



book harvest

2025 IMPACT REPORT





BOOK HARVEST 2025 FULL-TIME STAFF

(As of December 31, 2025)

BOOK HARVEST

Jillian Buckley, Program Manager and Executive Assistant to the CEO
Gabby Bunnell, External Relations Coordinator
Wilmarie Cintron-Tyson, Books from Birth Implementation Specialist
Cheri Coleman, Senior Director, Book Babies
Bria Davenport, Events Manager
Ranita Dawkins, Associate Director of Data and Evaluation
Maria Garcia, Senior Data Manager
Isabel Geffner, Senior Director of Strategic Partnerships
Benay Hicks, Chief External Relations Officer
Michelle Hyman, Senior Director, Books from Birth

Connor Kirkpatrick, Director of Advancement
Mary Mathew, Senior Director of Advocacy
Ashley McClure, Senior Associate Director, Books on Break and Books for K
June Neese, Senior Logistics Coordinator
Parker Nelson, Volunteer Engagement Manager
Anneke Oppewal, Program Manager and Executive Assistant to the COO
Kate Panuska, Chief Administrative Officer
Jeff Quinn, Chief Operating Officer
Jasmine Richards, NC Literacy Corps Intern

Caitlyn Smith, Associate Director of Procurement and Logistics
Robin Smith, Senior Director of Finance
Rachel Stone, Senior Director, Books on Break and Books for K
Smrithi Swaminathan, Talent Specialist
Charlia Vance, Senior Associate Director of Finance
Alison Westbrook, Director of Talent and Culture
Erin Wuebbens, Project Accounting Manager
Ginger Young, Founder/CEO

BOOK HARVEST DURHAM

Diana Abreu Zambrano, Senior Community and Family Engagement Coordinator
Tabitha Blackwell, Executive Director, Book Harvest Durham
Vanessa Collier-Robinson, Senior Manager, Book Babies
Phoebe Craft, Community Engagement Coordinator
Frida Daniels Sanchez, Senior Coordinator, Book Babies
Daniela Dunn, Community Engagement Coordinator
Amy Franks, Senior Director of Family and Community Engagement
Caitlin Georgas, Senior Associate Director of Early Literacy
George Hendrix, Program Coordinator

Taylor Horne, Literacy Coach
Alisa Miller, Senior Manager of Family Engagement
Kalyn Milot, Inventory and Procurement Coordinator
Gisela Mora Hernandez, Bridge to School Coordinator
Valerie Moreno, Senior Literacy Coach
Gia Parker, Family Engagement Coordinator
Maddie Presutti, NC Literacy Corps Intern
Dani Rangel, Literacy Coach
Julissa Sabat Harbaugh, Literacy Coach

BOOK HARVEST BOARD OF DIRECTORS

(As of December 31, 2025)



Anna Reilly, Chair Education and Early Childhood Advocate



Mike Giarla, Treasurer Financial Advisor; former CEO, Amundi Smith Breeden



Keenan Szulik, Secretary CEO, Slocum Management



Dr. Tracey Reed Armant Program Officer, The Grable Foundation



George Biddle Chair, World Connect; former senior official, International Rescue Committee



Dr. Iheoma U. Iruka Professor of Maternal and Child Health, UNC Gillings School of Global Public Health



Mallory Mbalia Director of Learning and Education, Fred Rogers Productions



Carrie Sloan Norry Chair, Hope Renovations; Founder and former CEO, JUST TRYAN IT



Dr. Malbert Smith III Co-founder and Chairman, MetaMetrics



Joe Waters Co-founder and CEO, Capita



Ginger Young Founder and CEO, Book Harvest

STRATEGIC ADVISORS

NC State University • Public Purpose Strategies • The Atwood Group • Vista Strategies • Womble Bond Dickinson

DEAR FRIENDS,

On a warm spring morning, a second grader—we'll call her Maya—stood in front of a table brimming with new books, turning each one over carefully in her hands. She had been told she could choose ten to take home. Ten books of her very own.

She chose stories about brave girls and curious scientists. She chose a mystery because she loved solving problems. She chose a book of jokes so she could make her little brother laugh. She chose a book of poems because it "felt special." When she finished painstakingly selecting her stack, she hugged it to her chest and said, "These are mine."

That moment captures the heart of Book Harvest.

