

SEPTEMBER 2018

TO: Visual Arts Teachers, Librarians, and Teachers of English and Social Studies, Grades 3 - 12

FROM: Karen Rosner, Coordinator of Visual Arts

RE: The Annual Ezra Jack Keats Bookmaking Competition

I learned a lot from the step-by-step process of transforming my ideas into a book that others could appreciate. I learned about the importance of choosing the right words and bringing dialogue into my story. I worked hard to make sure that my design concept came through using my own drawing style, and that the pages flowed seamlessly.

- Erica Perez, 12th Grade student at Millennium Arts Academy in the Bronx,
2018 Borough Wide Winner

The Ezra Jack Keats Bookmaking Competition, collaboration between the NYCDOE and the Ezra Jack Keats Foundation, has resulted in the creation of thousands of student-made picture books. It is named for Ezra Jack Keats, creator of over 20 children's books, including the classic Caldecott-winning *The Snowy Day*. Ezra cherished an art medal he received as a student at Brooklyn's Junior High School 149 because it had encouraged him to become an artist. Look for the new series of US postage stamps depicting scenes from *The Snowy Day*.

When students write and illustrate their own picture books, **fiction or non-fiction**, they engage in creative thinking, incorporate literacy and art skills, and experience the rewarding feeling of a job well done. *Exploration of both genres is encouraged, and there are no limits on the topic a student may choose for his or her book.*

Each school is allowed to submit ONE book into the competition. (See note under Eligibility.)

All schoolwide winners receive medals and award certificates. They are listed on the Ezra Jack Keats website and in the annual Bookmaking Award Catalogue, along with the titles of books, schools, teachers and principals.

All schoolwide winning entries are displayed spring 2019 at the main branch of Brooklyn Public Library.

All borough elementary, middle and high school winners and **citywide** winners are recognized at the annual award ceremony in May, and receive medals and monetary awards from the Foundation.

All honorable mentions are invited to the May ceremony and are recognized for their accomplishments.

Teachers of city, borough and honor winning students will receive book bags with a selection of grade appropriate books at the Award Ceremony. These books are generously donated by Penguin Random House, the publisher of Ezra Jack Keats's books.

This packet includes the following:

1. Competition Guidelines/Timeline (Attachment A)
2. Declaration of Originality and Author's Statement (Attachment B)
3. Consent and Release Form (Attachment C)
4. *This is More than a Competition!* Suggested Enrichment (Attachment D)

c: Paul King
Melissa Jacobs
Esther Friedman

Ezra Jack Keats Bookmaking Competition Guidelines

Deadline for Submissions: Submissions must be postmarked by **Friday, January 18, 2019.**

Procedure for Submissions: School team (principal, art teacher, librarian, language arts teacher, for example) selects **ONE** entry and completes the following 4 steps **no later than January 18, 2019.**

	Check Box
<p>1) Print and complete Attachment B: <i>Declaration of Originality and Author's Statement.</i></p> <p>All entries must have Attachment B securely attached to the book submission. Note: This form includes a section for <i>brief</i> author/illustrator comments.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>2) Print and complete Attachment C: <i>Consent and Release Form.</i></p> <p>Pack this document with the book submission but do not permanently attach.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>3) Complete the online submission form at the following link:</p> <p>http://www.cvent.com/d/0tq8zm</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Note new address.</p> <p>4) Mail the entry to:</p> <p>Attn: Jennifer Macaluso Ezra Jack Keats Bookmaking Competition 4360 Broadway – 4th Floor < THIS FULL LINE MUST BE INCLUDED New York, New York 10033</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Eligibility:

Elementary: Grades 3-5
 Middle School: Grades 6-8
 High School: Grades 9-12

Schools with multiple-grade categories may submit one book per category. (Example: a K – 8 school may submit a book by a 3rd grader and a book by a 7th grader.)

