EZRA JACK

KEATS

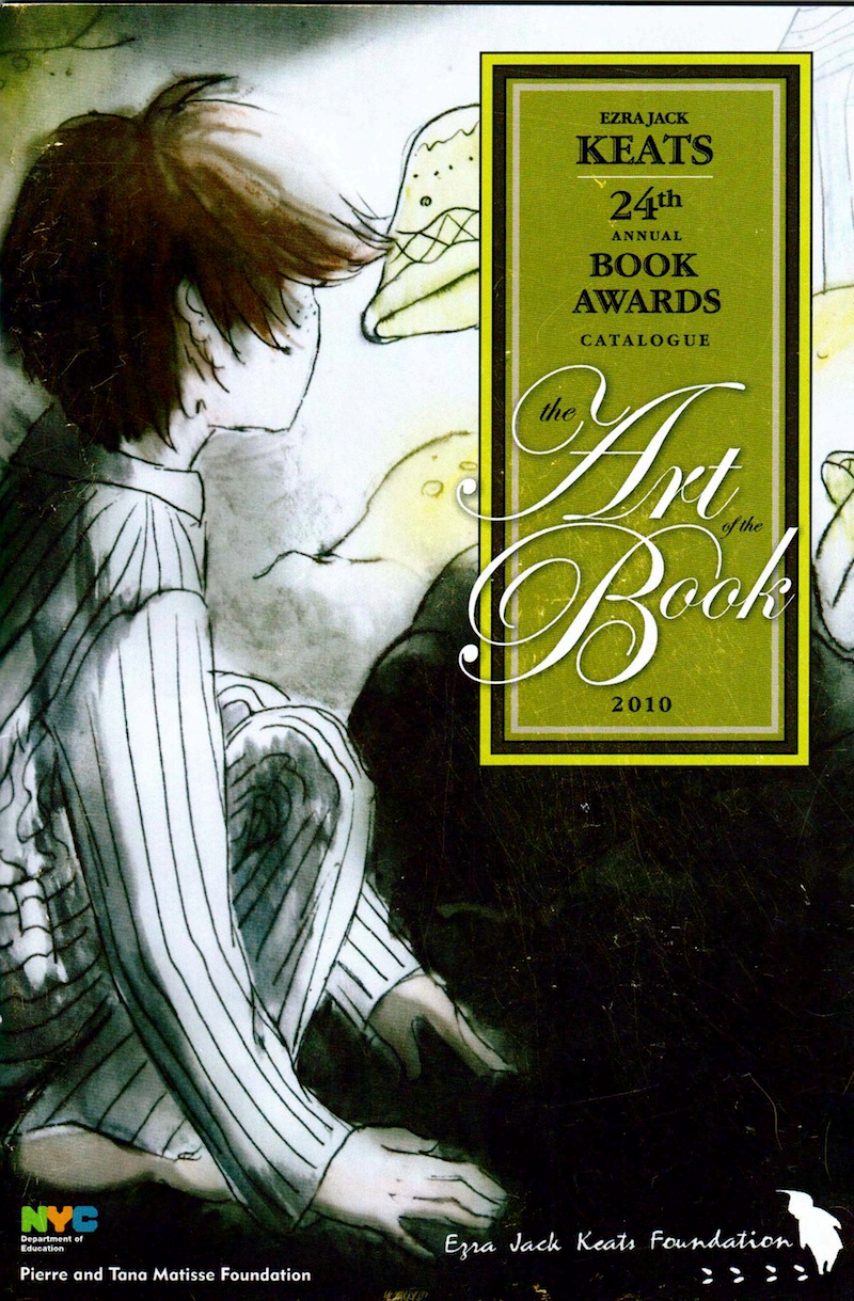
24th ANNUAL

BOOK AWARDS

CATALOGUE

the Art of the Book

2010



NYC Department of Education

Pierre and Tana Matisse Foundation

Ezra Jack Keats Foundation

City-Wide Winners

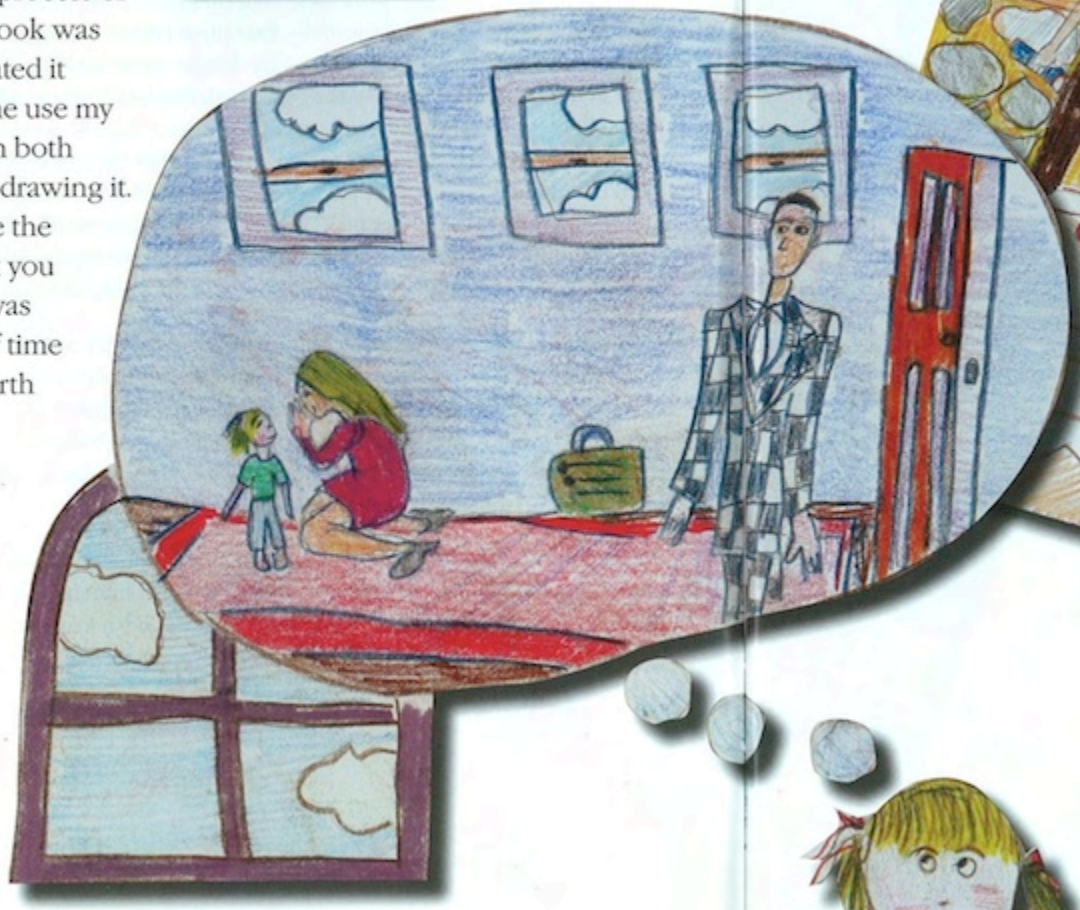
CITY-WIDE WINNER IN GRADES 3-5

Leila Johnson

Gigi's Forgotten Memory

Grade: 4
Librarian: Rose Ellen Neidish
School: P.S. / I.S. 187M, Hudson Cliffs
Principal: Cynthia Chory

Although the process of making this book was very complicated it really made me use my imagination in both writing it and drawing it. When you see the finished book you know that it was not a waste of time and it was worth the effort to accomplish making a picture book.



Gigi stared around her room thoughtfully. She grabbed her spy case and put in her recording pen, a notebook, mini binoculars, and sunglasses that could take pictures. Then she put on her roller