In 2025, children like Maya harvested 485,562 books to keep for their very own. With every book, every child forged their identity as a reader. Their pride in owning books was nurtured. The foundation of their vocabulary, curiosity, empathy, and so much more grew stronger.

None of this could have happened without you.

In 2025, dedicated champions for children's literacy came together for thousands of children like Maya. Book Harvest volunteers contributed more than 4,500 hours of their time; 704 individual donors, along with foundation and public partners, invested in the simple belief that **books should be on every child's nightstand and literacy should be within every child's reach.**

We were honored this year when Books from Birth was recognized by the Library of Congress, and when we received the 2025 Social Impact Award from *Durham Magazine*. We were affirmed this year when we met with elected officials on both sides of the aisle on Capitol Hill and closer to home in Raleigh, hearing again and again their fierce commitment to every child's flourishing. We were inspired this year by all the ways parents showed up for their children – in our Book Harvest Durham Family Space, at our events, and snuggling alongside their child to read just one more story. And we were uplifted by the abundance and joy present throughout it all.

This year's progress rests on a strong and sturdy foundation built over 15 years. Since 2011, **three million Book Harvest books** have found their way into children's hands, hearts, and homes. Each one represents possibility. Each one says to a child: your story matters; you are a reader.

Thank you for helping to create more moments like Maya's—moments that bring joy and celebrate book ownership and boundless potential. Thank you for making 2025 a year of extraordinary impact.

We hope you will join us in writing the next chapter of the Book Harvest story. **Together, we can create a book-rich first decade for every child in our country.**

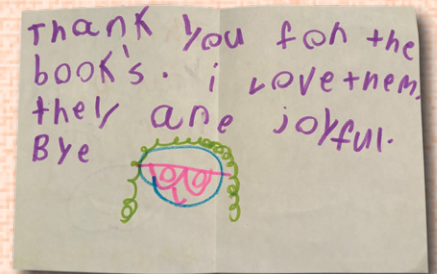
With resolve and high hopes,



Ginger
Ginger Young
Founder and CEO



Anna
Anna Reilly
Board Chair



P.S. We can't resist sharing this note we recently received from a young reader.



2025 FINANCIALS AT A GLANCE*

REVENUES**

Foundations	\$7,419,510	55%
Individuals	\$3,153,566	23%
Program-Related Revenues	\$1,177,499	9%
Corporate and Community	\$786,209	6%
Government	\$499,760	4%
In-Kind Book Donations	\$305,115	2%
Other Revenues	\$185,027	1%

TOTAL \$13,527,686 100%

EXPENSES

All Programs	\$5,202,841	72%
Communications and Advocacy	\$690,122	10%
Administrative	\$613,307	8%
Fundraising	\$602,331	8%
Events	\$147,854	2%

TOTAL \$7,256,455 100%

* This Impact Report went to press prior to audit. Please visit www.bookharvest.org for our most recent audited financial statements and 990s.