Criteria:

- Students may select their own themes
- Emphasis should be placed on illustrated stories
- All work must be **original**.
- No more than **two** students may collaborate on a book
- Books must be created as part of ongoing classroom instruction, under teacher and/or librarian supervision

Media: **NOTE ►**

- Books **MUST** be handmade and firmly bound by the student
- **Judges will disqualify**
 - Any pre-bound or spiral bound books,
 - Books with plastic slip bindings
 - Re-made and recycled books.
- All art media are acceptable

Measurements: **Books must be no larger than 15" x 18"**
(Please avoid elaborate platforms or stands for books.)

Ezra Jack Keats Bookmaking Competition

TIMELINE / IMPORTANT DATES

Friday, January 18, 2019 Submissions Deadline

Submissions do not have to arrive in our office by January 19th but **MUST** be mailed and postmarked by January 19th.

Early February 2019 Judging

- Judging is based on quality of writing, illustrations, layout, and general presentation.
- The jury is composed of noted authors, librarians, artists, and educators.

Week of March 11, 2019 Award Notification by the Office of Arts and Special Projects

Citywide Awards - Ezra Jack Keats Medal & \$500*

- One elementary winner
- One intermediate winner
- One high school winner

Borough Awards – Ezra Jack Keats Pin & \$100*

- A total of fifteen awards throughout the boroughs

District 75– Ezra Jack Keats Pin & \$100*

- One elementary winner
- One intermediate winner
- One high school winner

District 79– Ezra Jack Keats Pin & \$100*

- One high school winner

School Awards – Ezra Jack Keats Pin

- All school winners will receive pins with returned books

* For books with 2 collaborators, monetary awards will be shared.

May 2019 Awards Ceremony

Citywide and borough winners honored as well as honorable mentions. *Details TBA*

May 2019 Book Viewing

All entries exhibited at Brooklyn Public Library at Grand Army Plaza. *Details TBA*

Early June 2019 Return of Work

Books will be returned to schools **no later than June 14, 2019**

**Ezra Jack Keats Bookmaking Project
Declaration of Originality and Author's Statement**

This form must be completed, printed out, and *securely attached with tape to the inside back cover of the book.*
Work submitted without this form will NOT be accepted.

Please type or print clearly

This book entitled,	Title of Book	is an original work by:
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STUDENT #1 - INFORMATION

First Name	Last Name	Grade Level (3 – 12)	Signature of Student	Role of Student
Student's Statement related to the process of making a picture book:				Author <input type="checkbox"/> Illustrator <input type="checkbox"/>

STUDENT #2 - INFORMATION

First Name	Last Name	Grade Level (3 – 12)	Signature of Student	Role of Student
Student's Statement related to the process of making a picture book:				Author <input type="checkbox"/> Illustrator <input type="checkbox"/>

This book was created under the supervision of:				
First Name	Last Name	Signature	Title: <input type="checkbox"/> Librarian <input type="checkbox"/> Teacher	
First Name	Last Name	Signature	Title: <input type="checkbox"/> Librarian <input type="checkbox"/> Teacher	
First Name	Last Name	Signature	Title: <input type="checkbox"/> Librarian <input type="checkbox"/> Teacher	
School Name		District	Borough	School #
School Address			City, State	Zip Code
Principal's Name		Principal's Email		
Principal's Signature			Date	