blades, took Mazy and Bubbles out of their cages, got out their roller blades and put them on. "Lets go," Gigi whispered. All three of them slipped out of the room and into the long hallway.

CITY-WIDE WINNER IN GRADES 6-8

Jun Ying Wu

A Day at the Museum

Grade: 7
Teacher: Roma Karas
School: J.H.S. 259K, William McKinley
Principal: Janice Geary

When I was in the third grade my Mom took me to The Metropolitan Museum of Art. That was my very first visit to an art museum. I was inspired by all the masterpieces made decades and centuries ago. Later on I learned more about other masterpieces not in the Met, such as *Mona Lisa* and *The Scream*. They are shown in my accordion book. Open the book all the way and you will experience *A Day at the Museum* in a terrific way.

Borough-Wide Winners

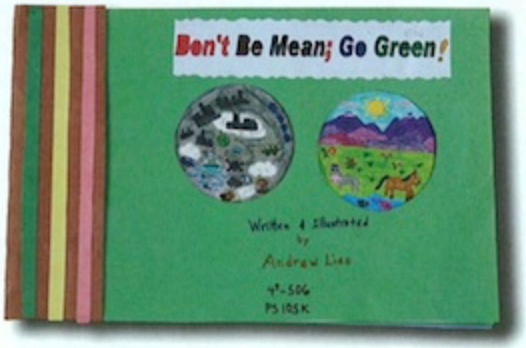
BROOKLYN BOROUGH-WIDE WINNER IN GRADES 3-5

Andrew Liao

Don't Be Mean; Go Green!

