aurelio Voltaire, on my playlist. It is about drawing strength from overcoming obstacles and my instincts called for me to create a story around my own lullaby. My illustrations are in the styles of Anime and Manga, which worked well for my combination of light and serious subjects. I added my own cat as another thematic layer to give my work a personal touch. I dedicated the book to her

loving memory. When she recently passed away it hurt me deeply although I knew she would always be with me. The process of making this book was a new challenge but I was up for the task. I took care to place the right image with just the right amount of words on each page.



I carefully studied anatomy and human behavior so that my characters movements would seem life like and had emotions. **I also made my illustrations extremely colorful and vibrant to match my personal childhood memories of being read to at home.**



# Lizbeth Vargas

## Mi Familia

Grade: 10

Teacher: Yeon Ji Park

School: Fiorello H. Laguardia High School of Music and  
Art and Performing Arts, Manhattan

Principal: Dr. Lisa Mars

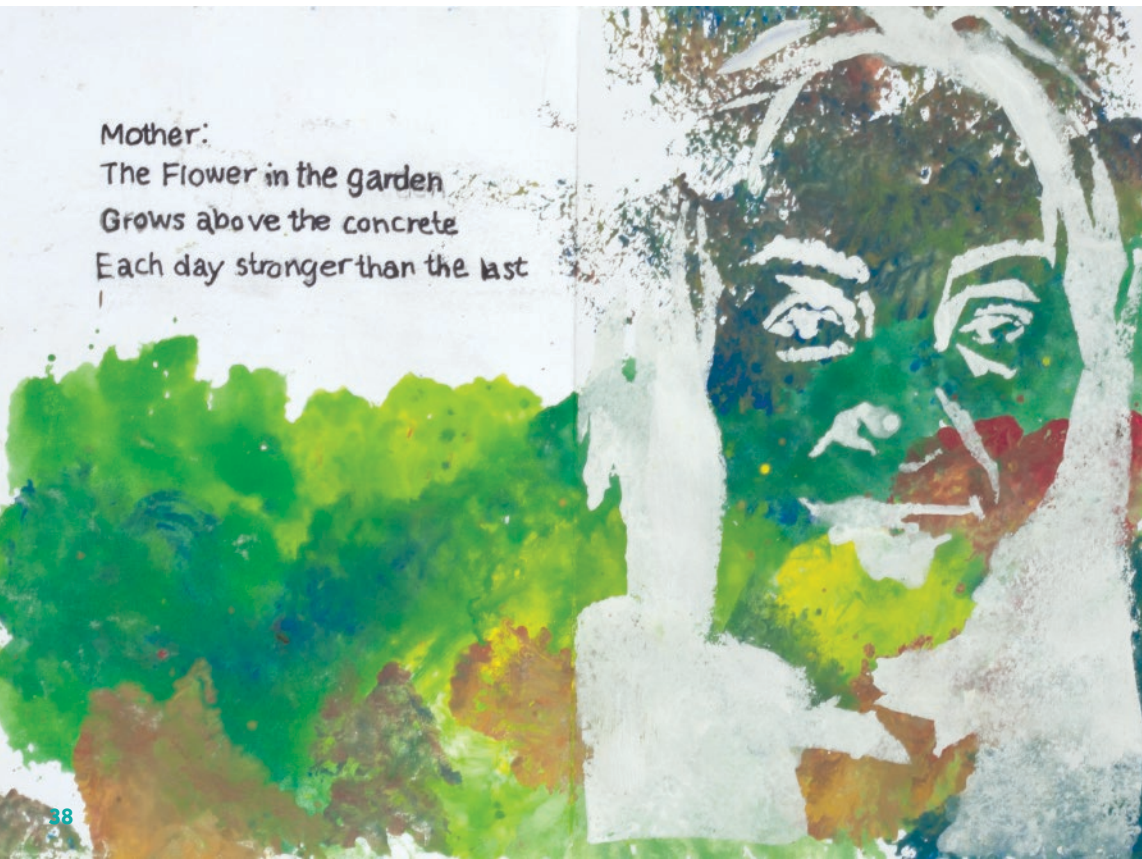
As I was creating *Mi Familia* I wasn't sure how I saw or felt about my blood family - my parents, brother, grandfather, and even myself. I had mixed feelings about how I felt about each individual in my family.