Ezra Jack Keats Bookmaking Project
CONSENT AND RELEASE FORM

Student Name: *(Please Print)* _____ **Grade:** _____

Title of Book for the 2019 Ezra Jack Keats Bookmaking Competition

Borough: _____

School: _____

School Address: _____

Borough: _____ **Zip Code:** _____

I give permission for my book/artwork, any quotes I may give in interviews and any photographs or videotapes of me or my book/artwork displayed at Grand Army Plaza branch of the Brooklyn Public Library (BPL), to be used on the New York City Department of Education's (DOE) website and in any DOE and/or BPL production or publication (including online). I grant to the DOE and the BPL the right to create a facsimile of my book to be displayed at the BPL. I also grant permission for the DOE and the BPL to photograph and videotape me and my book/artwork as well as edit, use and reuse said photographs, videotapes and quotes for all non-profit purposes of the DOE and the BPL, including on their websites, without compensation. I also grant to the sponsors of the contest, the Ezra Jack Keats Foundation, the right to use edit, use and reuse said photographs, videotapes and quotes in their productions or publications (including online) in connection with the contest. I understand that the BPL will take care of the above-listed book/artwork but is not responsible for any loss or damage to same, nor the return of same to me. I hereby release the DOE, the City of New York and the BPL and their agents, employees, volunteers and trustees, from all claims, demands and liabilities whatsoever in connection with or arising out of the above. I understand that I retain ownership of all of my submitted artwork.

Signature of Student: _____ **Date:** _____

Parent/Guardian Consent (To be completed if the above student is under the age of 18).

Name of Parent/Guardian *(Please Print):* _____

Address of Parent/Guardian: _____

I hereby consent to the participation in interviews, the use of quotes, and the taking of photographs or videotapes of my son/daughter and his/her book/artwork by the New York City Department of Education (DOE) and the Brooklyn Public Library (BPL) to be used on their websites or in any DOE and/or BPL productions or publications (including online). I give permission for child's book/artwork to be displayed at the Grand Army Plaza branch of the BPL. I grant permission for the DOE and the BPL to create a facsimile of my child's book to be shown at the BPL. I also grant to the DOE and the BPL the right to edit, use and reuse said photographs, videotapes and quotes for all non-profit purposes of the DOE and the BPL without compensation. I also grant to the sponsors of the contest, the Ezra Jack Keats Foundation, the right to use edit, use and reuse said photographs, videotapes and quotes in their productions or publications (including online) in connection with the contest. I understand that the BPL will take care of the above-listed book/artwork but is not responsible for any loss or damage to same, nor the return of same to me or my son/daughter. I also hereby release the DOE, the City of New York and the BPL and their agents, employees, volunteers and trustees from all claims, demand and liabilities whatsoever in connection with or arising out of the above. I understand that my child retains ownership of all of his/her submitted artwork.

Signature of Parent/Guardian: _____ **Date:** _____

THIS IS MORE THAN A COMPETITION!

**Creating picture books should be embedded within the study of the picture book genre.
Here are ways this may be accomplished:**

Introduce your students to a variety of texts and to a variety of narrators:

Fiction

Realistic or fantasy
Animals/people as main characters
Rich text or no text
Inspired by actual events or totally imaginative

Non-Fiction

Biographies and autobiographies
Stories about an actual event
Instructional texts (related to various content areas)

Discuss what qualifies as a picture book.

*(Illustrations **and** text move the story along, set a mood, supply information.)*

Explore the use of a variety of media, textures, contrasts, colors, lines, shapes and uses of space in the illustrations of Ezra Jack Keats, as well as those of other noted picture book illustrators.

Study page layouts in picture books and note:

- relationship of image and text on each page
- similarities and differences from page to page
- patterns throughout the book, in text as well as in illustrations

Note the different shapes of the stories:

- **circular** begins and ends at the same place
- **linear** progresses in one direction (e.g. *alphabet book*)
- **triangular** builds to a problem that is solved
- **snapshot** reads like a photo album....each page can stand alone

Examine the qualities of the text on a page and ask questions such as:

- Is there dialogue?
- Is text made up of a word, a phrase, or one or more sentences?
- Are sentences on the page in their entirety, or continued onto the next page?

Consider how different authors treat the same topic.

Engage students in an author study and discuss the style (or various styles) of that one author/illustrator.

Visit school or public libraries. Ask for the librarian's favorites. Invite older students to visit independently.

Research the following websites for more information about Ezra Jack Keats and children's picture books:

[Ezra Jack Keats Foundation](#)

[de Grummond Collection](#)

[Caldecott Medal Winners](#)

[Children's Book Council](#)