Grade: 4
Librarian: Lee Anne Infantino
School: P.S. 105K, The Blythebourne
Principal: Johanna Castronovo

For this book, *Don't Be Mean; Go Green!* I used stickers, markers, color pencils, magazine cut- outs, cotton and construction paper. This wide range of media helped my book shine out and look as interesting as possible. During the process, I thought of some concerns in the world. One of them is pollution, which I used for the main topic of my



book. There are two pictures shown on adjacent pages. I used these contrasting pictures to show what would happen if we all came together to save the earth and what would happen if we did not care and continued to pollute Mother Nature. Remember, *Don't Be Mean; Go Green!*

BRONX BOROUGH-WIDE WINNER IN GRADES 3-5

Edwin Honoret

Baseball

Grade: 5
Teachers: Katherine Hopkins
Mary Schoener
School: P.S. 076X, The Bennington School
Principal: Louise Sedotto

I made a baseball story because I love baseball and the story was actually about me. I was motivated by how my father took me to many baseball games. The covers were made by taking cardboard and wrapping it with paper. Then I made sketches of how the illustrations were going to come out. I thought of making silhouettes and used paper to make a collaged silhouette by just making the figures with black paper and an accent color. After I glued the pictures to the covers and pages, the book was bound by sewing, and we were finished!

MANHATTAN BOROUGH-WIDE WINNER IN GRADES 3-5

Ashley Wells

Big Pandas, Usually Known as Giant Pandas

Grade: 5
Teacher: Nia Mason
School: P.S. 163M, Alfred E. Smith
Principal: Virginia Pepe

First I chose a topic and then I found eight facts about giant pandas. Next, I sketched the designs for the front and back covers of the book. I sketched out what was to go on each page. After I finished the front cover and the back cover of my book I cut out the pages, drew my page designs and colored in

these designs. I wanted my book to be a pop-up book. I drew and colored in my pop-ups and connected the book. Finally I put in the pop-ups.

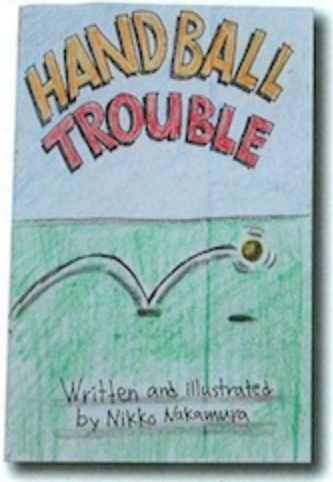
QUEENS BOROUGH-WIDE WINNER IN GRADES 3-5

Nikko Nakamura

Handball Trouble

Grades: 5,6
Teacher: Kelly Grupper
School: P.S. 139Q, Rego Park
Principal: Monica Powers Meade

Handball Trouble is based on events in my life. Thomas Hiller had a hard time practicing handball for fifteen days. At first, I wasn't great at tennis. I would either hit the ball out or miss it. I practiced for hours until I finally made it. The next day my coach said that he would move me up to intermediate. All of that practice was worth it to me. I created a mock-book or a sloppy copy. My first titles were *Trouble with Handball, The Handball Master* and *Handball Training*. I decided on the title *Handball Trouble*. For the final book I started with the wrap-around cover, using a sketch pencil and then drawing over the sketches with pen. Finally, I added color. I used the same procedure for the rest of the book. I added shadows to make the drawings look more realistic. Bookmaking is like sports; if you want to be good at it, just remember that practice makes perfect.



STATEN ISLAND BOROUGH-WIDE WINNER IN GRADES 3-5

Carissa Fleming

Try It, If You Love Me

Grade: 3
Librarian: Jane Siblo
Teacher: Kim Ryan
School: P.S. 42R, The Eltingville School
Principal: Brian Sharkey

I used a personal experience which I shared with my little brother Gary to come up with the basic idea for my story. I then wrote my first draft using a problem and a solution for my main character. This outline was approved by my teacher, Mrs. Ryan and our school librarian, Mrs. Siblo. I made a sloppy copy with sketches for each page in order to lay out my ideas. Finally, I typed out the words, used construction paper, scissors, glue, tissue paper and a thin marker to create my book.

Mama roasted a juicy turkey and served it with sweet potatoes on the side. Gary gobbled up all the turkey, leaving the sweet potatoes behind.

Mama said, "Try it, if you love me."

