



52 Chambers Street  
New York, New York 10007

212. 374. 0300 tel  
212. 374. 5598 fax

**Department of  
Education**

Paul King  
Executive Director  
Office of Arts and Special Projects

SEPTEMBER 2011

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

FROM: Karen Rosner  
Coordinator of Visual Arts

RE: 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Ezra Jack Keats Bookmaking Competition

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We are pleased to announce the 26<sup>th</sup> annual Ezra Jack Keats Bookmaking Competition, a collaboration between the Department of Education and the Ezra Jack Keats Foundation. Over the years this partnership has resulted in the creation of thousands of student-made picture books.

Caldecott winner, Ezra Jack Keats was the creator of over 20 children's books, including the classic *The Snowy Day*. He was motivated to pursue a career as an author/illustrator as the result of an art achievement medal he received while attending Brooklyn's Junior High School 149.

Participation in this competition inspires the creative spirit in students to craft picture books as vehicles for self-expression, encourages the study of the picture book genre, and promotes bookmaking as a career opportunity in the arts.

**NEW THIS YEAR:**

- All citywide and borough wide winners will be celebrated at Penguin Publishers with lunch, tour and a review of their books.
- All school winners will be on the Ezra Jack Keats website
- All school winning entries will be displayed in the main branch of the Brooklyn Public Library at Grand Army Plaza
- All school winners will be listed in the annual catalogue

View the catalogue of the 2011 winning entries at <http://schools.nyc.gov/offices/teachlearn/arts/ejk.html>

View an inspiring clip on last year's competition at <http://www.ezra-jack-keats.org/news/cbs-eye-on-new-york>

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. Suggestions for Teachers and Librarians (Attachment D)

C: Paul King  
Barbara Stripling  
Gregg Bethel

## Ezra Jack Keats Bookmaking Competition Guidelines

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Deadline for Submissions: **Friday, January 27, 2012**

Procedure for Submissions: Principals select **ONE** entry and complete the following 4 steps **no later** than **January 27, 2012:**

	Check Box
<p><b>1) Print and complete Attachment B: Declaration of Originality and Author’s Statement.</b></p> <p>All entries <b>must</b> have this document securely <b>attached to the book submission</b>.  <b>Note:</b> Once again this form includes a section for <i>brief</i> author/illustrator comments.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p><b>2) Print and complete Attachment C: Consent and Release Form.</b></p> <p>Pack this document with the book submission <b>but do not</b> permanently attach.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p><b>3) Complete the online submission form at the following link:</b>  <a href="http://www.zoomerang.com/Survey/WEB22D42LNVPJK">http://www.zoomerang.com/Survey/WEB22D42LNVPJK</a></p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p><b>4) Submit the entry to:</b></p> <p>Ezra Jack Keats Bookmaking Competition            New York City Department of Education            52 Chambers Street, Room 210            New York, New York 10007</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Eligibility: Grades 3-5 (*elementary category*)  
 Grades 6-8 (*intermediate category*)  
 Grades 9-12 (*high school category*)

} Schools with multiple-grade categories may submit one book per category.

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, those with plastic slip bindings, and re-made and recycled books.
- All art media are acceptable

Measurements: **Books must be no larger than 15” x 18”**

# Ezra Jack Keats Bookmaking Competition

## TIMELINE / IMPORTANT DATES

### January 27, 2012

Submissions Deadline: Book submission must be received on this date by the Office of Arts and Special Projects by 5:00PM.

### February 13 to 15, 2012

Judging:

- Judging will focus on the quality of the writing, illustrations, and presentation.
- The jury is composed of librarians, artists, and educators.

### Week of March 12, 2012

Winner Notification: Citywide and Borough-wide winners to be notified by the Office of Arts and Special Projects.

#### Awards

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

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

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

- One elementary winner per borough
- One intermediate winner per borough
- One high school winner per borough

#### 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 2012

Awards Ceremony: Citywide and borough winners will be honored.  
*Details TBA*

### During April and May 2012

Book Viewing: **All** entries will be exhibited at a branch of the New York Public Library.  
*Details TBA*

### Mid June 2012

Return of Work: Books will be returned to schools in June.