Each page of the book shows one member of my family surrounded by nature. The portraits and houseplants were painted using a stencil technique we learned in our design class. I used specific colors to represent each of my family members. The background was created by my unconscious mind meeting my conscious mind, and the painting process ended up as a landscape.



The abstract landscape has a sense of togetherness, calm, and mystery juxtaposed with the houseplants. Coming up with the text for each page was a challenge because I did not want to write something obvious or simple. My family is very complicated and this book isn't just a family photograph. My book shows there are some warm feelings about having a family that cares for their child. **I want others to know that just because this book has so few words, it is not only a kid's book. The ideas are universal and apply to other families all around the world.**

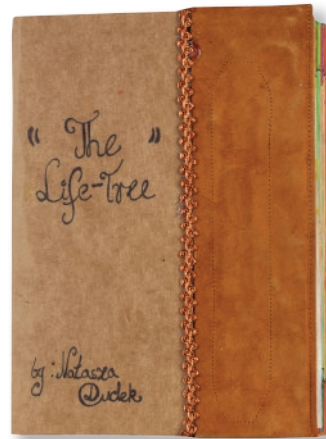


# Natasza Dudek

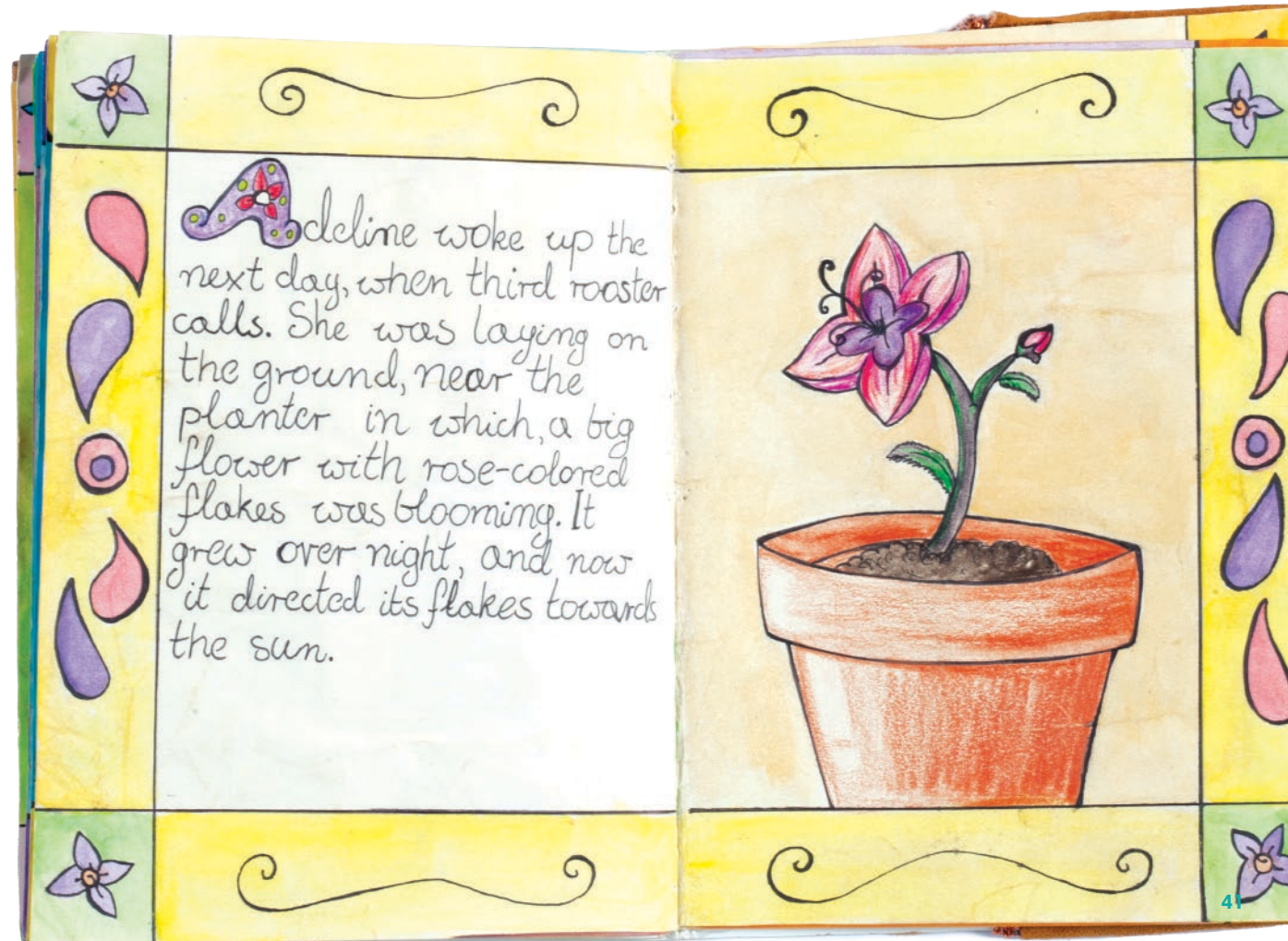
## The Life-Tree

Grade: 10  
Teachers: Stephanie Lara  
Adam Gordon  
Librarian: Douglas Von Hoppe  
School: Maspeth High School, Queens  