BROOKLYN BOROUGH-WIDE WINNER IN GRADES 6-8

Addison Brearton

Dance For Your Life

Grade: 7
Art Teacher: Dorothy Serposs
School: J.H.S. 201K, The Dyker Heights
Principal: Madeline Brennan

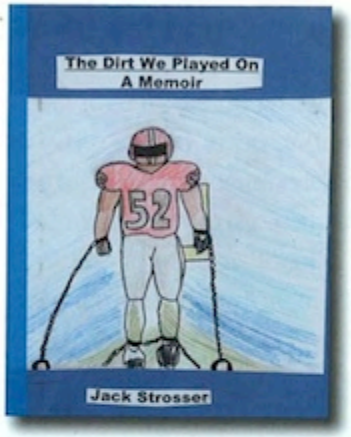
To make a picture book, I thought of topics that interested me. I am a dancer and I love to dance which inspired me to write a story about a dancer. I chose the fan format because it's different and in fact, I was the only student in my class to use this format. I drew all the pictures and wrote all the words in pencil first. Then I went back and colored the pictures and traced the words, carefully and neatly. It took me longer than I expected but I am happy with the end result.

MANHATTAN BOROUGH-WIDE WINNER IN GRADES 6-8

Jack Strosser

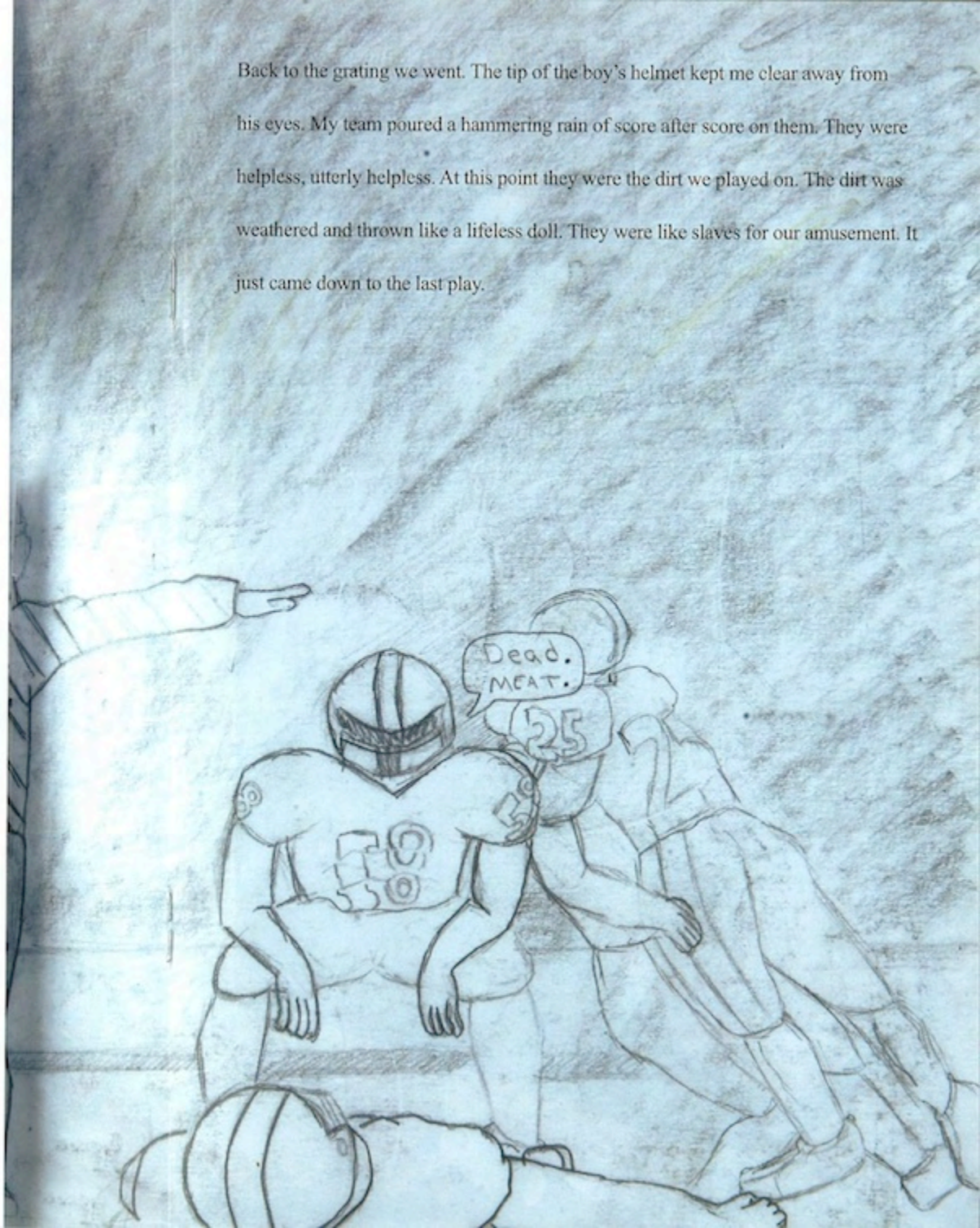
The Dirt We Played On

Grade: 7
Teacher: Carolyn Cobotic
School: J.H.S. 104M, Simon Baruch
Principal: Rosemarie Gaetani