** Please note that statements are based on accrual accounting, and revenues include promises made for future years.

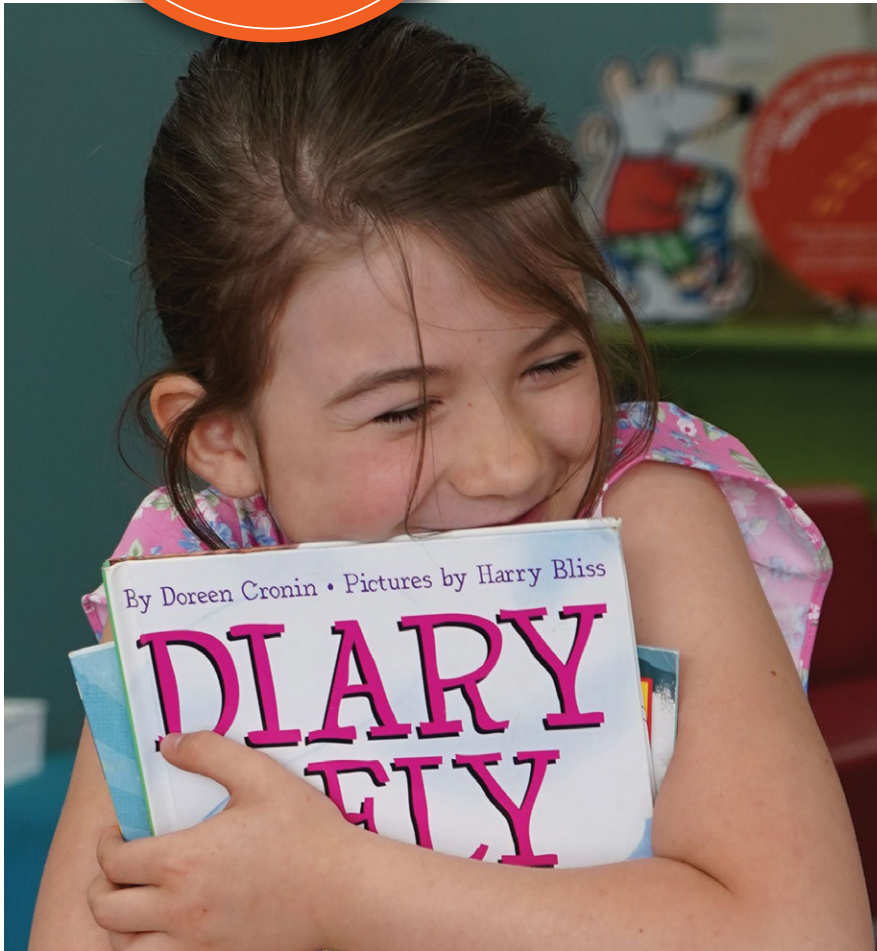
**BOOKS FOR
EVERY CHILD.**

**SUPPORT FOR
EVERY FAMILY.**

**LITERACY FOR EVERY
COMMUNITY.**

THE **JOY** OF OW

to cherish forever...



485,562

BOOKS

were harvested
by children in 2025.

134

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

helped children discover their favorite book
by collaborating at events and storytimes.

17,740

STUDENTS

participated in Books on Break, each
choosing 10 new books to take home over
summer break and keep forever.

BRINGING BOOKS YOU LOVE

...and to share with friends.



96%

OF TEACHERS

reported that Books on Break supports students during the summer months.

“

There is power in this. There is magic in this. Because, believe it or not, there are quite a few kids who don't have access to brand new books physically in their hands. It's something about knowing you're valued enough to make sure we care about your literacy future.

DWAYNE JOHNSON, PRINCIPAL WOODLAND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, PERSON COUNTY, NC

”

THE JOY OF RE

BOOKS FOR
EVERY CHILD.

**SUPPORT FOR
EVERY FAMILY.**

LITERACY FOR EVERY
COMMUNITY.

with babies...



4,445

NEWBORNS

went home from the hospital
with a Books from Birth
starter home library.

15,549

BOOKS

filled the homes of families
enrolled in Book Babies.

11,593

VISITORS

attended storytimes and special events
in Durham's Family Space.

ADING TOGETHER

...and with young children.



99%

OF FAMILIES

who were enrolled in Book Babies read together more than three times a week.

“

These books have helped me create a beautiful bond with my daughters through reading.

I've learned to connect better with my child and to spend quality time with him by reading and singing.

PARENT PARTICIPANTS

”

THE JOY OF CEL

BOOKS FOR
EVERY CHILD.
SUPPORT FOR
EVERY FAMILY.
**LITERACY FOR EVERY
COMMUNITY.**

in Durham...



BOOK HUBS



DREAM BIG BOOK DRIVE



SUMMER BLOCK PARTY



STORYTIMES

217,497

BOOKS

were donated by generous
community members.

704

DONORS

from across the country made individual
financial contributions to Book Harvest.

ALL 100

NORTH CAROLINA COUNTIES

received books and literacy supports
from Book Harvest.

CELEBRATING LITERACY

...and beyond.



HURRICANE HELENE RELIEF



COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS



CHILDREN OF INCARCERATED PARENTS

8,627
MILES

were travelled by the Book Harvest truck to deliver books far and wide.

“

For many children, these books will be cherished replacements for those that were lost in the hurricane. For others, a new book will be an exciting ray of sunshine.