Principal: Khurshid Abdul-Mutakabbir

This book is based on an old traditional Slavic myth. The day my teacher told me about the competition, I already knew what I wanted to do. Since my book was going to be based on medieval manuscripts, I had to make my paper look old and think about the style of drawing. I started looking at some old stories from Slavic mythology. After reading I came up with my idea.



Every day I spent three hours making two pages. I was mad at myself when I skipped one day of not working on my book. When I was tired my family and teachers kept cheering me on to finish. Finally, with all of the support from them, I finished my book just before winter break. I wanted the story to have a message. Every mythological story has some educational take-away. **From this story I want people to learn the importance of family and to be thankful for your family because they will always want the best for you.** My family lives in Poland and they do so much for me even though I am in the United States. I dedicated the book to them because I know how much I owe them.

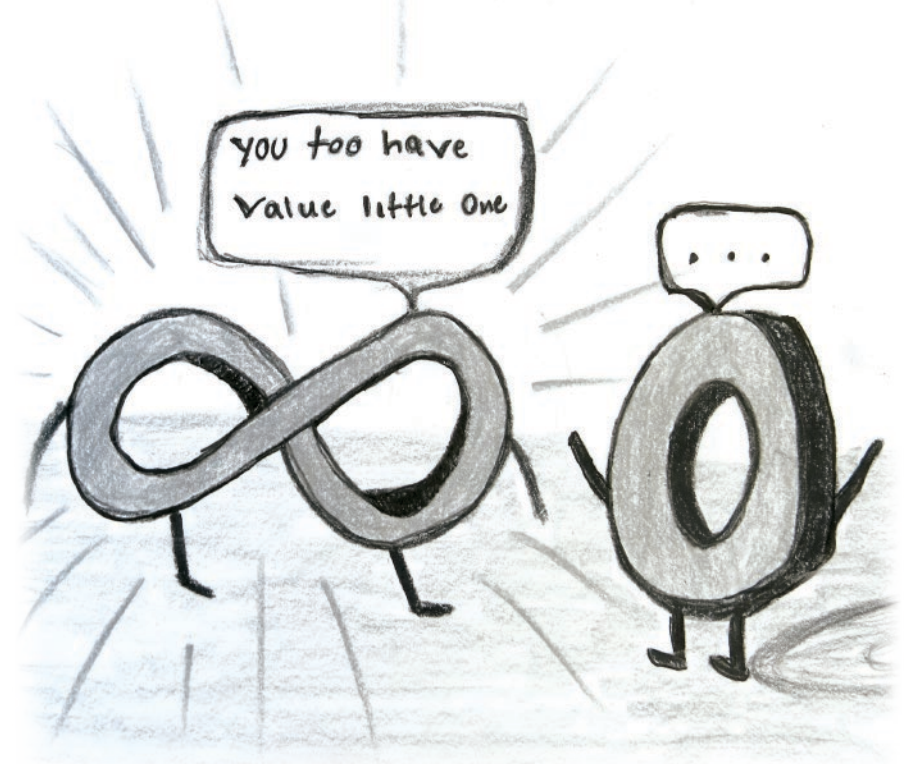
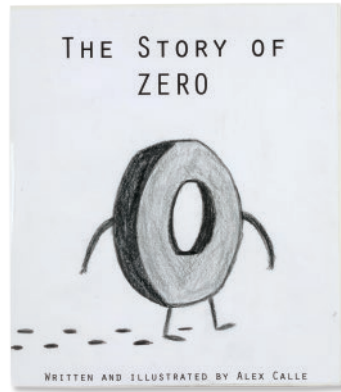


