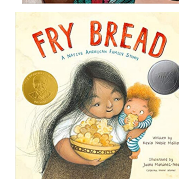
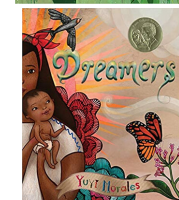
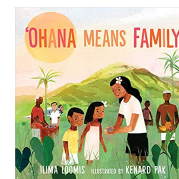
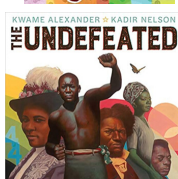
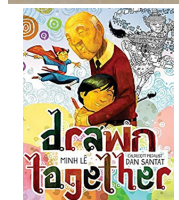
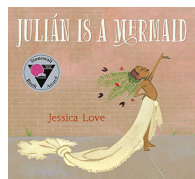


DIVERSIFYING CLASSROOM LIBRARIES

*Implementing a rotating classroom library in
a public elementary school*



In partnership with Luther Burbank Elementary School in Chicago, IL

THE CHALLENGE

Our partner, a PreK-8 school which currently serves over 900 students, was unable to provide adequate library time to the students in grades PreK-3 due to a lack of time and resources. In learning of the challenge, we had to figure out a way to get library materials and resources to the PreK-3 students.

THE SOLUTION

We created a 30-book diverse library that will rotate between the PreK-3 classrooms, effectively bringing the library to them! Our focus in book selection was equity, diversity, and inclusion. We looked for materials that represented BIPOC and LGBTQ people, varying family dynamics, and people with disabilities, amongst other things.

FUNDRAISING

Using the GoFundMe platform, we raised \$425 of our \$2,000 goal. Due to COVID-19, we had to pivot to do a lot with a little. We shrunk our 100-book list down to 30 titles that best reflected a wide range of experiences, cultures, and identities. Included were picture books, early readers, and beginning chapter books. This ensured that the collection could still rotate between PreK- 3rd grade classrooms.

THE IMPACT

Goal: Support student literacy growth

- Increased access to high quality & appealing books
- Books are diverse & inclusive, acting as windows, mirrors, and doors
 - It is incredibly important for all students to see themselves and others reflected in a variety of ways

Looking to the future

- Provided school with 10-book, 30-book, 50-book, & 100-book lists to fit varying budgets
- Compiled a list of resources to use when building future diverse book collections

Community

- Partnered with Anderson's Bookshop, a local bookstore in the Chicago area, to support local business



Influential works: Dr. Rudine Sims Bishop's 1990 essay "Mirrors, Windows, and Sliding Glass Doors" and Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie's 2009 TED Talk "The Danger of a Single Story"