

## Outreach

Each year, the East York-Scarborough Reading Association supports the work of a variety of organizations in their efforts to develop the love of and the ability to read. We contribute to local, national and international organizations. As teachers, we know the power of story, the need to be able to access information and the importance of being able to critically think about what we read. We also know that there can be a variety of factors that may favour or hinder someone's efforts to learn to read. Many of the recipients of the outreach funding this year are organizations who help those who are meeting obstacles and for whom, being able to read could contribute to overcoming barriers.

### Local:

- **Birkdale Residence** – to augment their library collection;
- **CAMH - Native Men's Residence** – to provide more reading material;
- **Down Syndrome Association of Toronto** – to help in the creation of Family literacy kits;
- **Malvern Family Resource Centre** – to provide books and resources for their Early Years Program;
- **Sick Kids Hospital** – to provide more and varied types of texts to their Family Centre;
- **South-Asian Autism Awareness Centre** – to provide support for literacy development to children with Autism Spectrum Disorder;
- **The Children's Book Bank** – to continue to provide free books and support to children in low-income neighbourhoods;
- **Toronto Kiwanis Boys and Girls Club** – to enhance their library.



Donations at the conference Outreach tables help to support literacy based organizations.

### National

- **PEN Canada** – to support their efforts in ensuring freedom of speech and the promotion of literature;
- **The Prison Book Club, Second Chance Scholarship Foundation** – to provide literacy programs for at-risk youth;
- **The Six Nations Public Library** – to contribute to their reading materials.

### International

- **Las Dos Jardas de Veron, Punta Cana, Dominican Republic** – to provide current and culturally appropriate reading materials to children attending a small village school;
- **The Book Bus Foundation, London, England** – to support their efforts to provide books to children in Ecuador, Malawi and Zambia.

Your participation in our conference allows us to provide much needed funding to promote and develop the power of reading. Together, our organization and you, the delegates, make a difference in people's lives in your school, in your city, in your country and in your world. Thank you!

*Brian Svenningsen, Outreach Chair, EYSRA*