The process of creating this book was demanding but gratifying. I used an event that made an impression on me; the experience of that football game still is embedded in my mind. Over the years I have grown past my immature arrogance and refuse to beat down on someone who doesn't deserve it. By reflecting on that game, my memoir sparked to life. Projecting my feelings and ideas onto paper was important. The drawings had to be sharp, carrying the right mood. I spent hours until the drawings projected the true meaning of the memoir. The cover needed to be strong and send a message. The binding of the book was problematic because the reader had to see the full page. After what seemed like hours of tugging, unwinding and stitching, the binding was complete. I was the most difficult judge to satisfy. Now that the book is complete, I am proud of myself. I have done my best, as I had set out to do in the first place.

Back to the grating we went. The tip of the boy's helmet kept me clear away from his eyes. My team poured a hammering rain of score after score on them. They were helpless, utterly helpless. At this point they were the dirt we played on. The dirt was weathered and thrown like a lifeless doll. They were like slaves for our amusement. It just came down to the last play.

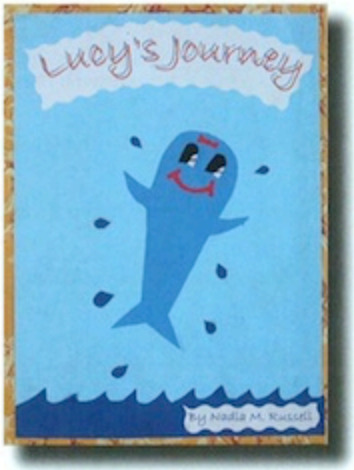


QUEENS BOROUGH-WIDE WINNER IN GRADES 6-8

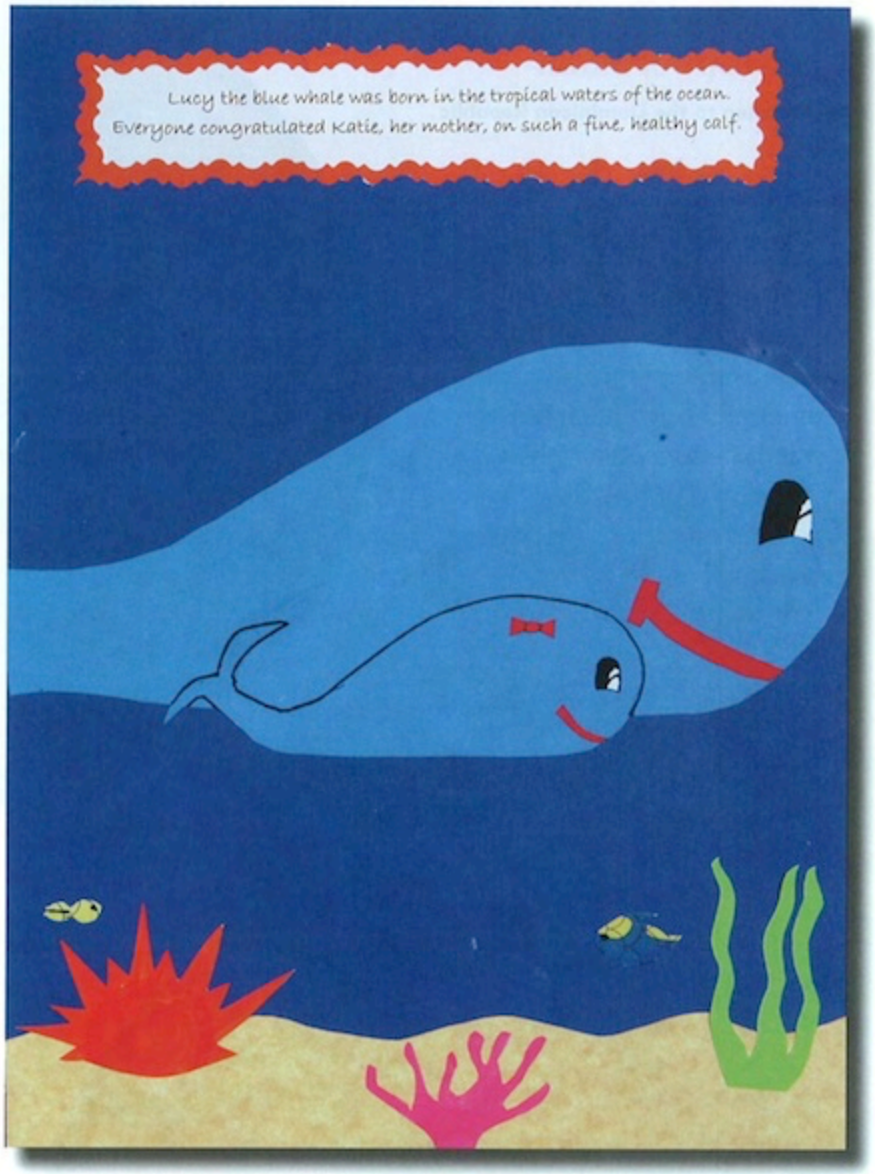
Nadia Russell

Lucy's Journey

Grade:	6
Librarian:	Elizabeth Schneider
Art Teacher:	Amy Weiss
Teacher:	Lois Olshan
School:	P.S. 144Q, Col. Jeromus Remsen
Principal:	Reva Gluck Schneider



The process of making my book was challenging yet fun. First, I came up with a story idea. I knew I wanted my story to be about animals and soon the story of the whale migration was born. I next created a storyboard, typed my text, cut out my pieces for my illustrations and glued everything to the paper. It took a lot of time to make this book but I did not mind because I created something I can treasure forever.



STATEN ISLAND BOROUGH-WIDE WINNER IN GRADES 6-8

Christopher Lima

My Vacation to the Dominican Republic

Grade: 6
Teacher: Nancy Brandonisio
School: I.S. 49R, Berta A. Dreyfus
Principal: Linda Hill

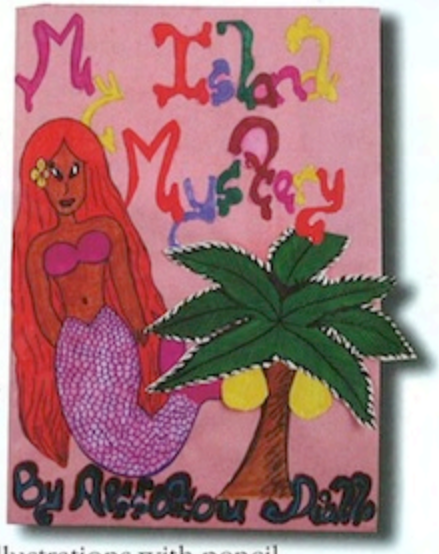
I had fun making my book. I wrote about my trip to the Dominican Republic because I remember how much fun it was to be together with my family. I enjoyed drawing and using different materials to make each page special. I drew the picture of myself for the cover because the book is about me. Writing the memoir reminded me of my family and the pictures brought my memoir to life.