# Alex Calle

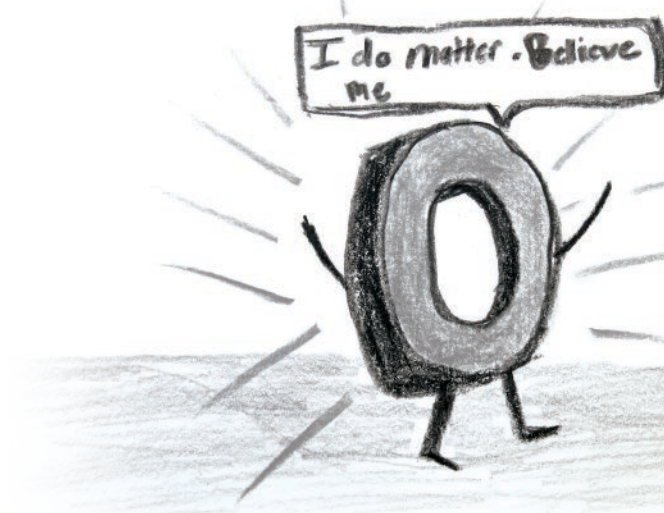
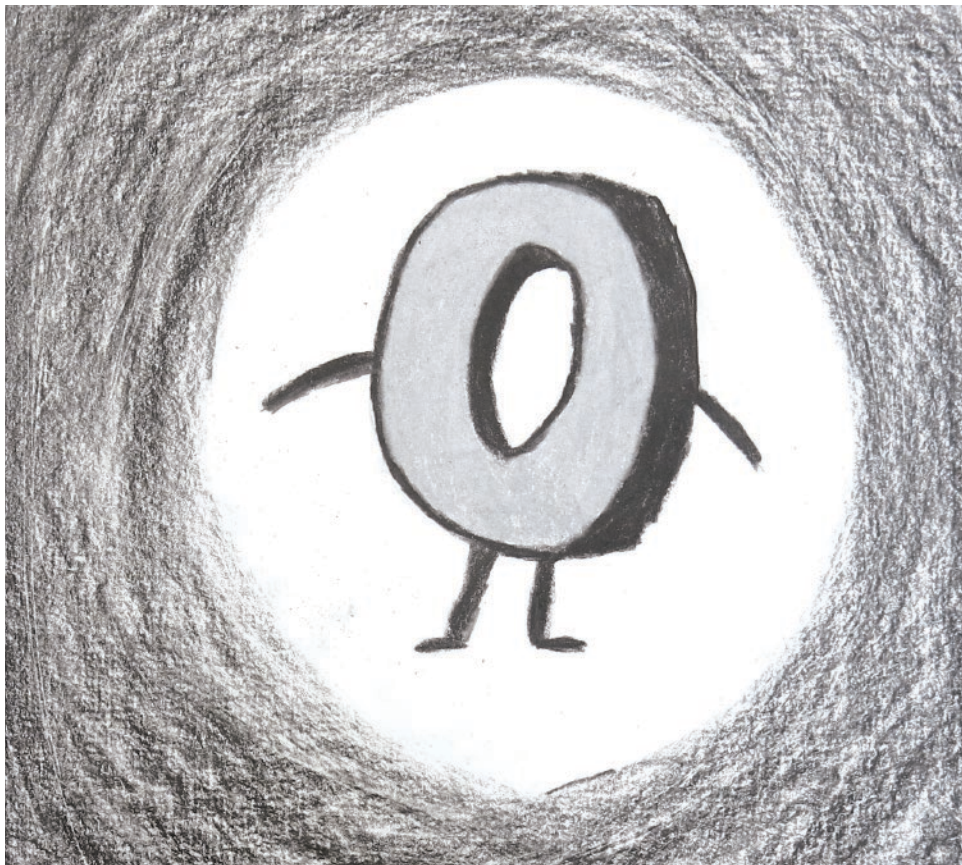
## The Story of Zero

Grade: 10  
Teacher: Melissa Alvarez  
School: John Bowne High School, Queens  
Principal: Laura Izzo Ianelli

The inspiration for my book came from an old TV show, *Cyberchase*, which I used to watch as a kid. One episode that popped into my mind when my teacher told us about creating a children's book. It was the episode about the number zero and how he was always picked on by the other numbers. The numbers told him that he was worthless and had no value. Zero finds someone



who inspires him to prove them wrong. I thought it would be interesting for kids if I showed how it feels when people are bullied or feel worthless. **Even though the story is about numbers, it is also a way for kids to know that they too have value, that someone can inspire them to find their worth, and that they can stand up for themselves.**



