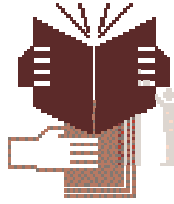


Contact: Cathy Callegari – (212) 579-1370

UPPER MANHATTAN YOUNG READERS RECEIVE BROOKE PACKS



Event: Young readers in Upper Manhattan to receive 20 Brooke Packs for reading – a backpack consisting of audiocassette tapes, books and school supplies. The event is to celebrate early literacy efforts supported by Literacy, Inc. (LINC) and McDonald's who hosted a weekly reading program for youngsters in Inwood and Washington Heights for the last two years. The Brooke Pack Literacy Program was created to encourage children in New York City to read and is named for Brooke Jackman, a victim of September 11th.

What: The Brooke Jackman Foundation, Inc. will present the 20 Brooke Packs to the neighborhood children who participated regularly in the weekly reading program. The Brooke Jackman Foundation awarded a \$15,000 grant to Literacy, Inc. to support its work in providing additional out-of-class reading hours for young children in Region 10. LINC, the YM&YWHA of Washington Heights & Inwood, and the Inwood Library collaborated with McDonald's to provide a reading program that provides reading facilitators, books and spaces for young children to read and be read to by community volunteers, parents and older children. LINC is a not-for-profit organization that "links" community resources to enrich literacy among young children 8 years of age and younger. LINC's mission is simple: to provide a system of outreach and coordination that builds language-rich neighborhoods where all young children are supported as readers.

Who: Barbara Jackman, mother of Brooke Jackman
Councilman Miguel Martinez
LINC Community Literacy Network Coordinator

When: Thursday, October 23, 2003 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.
Brooke Packs presented to readers at 4 p.m.

Where: In the Auditorium of the YM & YWHA of Washington Heights & Inwood
54 Nagle Avenue
Take A train to 190th (212-569-6200)

For more information contact the LINC Coordinator at 212-620-5462, ext. 255

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