MONICA ANTONAZZO, SOUTHWESTERN CHILD DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION, SYLVA, NC

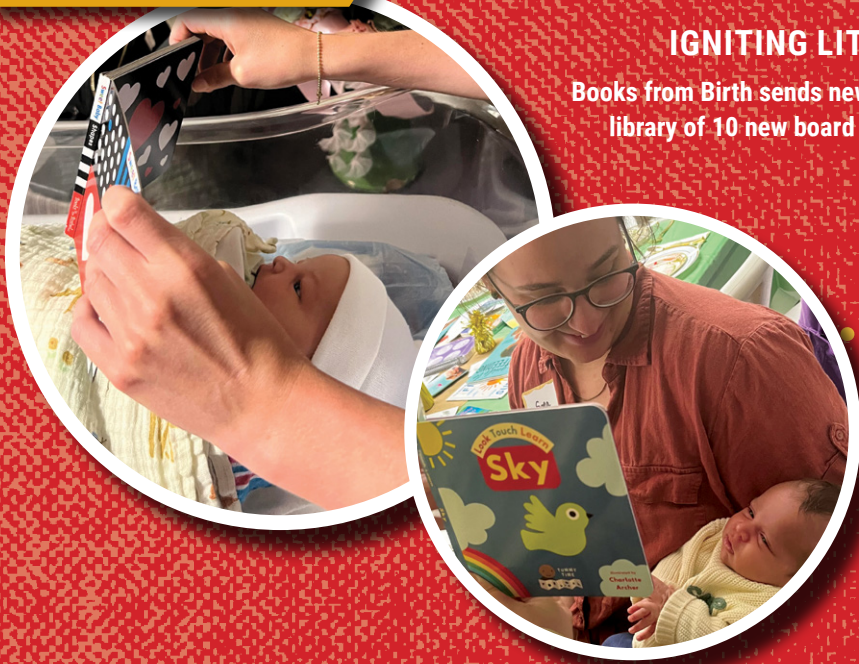
”

NEWBORNS

BOOKS FROM BIRTH

IGNITING LITERACY FOR EVERY NEWBORN

Books from Birth sends newborns home from the hospital with a starter home library of 10 new board books and literacy resources for their families.



3,000

BOOKS HARVESTED BY

For 15 years, Book Harvest has helped babies brimming with books that they cherish. Our signature Book Babies, Books for K, and Books on Break and literacy, snuggles and storytime **every child everywhere has an a**

**This is the total number of books harvested*

AGES 5-10

BOOKS ON BREAK



BUILDING HOME LIBRARIES FOR SUMMER READING

Books on Break helps elementary school students build their literacy skills by selecting 10 brand new books to take home, equipping them to practice their reading all summer long.

AGES 0-5

BOOK BABIES

CO-CREATING A HOME LITERACY ENVIRONMENT FROM BIRTH, WITH PARENTS

Book Babies partners with families from the moment their baby is born and for five years through kindergarten, providing 100 new books, literacy coaching, and an abundance of additional supports.



0,281

CHILDREN SINCE 2011!*

...s, children, and families build home libraries
...ture Book Harvest initiatives – Books from Birth,
... - supercharge a child's first decade with words
...s, ideas and dreams. Our aspiration:
abundant home library by age 10.

...sted as this Impact Report went to press.

BOOKS FOR K

AGES 4-5

KICKING OFF KINDERGARTEN WITH A NEW HOME LIBRARY

Books for K welcomes students to kindergarten with 10 brand new books to build home libraries to share with their families, nurturing shared reading routines that support early literacy.



JOY-FILLED MOMENTS AT OUR FLAGSHIP HOME: BOOK HARVEST DURHAM

Renowned as the “City of Books,” Durham was the center of some of Book Harvest’s most memorable moments of 2025. A culture of literacy was shared across the community through book-filled events and programs, powered by thousands of volunteers.



MORE THAN 4,500 CHILDREN AND FAMILIES CAME TOGETHER!

The two book-loving celebrations of the year – the annual Dream Big Book Drive, honoring Dr. Martin Luther King, and the Summer Block Party – brought together dozens of community partners, entertainment, refreshments, and thousands and thousands of books to celebrate how books build brains and books spread joy.



4,544 VOLUNTEER HOURS VALUED AT \$149,964!

1,040 eager participants from the community sorted, stickered, packed, and prepared books for children and families to take home and keep forever.



ONWARD TO KINDERGARTEN!