BROOKLYN BOROUGH-WIDE WINNER IN GRADES 9-12

Aissatou Diallo

My Island Mystery

Grade: 12
Teacher: Erica Tuttle
School: International High School at Lafayette, Brooklyn
Principal: Michael Soet



Last year I wrote a poem about love between a human and a mermaid. I added dialogue to the poem although I kept much of the original poem in the story. I started the illustrations with pencil and finished them with markers. I used matte board for the cover and watercolor paper for the inside pages. The cover was the most difficult part because it was challenging to get the binding to hold the pages and still look nice.

Without ev finishing my sentence he already entered the water. He was looking at me, too amaze and fascinated by my beauty. And his survival under the water didn't even matter to him.

" How did you know my name? ", I managed to ask.

" I always hear your voice in my dreams ", Theo answered.

Loud and energetic noises were approaching with strong vibrations that shook all the water. My father was coming with his guards.

" You ve to hide, my father is coming! Or lets run away! ", I desperately cried.

" Don't have to hide anymore. I don't want to run away! ", Theo cried.

" You don understand. This is about your life! My father going to kill you! PLEASE! " I want to ask your hand in the right way regardless of how much it will cost me. I know you love me, I can see it in your eyes. ", said Theo.

BRONX BOROUGH-WIDE WINNER IN GRADES 9-12

Joyce Paredes / Veronica Tanikie

Danaa and Melvin Take a Bite Out of New York

Grade: 11
Librarian: Julia Loving
School: Pelham Preparatory Academy, Bronx
Principal: Jane Aronoff

Joyce Paredes, *Author*

As a child my mom used to take me to the library and we'd read picture books together. Writing this book I tried to keep in mind the many people, places, aromas and restaurants throughout New York City. I was inspired by the diversity in my neighborhood. Ms. Loving, the Librarian, introduced us to resources that expanded our knowledge of various genres. It was a challenge to write from the perspective of a younger person. Deciding the details to include in the story also was challenging. I wanted to make sure that the story appealed to a variety of people, which was difficult because we all have so many different opinions.