## Honorable Mentions

Title	Author/Illustrator	School	Teacher/Librarian	Principal
<b>Grades 3-5</b>				
<i>Diary of a Dumpling</i>	Rio Yoo, Veronica Arvelo	P.S. 8K, Robert Fulton	Amanda Green	Patricia Peterson
<i>EMOTIONS</i>	Landon Shchur, Gregory Shif	P.S. 195K, Manhattan Beach School	Cara Bianchi	Bernadette Toomey
<i>Life in a Class of Art</i>	Sharon Lin, Isabella Lyn-Shue	P.S. 193Q, Alfred J. Kennedy	Alexandra Budnick	Diane Tratner
<i>My Trip to Mexico</i>	Chelsea Pozo, Dulce Alequin	P.S. 48M, P.O. Michael John Buczek School	Felix Portela, Rachelle Marzola	Shaniquia Stanley
<i>Rising Sun</i>	Ann Karottu, Emily Peng	PS 153X, Helen Keller School	Anell Veras, Latechia Reddick	Meghan Kelley
<i>Stop It, You Bully</i>	Zi Han Lin	P.S. 94K, Henry Longfellow	Amy Yu, Chia Yin Tsai, Shuo Wang	Janette Caban
<i>The Story of Mr. Tophat</i>	Mia Sauchik, Anna Xie	P.S. 102K, The Bayview School	Monique Stanton, Erika Arancio, Linda Delpozo	Cornelia Sichenze
<b>Grades 6-8</b>				
<i>Brave</i>	Jacqueline Wong	P.S. 539M, New Explorations into Science, Technology and Math	Elizabeth Zacharia, Roy Whitford	Mark Berkowitz
<i>The Four Seasons</i>	Emily Lavi	I.S. 278K, Marine Park	Labrini Delaveris- Grubbs, Esther Keller, Dara McDonald	Debra Garofalo
<i>The News</i>	Sharon Lu	I.S. 201K, Dyker Intermediate School	Dina Pizzarello	Robert Ciulla
<i>Types of Sleepers</i>	Syka Mamataj	MS 137Q, America's School of Heroes	Lidia Menniti	Laura Mastrogiovanni
<b>Grades 9-12</b>				
<i>The Enchanted Forrest</i>	Israt Islam	Stuyvesant High School, Manhattan	Leslie Bernstein	Eric Contreras
<i>The Giraffe and the Caterpillar</i>	Ivan Cano	J.H.S. 202Q, Robert Goddard High School	Jill Hart	Joseph Birgeles
<i>The Krampus Hunt</i>	Shon Krichevsky	City College Academy of the Arts, Manhattan	Gloria Adams	Burnedette Drysdale