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

This form must be completed 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

<b>This book entitled,</b>	Title of Book	<b>is an original work by</b>
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**STUDENT #1 - INFORMATION**

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

<b>This book was created under the supervision of:</b>					
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 Contest**

**CONSENT AND RELEASE FORM**

**Student Name:** *(Please Print)* \_\_\_\_\_ **Grade:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Title of Book for the 2011 Ezra Jack Keats Bookmaking Competition** \_\_\_\_\_

**Borough:** \_\_\_\_\_

**School:** \_\_\_\_\_

**School Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**School City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_\_ **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 Brooklyn Public Library production or publication (including online). I grant to the DOE and the Brooklyn Public Library 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 Brooklyn Public Library, 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 Brooklyn Public Library 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 Brooklyn Public Library 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 Brooklyn Public Library productions or publications (including online). I give permission for child's book/artwork to be displayed at the Grand Army Plaza branch of the Brooklyn Public Library. 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 Brooklyn Public Library the right to edit, use and reuse said photographs, videotapes and quotes for all non-profit purposes of the DOE and the Brooklyn Public Library 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 Brooklyn Public Library 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 Brooklyn Public Library 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:** \_\_\_\_\_

**SUGGESTIONS FOR TEACHERS AND LIBRARIANS**

View the catalogue of last years' winning entries at <http://schools.nyc.gov/offices/teachlearn/arts/ejk.html>

**NOTE: Citywide Instructional Expectations for 2011-2012 include the engagement of students in literary tasks that ask them to read and analyze informational texts and write opinions and arguments in response.**

The competition should be integrated into your classroom instruction. Thus, picture book studies are strongly recommended. When selecting picture books to use with your students, **consider informational texts:** picture books in various content areas (language arts, math, science, social studies, dance, music, theater and the visual arts).

**Students can read and analyze informational books as they would other picture books and use them to inform the writing of their own picture books. Several examples:**

- *Two Bobbies: A True Story of Hurricane Katrina, Friendship, and Survival* by Kirby Larson and Mary Nethery
  - *Snowflake Bentley* by Jacqueline Briggs Martin
  - *Baseball Saved Us* by Ken Mochizuki
- 
- Ask students to bring in favorite picture books. Bring in your own favorite books to share.
  - Discuss how illustrations move the story along, set a mood, supply information. Talk the various media used.
  - Explore the use of texture, contrast, color, line, shape and space in the illustrations of Ezra Jack Keats. Compare his his illustrations to those of other author/illustrators.
  - Study page layouts in picture books and note:
    - relationship of image and text on each page
    - patterns throughout the book, in text as well as illustrations
    - similarities and differences from page to page
  - Note the different shapes of the stories:
    - circular- story begins and ends at the same place
    - linear-story progresses in one direction
    - triangular-story builds to a problem and is solved
    - snapshot-story with a plot, yet each page can stand alone as a story
  - Examine the qualities of the text on a page, for example ask:
    - Is there dialogue?
    - Is text made up of a word, a phrase, one or more sentences?
    - Are sentences on the page in their entirety, or continued on the next page?
  - Arrange a series of visits to the school library or public library. Ask for librarian's favorites.
  - Examine how **different authors** treat the same topic.
  - Engage students in an author's study and discuss the style of **one** author/illustrator.
  - Visit the following websites for more information about children's picture books:
    - Caldecott Awards – [www.ala.org/alsc/caldecott.html](http://www.ala.org/alsc/caldecott.html)
    - Children's Book Council – [www.cbcbooks.org](http://www.cbcbooks.org)
    - Ezra Jack Keats – [www.ezra-jack-keats.org](http://www.ezra-jack-keats.org) and [www.lib.usm.edu/~degrum/keats/main.html](http://www.lib.usm.edu/~degrum/keats/main.html)
    - Picture Book – [www.picture-book.com](http://www.picture-book.com)
    - Society of Children's Book Writers and Artists – [www.scbwi.org](http://www.scbwi.org)