Veronica Tanikie, *Illustrator*

Illustrating *Danaa and Melvin Take A Bite Out of New York* made me aware of the many cuisines enjoyed around the city. New York City has so many different ethnic groups, making the entire dining experience lots of fun. Using our school library, I was able to research the many different neighborhoods and cuisines reflected in our story. I didn't consider myself an artist but Ms. Loving thinks I'm a wonderful artist. She pushes us to excel. I enjoyed designing and drawing the pictures. We named one of our characters Danaa after our school psychologist who always supports our work. My school programs and scheduled classes sometimes conflicted with Joyce's schedule and time management was a challenge. Sequencing the pictures to go with the story was also challenging. I had to dig deep within my artistic self to make sure the pictures really reflected the story.

to the rainbow drops of water that trickled from the neighborhood pump. It was so much fun.

"We're here Danaa" said mama

"We're here Melvin" (oink, oink, oink)

WOW brick giants everywhere.

Why I have never seen so many tall buildings in my life, and I'm seven years old. Mama says I'm a big boy now on account of I'm in the 1st grade.

Well Melvin looks like we have to abandon our ship and search for our latest treasure. The big apple where Aunt Shelly and baby Kyle are being held captive by the brick giants and their pointy roof tops ARRR!

"Danaa silly the big apple is just another way to say New York City."

MANHATTAN BOROUGH-WIDE WINNER IN GRADES 9-12

Andrew Miralda

Johnny's Wish

Grade: 12
Teacher: Tagan Rios
School: Louis D. Brandeis High School, Manhattan
Principal: Eloise Messineo

I wrote *Johnny's Wish* for younger children. I want children to understand that if you are mean to others you could have a lonely life. I also want them to understand that everyone needs friends and family. I decided to make the book out of clay because I thought it would make the book more unique. I thought that most of the books would be made from paper and wanted my book to stand out from the other books. I used bright colors to illustrate the book to make it more attractive to children. I used under glazes to illustrate the book and scratched the text into the under glazes.

QUEENS BOROUGH-WIDE WINNER IN GRADES 9-12

Sherina Goberdhan

At the Farm with Aiden

Grade: 11
Teacher: Stefanie Abbey
Librarian: Eve Davis
School: High School for Law Enforcement and Public Safety, Queens
Principal: Diahann Malcolm

Throughout life we all face challenges - some we can overcome and some we are still working on. Whenever I go through a rough time, the little kids in my life are there for me and make me smile again. These little kids make a difference in my life. I wrote *At the Farm with Aiden* because they all love animals and I wanted to teach them what farm animals look and sound like. In making this book I learned that all the hard work an author/illustrator does actually pays off. Previous work I did in my art class helped me. I had fun making this book and couldn't have done it without my art teacher, Ms. Abbey.

DISTRICT 75 WINNER IN GRADES 3-5

Moises Oliva / Whitney Castillo

Dance with Me

Grades: 3, 5
Teacher: Tany'a P. Wells-Vasquez
School: P.S. 017X
Principal: Robin Cohen

Moises, *Illustrator*: I made pictures using oil pastels. I said, "Oh my goodness!" when I saw the book. I liked doing this because I had fun.

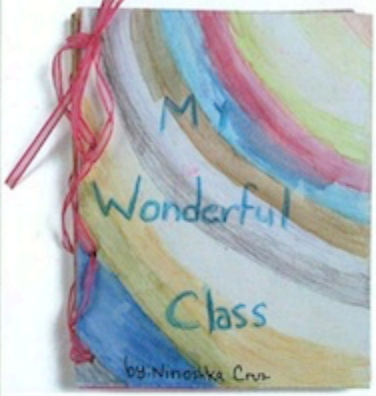
Whitney, *Author*: I told a story using Moises' pictures. Looking at the pictures was the easy part because I saw my big sister in them. Putting the pictures in order was the hardest part. I want people to say, "Whitney did an excellent job with this story."

DISTRICT 75 WINNER IN GRADES 6-8

Ninoshka Cruz

My Wonderful Class

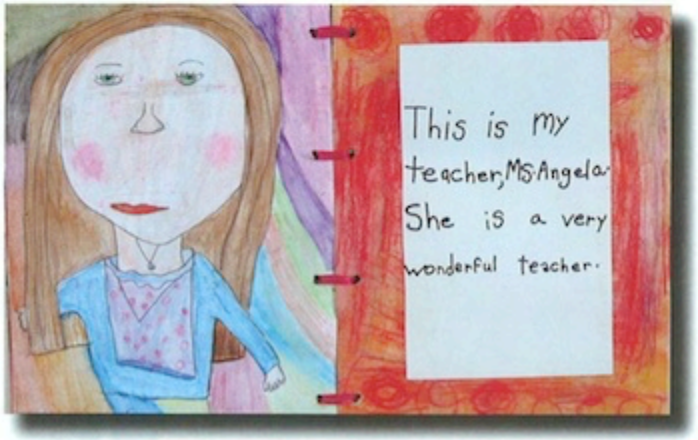
Grade: Ungraded/MS
Teacher: Meredith Alaimo
School: PS 233Q
Principal: Debbie Edmonds



Working on this book was very challenging. This is a new school for me and this is the first time I entered a contest. I felt very happy though, and proud of myself because I was able to do my school work and work on the book at the same time.