## School Winners

Title	Author/Illustrator	School	Teacher/Librarian	Principal
<b>Grades 3-5</b>				
<i>1 Demon 2 Heroes</i>	Nelson Robinson Gibson	P.S. 159K, Isaac Pitkin	Robert Drennan	Monica Duncan
<i>Air Balloon Ride (Fail)</i>	Maha Sabir	P.S. 216K, Arturo Toscanini	Sara Aronov, Regina Nichilo- Festa	Donna Neglia
<i>Barbie Doll and her Friends at Quill Lake</i>	Amara Ghani	P.S. 19R, The Curtis School	Lisa Colandrea	Lynette Cartagena
<i>Bella the Modern Vampire</i>	Kaleigh Bryant	P.S./M.S. 105Q, The Bay School	Stephanie Rosalia	Laurie Shapiro
<i>Dreamer</i>	Aileen Chen, Cipriana Salinas- Sandler	P.S. 110M, Florence Nightingale	Yael Gogolev	Karen Feuer
<i>Eat Smart</i>	Jessica Dovzhanyn	P.S. 105X, Senator Abraham Bernstein	Anna Cheina, Li Gilman	Christopher Eustace
<i>Eek! Roller Coaster!</i>	Madalyn Chang	P.S. 173Q, The Fresh Meadows School	Deborah Passik, Jeanette Miranda, PeiYu Chang	Molly Wang
<i>Faraway Friends</i>	Maya Kozik, Winnie Rong	P.S./I.S. 48R, William G. Wilcox	Christine Gross	Allison O'Donnell
<i>Friend In Disguise</i>	Joseph Magahis	P.S. 29R, Bardwell School	Lisa Krulfeifer, Nina Hansen	Linda Manfredi
<i>I Want A Friend</i>	Christopher Zavala, Ashford Maxwell	P.S. 151K, Lyndon B. Johnson	Lilibeth Sosa, Carolyn Alliers	Jayne Hunt
<i>Lily's Adventure</i>	Sandra Gao, Mahbuba Metu	P.S. 330Q, Helen M. Marshall School	Melissa Potwardski	Debra Rudolph
<i>Lost in Time</i>	Leia Liang, Veronica Movchan	P.S. 200K, Benson School	Zachary Lombardi	Javier Muniz
<i>Meduca's Return</i>	Joshua Alvericci	P.S. 24K	Karyn Krinsky- Kaplan	Jackie Nikovic
<i>Middle School Powers</i>	Isaiah McDonald	P.S. 93X, Albert. G. Oliver	Frances Ortiz, Roxanne Mathurin	Jonathan Kaplan
<i>Night of the Living Basketball</i>	Michaela Flotteron, Sasha Pupko	P.S. 1R, Tottenville	Lauren O'Keeffe	Grace Silberstein
<i>Oh No There Is a Spider!</i>	Ashley Chen	P.S. 205K, Clarion School	Claudia Roberts- Weaver	Feiga Mandel
<i>Problems in Paris</i>	Eleanor Perez	P.S. 148Q, Ruby G. Allen School	Daisy Padron, Susan Mustac	Yolanda Harvey

## School Winners *continued*

Title	Author/Illustrator	School	Teacher/Librarian	Principal
<i>Rainbow Eyes</i>	Nicole Iris Brown-Simba	P.S. 30M, Hernandez Hughes	Jessica McDonough	Terri Stinson
<i>Sky</i>	Ahmed Abdullah	P.S. 333X, The Longwood Academy of Discovery	Ashley Cox	Robert German
<i>The Bad Little Girl</i>	Laniecia Morrison	P.S. 219K, Kennedy-King	Amanda Bissell	Winsome Smith
<i>The Bird and the Wolves</i>	Venice Perez	P.S. 106K, Edward Everett Hale	Miriam Pinero, Lucy Cuevas	Magaly Moncayo
<i>The Cheeseburger</i>	Aneycha Jimenez	P.S. 59X, The Community School of Technology	Daniel Leviatin	Sita Basu
<i>The Colorful-Minded Fish</i>	Reagan Chiang	P.S. 174Q, William Sidney Mount	Marilyn Friedman, Marie Russell	Karin Kelly
<i>The Fishing Contest</i>	Churan Wu	P.S./I.S. 217M, Roosevelt Island School	Noreen O'Hagan	Mandana Beckman
<i>The Ghost Plane</i>	Richard He	P.S. 79Q, Francis Lewis	Denise Virgona	George Carter
<i>The Lazy Girl</i>	Andrea Gervacio	P.S. 66X, School of Higher Expectations	Chironjit Das	Kevin Goodman
<i>The Lonely Monster</i>	Peter La March, Steven Caruso	P.S. 6R, Corporal Allan F. Kivlehan School	Eileen Loughran	Elizabeth Waters
<i>The Midas Touch</i>	Chloe Fang	P.S. 139Q, The Rego Park School	Charissa Contrino	Natalie Perez-Hernandez
<i>The Nightmare</i>	Fatima Iman	P.S.179K, The Kensington School	Assuntina Stengren	Bernell Connelly
<i>The Penguin from Peru</i>	Jolin You, Stamatis Karathomas	Hellenic Classical Charter School, Brooklyn	Heather Prince, Julia Owen	Christina Tettonis
<i>The Roller Coaster Problem</i>	Andrea Mendoza, Lucas Kuilan	P.S. 75Q, Robert E. Peary	Jaimee Kaplan	James Thorbs
<i>The Screams of Friday the 13th</i>	Tahirah Sanni	P.S. 158K, Warwick	Jaqueline Charlton	Latishia Towles
<i>The Worst Morning</i>	Alicia Pope	P.S. 307K, Daniel Hale Williams	Noemi Alers, Jordanna Gatoff	Stephanie Carroll
<i>We're Off To Saudi Arabia</i>	Haaniya Rehman, Abdulla Arain	P.S. 253Q	Dionne Williams	Phoebe Robinson