Book Babies participants donned caps and gowns and received their diplomas at the 2025 graduation, bringing the total number of alumni to 307. Over five years, starting at birth, they and their families enjoyed quarterly literacy coaching home visits and more than 100 brand new books to build their home libraries. Now, they are ready to read, ready to learn, and ready to take kindergarten by storm!



THE 100TH BOOK HUB INSTALLATION!

Celebrating the ribbon-cutting of Book Harvest’s 100th book hub, Durham City Council member Carl Rist (pictured at center) declared, “This is a powerful example of how we can build strong communities together.” A total of 93,139 books were harvested from 106 Book Harvest books hubs in 2025!

NATIONAL RECOGNITION

In 2025, Book Harvest received awards and recognition from national and regional sources for innovation, impact, and influence.



2025 LIBRARY OF CONGRESS AWARD WINNER

Book Harvest's Books from Birth program was named one of only 15 Successful Practices Honorees selected from many international candidates.



PUBLICATION IN PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL
Principal Investigator
Dr. Iheoma U. Iruka and her colleagues shared the findings of their Randomized Control Trial evaluation of Book Babies.



2025 SOCIAL IMPACT AWARD
Durham Magazine awarded its 2025 Social Impact Award to Book Harvest for "the nonprofit's dedication to supporting childhood literacy."



NATIONAL PHILANTHROPIC RECOGNITION
Taste of the South named Book Harvest its 2025 Featured Charity at the 43rd annual gala in Washington, DC, raising \$413,155 to support the organization's big dreams.



2025 CHAMPIONS FOR CHILDREN AWARD

The North Carolina Foundation for Public School Children named Founder and CEO Ginger Young and her Book Harvest colleagues Champions for Children.

PICTURED (L TO R):
Anneke Oppewal, Program Manager and Executive Assistant to the COO; Mary Mathew, Senior Director of Advocacy; Anna Reilly, Book Harvest Board Chair; Ginger Young, Founder and CEO; Tabitha Blackwell, Executive Director, Book Harvest Durham; Benay Hicks, Chief External Relations Officer; Dr. Iheoma U. Iruka, Book Harvest Board Member; Connor Kirkpatrick, Director of Advancement.

BUILDING THE FIELD OF KNOWLEDGE AND ADVOCACY

Centering families and elevating the power of book abundance and home libraries, Book Harvest went the distance in 2025 to champion our vision of literacy and justice for all.



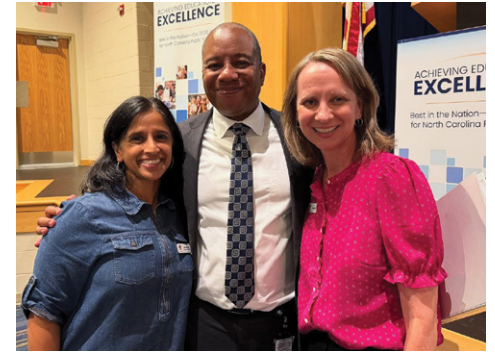
MEETINGS ON CAPITOL HILL

Book Harvest Founder and CEO Ginger Young (L) and Board Chair Anna Reilly (R) met with U.S. Congress members and their staffs to share about the power of book ownership and how federal policy can support parents in building home libraries from day one.



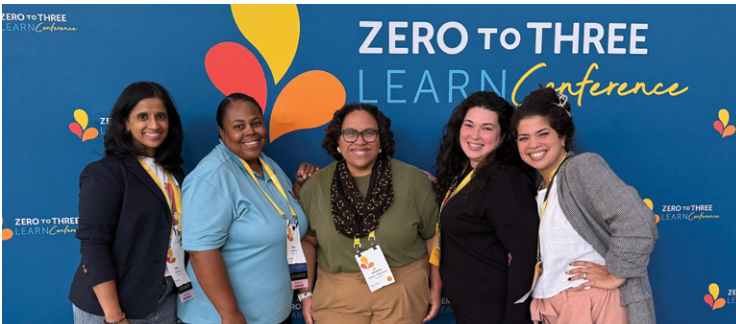
LEARNING FROM EXPERTS

Dr. Karen L. Mapp (R), of the Harvard Graduate School of Education, shared her wisdom about literacy and family engagement with Amy Franks, Book Harvest's Senior Director of Family and Community Engagement (L), at the 2025 National Association for Family, School, and Community Engagement Conference.