The contest encouraged me to get to know the teachers and students in my class because I had to do their portraits. This motivated me to work on the book because getting to know them better was fun.

I enjoy myself very much when I create art. I learned a lot about art techniques such as how to blend colors and how to look at people and draw what I see.



DISTRICT 75 WINNER IN GRADES 9-12

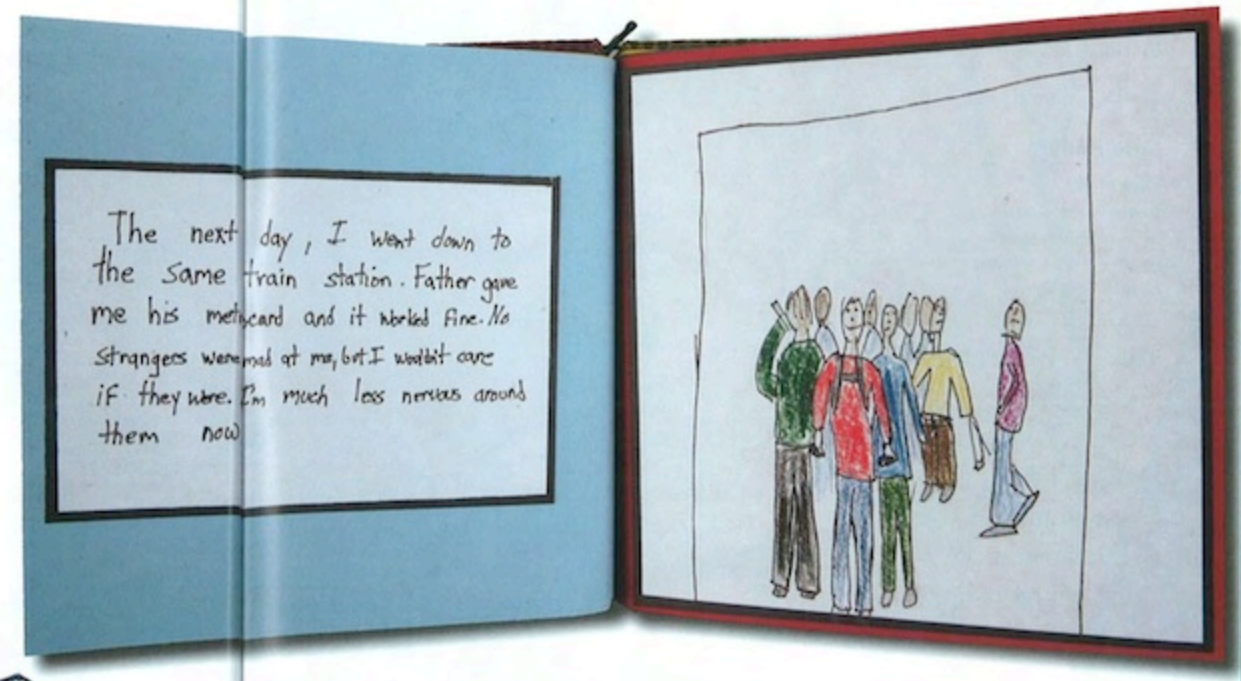
Roberto Zamora

My Crazy Ride Home

Grade: 12
Teachers: Ed Fernbach
Monica Ysaac
School: P.S. 993Q
Principal: Jacqueline Zaretsky

It took a lot of work to create the story and the book. *My Crazy Ride Home* is a story about how I sometimes feel when I take the train home from school.

Every day is different, but on that day I really felt anxious and wanted to walk. It felt very good to be able to tell my story to other people so that they could understand how I feel sometimes.



DISTRICT 79 WINNER

Freddy Flores

Casa/Home

Grade: 12
Teachers: Jairo Galeano
Julene Mays
School: Island Academy, Queens
Principal: Eva Ostrum

This is a book about my life and experiences growing up in Mexico. I wrote it in English and Spanish because I use both of these languages every day. All of the illustrations I created were done in Photoshop. There are almost a hundred different images used for this book. This book took me months to create and I hope the reader enjoys it.