## School Winners *continued*

Title	Author/Illustrator	School	Teacher/Librarian	Principal
<b>Special Mention</b>				
<i>Oh Man Bad Stuff</i>	Edward Belliard, Dylan Dchiutiis, Gianna DeAngelis, Hamza Hassan, Cliff Mai, Ivan Mai, Adam Morsy, James Sorbello, Ayden Superville	P231K, (Dist. 75)	Terrill Becker	Elizabeth Rueda-Mattock
<b>Grades 6-8</b>				
<i>Abys of the Mind</i>	Jasmine Pierre	I.S. 49R, Berta A. Dreyfus	Valerie Kimbrough	Louis Bruschi
<i>Bloom</i>	Klara Daito-McFadden	P.S. 23Q, NYC Children's Center (Dist. 75)	Gloria Newman, Al Marshall	Jacqueline Jones
<i>CLOWN-A-PHOBIA!</i>	Andrew Xie, Wanying Zhou	I.S. 281K, Joseph B. Cavallaro	Lisa Perchick	Maria Bender
<i>Coral Reef</i>	Aaliyah Baratau	I.S. 227Q, Louis Armstrong School	Stephanie Baker, Karen Ponzo, Matthew Curry	Helen Ponella
<i>Exploring the Planets</i>	Manucher Sharoffiddinov	P77K (Dist. 75)	Amie Robinson	Ebony Russell
<i>Her Imagination</i>	Janiah Maddox	P.S./M.S. 105Q, The Bay School	Stephanie Rosalia	Laurie Shapiro
<i>How I Came to the United States</i>	Rebecca Caba	I.S. 77Q	Dolores Violet, Ruth Varghese, Juan Flores	Joseph A. Miller
<i>Illustrated Mentors</i>	Joseph Aca	Hellenic Classical Charter School, Brooklyn	Julia Owen, Heather Prince	Christina Tettonis
<i>James Finds Jack</i>	Michael Maxwell, Katia Delcid	M.S. 172Q, Irwin Altman	Margaret Borger, Diane Sarno	Jeffrey Slivko
<i>Larry el Afortunado Lápiz</i>	Anna Traynor	M.S./H.S. 141X, Riverdale/Kingsbridge Academy	Julia Loving, Isa Almonte	Lori O'Mara
<i>Monsters Forest</i>	Ammorah Freeman	J.H.S. 127X, Castle Hill School	Brian Mckenzie	Harry Sherman



Title	Author/Illustrator	School	Teacher/Librarian	Principal
<i>My Natural Beauty</i>	Jada Dean	M.S. 582K, Magnet School for Multimedia Technology and Urban Planning	Kelly Jeffcoat	Jeffrey Merced
<i>Paper Snowflake</i>	Gabriella Cyran	I.S. 75R, Franklin D. Paulo	Allison Imparato	Ken Zapata
<i>Pizza For Percy</i>	Dylan Flaherty	P4Q@Skillman (Dist 75)	Melissa Mazdra, Elizabeth Rosenberry, Smaragda Apossos	Alison Quinlan
<i>Reme and the Town of Hazelville</i>	Rachel Abulafia, Amelia Koutun	Metropolitan Expeditionary Learning School, Queens	Jillian Ehlers, Erica Pajerowski	Damon McCord
<i>Saving Grandma</i>	Ilsa Lalin, Jessica Cloud	P.S. 415M, Wadleigh Secondary School for the Performing Arts	Tonia ByrdLee	Kyleema Norman
<i>Sevonmatha</i>	Joey Shi	I.S. 75R, Franklin D. Paulo	Allison Imparato	Ken Zapata
<i>STOP Polluting the Ocean!</i>	Justin Cartagena	P723@189X (Dist. 75)	Roberta Klapper, Wilfa Winslow	Shante Chunn
<i>Super Sea Serpent</i>	Luisa Fernandez-Garcia, Ashlyne Costin	Scholars' Academy, Queens	Darlene Gerasoulis	Brian O'Connell
<i>The Arctic Issue</i>	Sadie Friedman	M.S. 51K, William Alexander	Shelly Cunningham	Gregory Stanislaus
<i>The Project</i>	Ashanty Peralta	Urban Assembly School for Applied Math and Science, Bronx	Sara Makler	Ingrid Chung
<i>The Shiny Shell</i>	Zineb Hbabou	I.S. 141Q, The Steinway	Stefanie Pereira	Elisa Barresi
<i>Void</i>	Lillian Pacheco, Allyssa Irizarry	I.S. 145Q, Magnet School of Innovation and Applied Learning	William Hargrove	Ivan Asin
<i>Zane and the Quest for Color</i>	Shakira Negron, Paris Parboosingh	P.S. 109K	Marina Kharkover, Randi Bleier	Kerdy Bertrand
<b>Grades 9-12</b>				
<i>Earth</i>	Bethelihem Gebresiliasie, Daysi Perez Mendez	M.S./H.S. 141X, Riverdale/ Kingsbridge Academy	Julia Loving	Lori O'Mara
<i>Eva's Desire</i>	Anjanie Mohan	High School for Law Enforcement and Public Safety, Queens	Stefanie Abbey, Eve Davis	Laura Van Deren
<i>Kojo and His Deer Friend</i>	Kalvin Acheampong	World View High School, Bronx	Caitlin Lewis	Martin Hernandez

