

Read to Dream...



Celebrating 30 Years of Reading Magic | May 1, 2025



\$387,000 RAISED

3 PROGRAMS SUPPORTED

POWER READERS, STORYTIME, BOOK PROJECT

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On May 1, 2025, Everybody Wins DC hosted our annual Read to Dream event, raising \$387,000 to help local children thrive through reading. Hosted at Nationals Park, the evening celebrated all that is magical about EWDC's reading programs and the positive impact they have on children across the greater DC area. The event also marked EWDC's 30th anniversary of service, honoring the people and partners who have made it all possible.

Throughout the evening, guests heard from incredible EWDC students and alumni, enjoyed amazing food and drinks, and participated in an exciting live auction. Event proceeds will help EWDC reach 4,000 children during the 2024-25 program year, all at no cost to families or school partners.

"BEING IN [EWDC'S PROGRAM] HAS MADE ME A BETTER READER, AND READING HAS MADE ME A BETTER PERSON."

GIANNI, EWDC STUDENT
& READ TO DREAM
SPEAKER

HONOREES

MARY SALANDER

EWDC CO-FOUNDER, FORMER EXEC. DIRECTOR
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WASHINGTON NATIONALS

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READ TO DREAM STUDENT SPEAKERS WITH
EWDC EXEC DIRECTOR JORDI HUTCHINSON AND
DC ATTORNEY GENERAL BRIAN SCHWALB



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"READING GAVE ME
CONFIDENCE—NOT JUST
BECAUSE I COULD TACKLE
BIG WORDS, BUT BECAUSE
SOMEONE SHOWED UP
EVERY WEEK AND SAID,
"HEY, LET'S READ
TOGETHER." THAT KIND OF
SUPPORT STICKS."

JANAIHA BENNET,
EWDC ALUM



Since 1995, EWDC has used the power of reading to help children thrive. Read to Dream makes it all possible by providing critical financial support that not only allows EWDC to reach thousands of students each year but also ensures that all programs remain free for families and school partners. In other words, Read to Dream eliminates obstacles for our students and helps them build the literacy and social-emotional skills needed to succeed.

EWDC's reading programs supported by Read to Dream include:

Power Readers: a one-on-one mentoring program that connects elementary school students with volunteers to read together for one hour a week.

The Book Project: a free distribution program that gives books to children, classrooms, and community partners, with a focus on elevating diverse and representative stories.

StoryTime: a read-aloud program that models positive literacy behaviors for students while using books to introduce and reinforce key themes, including equity and inclusion, career exploration, and social-emotional learning.

"WHAT EWDC GAVE ME
WAS MORE THAN JUST
READING SKILLS. IT GAVE
ME A SENSE OF
CURIOSITY, A VOICE, AND
THE QUIET CONFIDENCE
THAT MY IDEAS MATTERED
—EVEN AS A KID."

BLAKE SNYDER,
EWDC ALUM