SUPPORTING NORTH CAROLINA POLICY LEADERS

Book Harvest's Senior Director of Advocacy Mary Mathew (L) and Senior Director of Books on Break and Books for K Rachel Stine (R) joined NC Superintendent of Public Instruction Mo Green when he launched the state's new five year strategic plan, "Achieving Educational Excellence."



ATTENDING NATIONAL CONFERENCES

Book Harvest staff attended more than 40 conferences in 2025. Representing Book Harvest at the annual Zero to Three conference where they learned about and shared cutting edge research, practice, and policy insights were (L to R) Mary Mathew, Senior Director of Advocacy; Cheri Coleman Senior Director, Book Babies; Vanessa Collier-Robinson, Senior Manager, Book Babies; Wilma Cintron-Tyson, Books from Birth Implementation Specialist; and Dani Rangel, Literacy Coach.



ELEVATING FAMILY VOICE

During the Early Relational Health Funders Summit in North Carolina, more than 50 philanthropic leaders gathered at Book Harvest to learn from Cheri Coleman, Senior Director, Book Babies (L), Maria Garcia, Senior Data Manager (C), and Tiara Lassiter McCarter, Parent Leader (R) about the power of centering families as a driver of early literacy and early relational health.

2025 DONORS

Book Harvest pays grateful tribute to the many individuals, foundations, corporations, and government entities that supported our work in 2025.

\$1,000,000+

Matthew Cullinan and Anna Reilly
The Leon Levine Foundation

\$500,000+

State of North Carolina

\$100,000-\$499,999

Anonymous Trust
Blue Cross Blue Shield of
North Carolina
North Carolina's Partnership
for Children/Smart Start
Taste of the South
The William R. Kenan, Jr.
Charitable Trust

\$50,000-\$99,999

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Mebane Charitable Foundation
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\$10,000-\$24,999

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Yusko Family Foundation

\$5,000-\$9,999

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Genoa Haselton
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Linda Q. Lee and Charles W. Lamb
Charitable Giving Fund
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\$2,500-\$4,999

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Family Fund
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The Smile Shop

\$1,000-\$2,499

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Jeanette Stokes Charitable Fund
Jewish for Good at the Levin JCC

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Kiwans Club of Durham
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Christopher and Catherine Sanford



SPECIAL THANKS TO SCHOLASTIC!

We are deeply grateful to Scholastic, which in 2025 printed and donated 10,000 copies of a special Book Harvest-branded edition of *The Magician's Hat* by Malcolm Mitchell.



Margaret Schaeffer
Sloane Family Fund
Sterling Speirn
Steven and BJ Suttle
Amie Tedeschi
Turlington/Taub Charitable Fund
Tyson Charitable Giving Fund
V. John Grubenhoff and Deb Love Fund
Vermillion Fund
Walmart Spark Good Foundation
Kimberly Warren
Woodward Financial Advisors

 **\$500-\$999**

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Fred and Sylvia Black
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Duke School
EEV Education
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Melora Fern

Virginia Fitt
Friends of Lakewood Elementary PTA
Anna Gassman-Pines and
David Halpern
Glenn-Winstead Fund
Green Ink Charitable Fund
Edd and Gita Gulati-Partee
Amit Gupta
Julie and Nathan Hatch
HorsePower Farm Charitable Fund
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Rebecca and Rick Wyrton

 **\$250-\$499**

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Beacon Light Missionary Baptist Church

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Dennis Wipper
Peggy Wynn
Rick and Rebecca Wyrton
Lisa and Jim Yarbrough
Kimberly and Jeff Young

 **UP TO \$249**

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James and Susan Alexander
Louise Alfredson
Jean and Steven Allman
Alpha Delta Kappa -
NC Alpha Mu Chapter
Stacey Alston
Nagendra Amirneni
Cynthia and David Ammons



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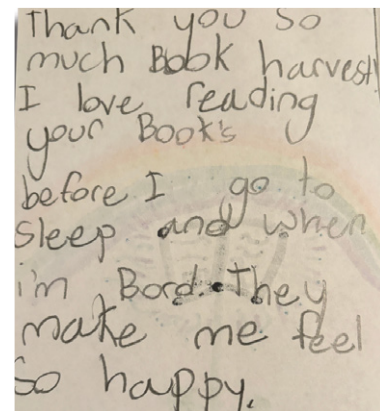
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