Title	Author/Illustrator	School	Teacher/Librarian	Principal
<i>Let's be Friends</i>	Jennifer Bhuiyan, Kaya Salmon	High School for Public Service, Brooklyn	Danielle Nigro-Bullock	Sean Rice
<i>My Family</i>	Alex Perechu Mejia	Franklin D. Roosevelt High School, Brooklyn	Leighton Suen	Melanie Katz
<i>Savior</i>	Claudy Simbert	Kurt Hahn High School, Brooklyn	Carole Shannon, Roger Jones, Ali Annunziato	Veronica Coleman
<i>Strawberry Shortcake Interpretation</i>	Oscar Jemmott	P.S. 811K, The Connie Leka's School (Dist. 75)	Patricia Freer	Antoinette Rose
<i>Tales of the Element Men Issue 01</i>	Jaleel Tappin	George Westinghouse CTE High School, Brooklyn	Rachel Green	Joe Arzuaga
<i>The Food Troop</i>	Isis Chavez	P.S. 23Q Lifeline Center (Dist 75)	Rose Newman	Jackie Jones
<i>The Great Race</i>	Farrukh Tariq, Anthony Allocca	Tottenville High School, Staten Island	Mary Ellen Fox, Angelica Tulino, Stephanie Frickenstein	Joseph Scarmato
<i>Tommy</i>	Vasilisa Ignatova, Gabriella Jean Cusumano	CSI High School, Staten Island	Jennifer Fontanez	Joseph Canale



## Selection Panel

Jessica Agudelo  
*Supervising Librarian, Bronx Library Center, New York Public Library*

Kimberly Grad  
*Coordinator, School Age Services, Brooklyn Public Library*

Ruth Guerrier-Pierre  
*Senior Children's Librarian, New York Public Library*

Aram Kim  
*Children's Book Author and Illustrator*

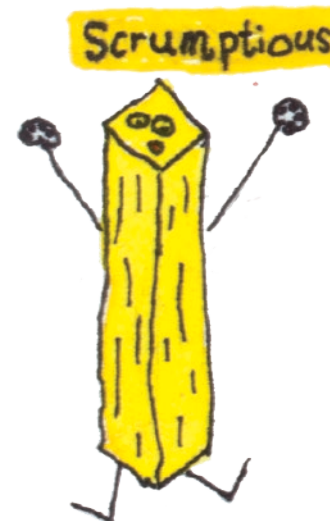
Yesha Naik  
*Senior Children's Librarian, Brooklyn Public Library*

Debra Randorf  
*Library Operations Coordinator, NYC Department of Education*

Jo Beth Ravitz  
*Artist/Art Consultant*

LuAnn Toth  
*Managing Editor, School Library Journal Reviews*

Mark Tuchman  
*Art Director, School Library Journal*



## Project Teams

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Karen Rosner, *Coordinator of Visual Arts*

### WORKING WITH THE OFFICE OF ARTS AND SPECIAL PROJECTS

Kenneth Grebinar, *Catalogue Editor*

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Melissa Jacobs, *Director of Library Services*

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Paquita Campoverde, *Manager, Youth & Family Programs*

Brandon Graham, *Curator, Youth Wing Exhibits*

Barbara Auerbach, *Class Visit Coordinator for the Exhibit*

Marguerite Sumpter, *Program Intern*

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Diana Voza, *Associate Director*

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Jennifer Macaluso, *Bookmaking Project Manager*



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