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## Newsletter of the Brooke Jackman Foundation ♥ 2008

*Making a difference  
in the lives of children . . .*

[www.brookejackmanfoundation.org](http://www.brookejackmanfoundation.org)



“Children are the world’s  
most valuable resource and  
its best hope for the future.”

– John Fitzgerald Kennedy

“Alone we can do so little,  
together we can do so much.”

– Helen Keller

*“There is not a man of us who does not at times  
need a helping hand to be stretched out to him, and then shame  
upon him who will not stretch out the helping to his brother.”*

– Theodore Roosevelt

## The Brooke Jackman Foundation

Dear Friends,

*Listen to the mustn’ts, child.*

*Listen to the don’ts.*

*Listen to the shouldn’ts.*

*The impossibles. The won’ts.*

*Listen to the never haves.*

*Then listen close to me. . . .*

*Anything can happen, child.*

*Anything can be.*

– Shel Silverstein, Children’s Author

The BJF’s vision is that every single child is entitled to a life full of possibilities. The Foundation brings a sense of personal value, joy and hope to its program participants. We know that children are our future, and unless they are taken care of in their early years, the possibility of their contributing to society is less viable. We help lessen the achievement gap, helping each child to reach his or her potential.

From the beginning, we made a commitment not only to honor Brooke’s memory but to fulfill her dreams and carry on her legacy. Brooke had a deep love of reading and a profound interest in helping children. She would be proud to witness the powerful and positive changes that are taking place thanks to our literacy programs – proud of encouraging parents to help their children become strong readers, of parents and children reading aloud together each night in the magical world of books. She would be proud to see how many children start school with the right educational tools received in their Brooke Packs. Proud to see the libraries started in hopes of fostering a love of reading – by making books accessible to all. She would be proud, too, of the confidence shown by so many individuals, corporations and foundations in their support of the BJF. We continue to grow and thrive thanks to your dedication. And as always, we are inspired by Brooke’s spirit and humbled by her example to give the forgotten child a chance in this world.

In 2008 our journey continues. In this newsletter, we highlight children whose lives have been changed by the BJF. Thank you, sincerely, for your support and partnership.

– With love, Barbara and Bob Jackman,  
Erin, Iris, Ross, Blake, and Elle Jackman,  
June 2008



*“When you read to me . . .”*

## Making a Difference . . . The Children We Serve

### Literacy Workshops For Over 1,000 Families – & an Exciting New Site In Washington Heights/Inwood!

**T**he Brooke Jackman Family Literacy Workshops – designed to engage parents and children in literacy based activities – have touched the lives of more than 1,000 families as of December 2007, and are thriving this year as well. In each session, participants receive take-home literacy packages, age-appropriate books and concrete strategies to support their child's learning both during the workshops and at home.



*Literacy Workshop, YM & YWHA of Washington Heights and Inwood – newest site in the BJF Literacy Workshop series.*

It all began in January of 2004, when the BJF fostered a partnership with St. Nicholas Preservation Corporation (St. Nick's) to offer our first intensive family literacy program in two locations: Williamsburg and Greenpoint. The initial program began with one site and has since expanded to include nine sites. Graduates of the Brooke Jackman Family Literacy Workshop Series receive our signature Brooke Packs, designed to foster bedtime bonding between parent and child.

The Literacy Workshops are growing well and we have exciting news! After successful expansion throughout Williamsburg, BJF decided to bring the program to a new site. Thus, the introduction of BJF's Family Literacy Program at the YM&YWHA of Washington Heights & Inwood, serving predominately Dominican neighborhoods. This new program was so well received this past year that for 2008 we will continue our expansion in this area.



### Holiday Presents '07 – Barnes & Noble

Children in two of our programs received \$20 Barnes & Noble gift certificates for the holidays. Recipients included each of the 75 children in the Family and Children's Association's Project

Promise for middle school children in Nassau County – encouraging a future that includes college and a better life. Certificates went as well to each of the 40 children in the After School Reading Program at Dyckman House in Washington Heights.

*continued*



### Spotlight on What's New “Book In Hand” – New BJF Initiative

On August 28, 2008, Brooke Jackman would be 30 years old. The Brooke Jackman Foundation will launch a new project – called “Book In Hand” – as a way to honor her birthday and thus her life and dreams on behalf of children. Every child will get a present in honor of Brooke's birthday. Our goal is to put a brand new book into the hands of every child in every one of BJF's supported programs. The launch of Book In Hand will take place on September 11, 2008 – a positive step on the anniversary of this tragic day. Special guest readers will also read to the children in our programs on that day.

### Literacy Awards Received by BJF

**W**e are deeply grateful for these awards received by the Foundation in 2008 –

- ★ Community Champion Award, from the Family and Children's Association.
- ★ Champion Award, from Literacy, Inc., for our Family Literacy Program in Washington Heights.

## Featured Contributions – 2007-08

### Allstate, Miracle Day & Stars . . .

■ *Agency Hands in the Community Grant* – Allstate Foundation.

■ *Willow Mindich* – celebrated her Bat Mitzvah with a contribution to the BJJ, and chose her godmother Brooke's Hebrew name, Alexandra Itka, at this special occasion.

■ *Bloomington's Charity Day* – proceeds from "Give a Little, Get a Lot" Charity Day.

■ *Stars of Tomorrow performance* – proceeds from "Bye, Bye Birdie" produced by Wendy Taubman, who also played Rose Alvarez.

■ *Backpacks for Brooke Packs* – a gift of 1,200 backpacks from Eileen and Chuck Dubroff, for the start of school.

■ *Jewelry design proceeds* – from Dana Blair Designs, NYC, 50% of all online or in-store purchases.

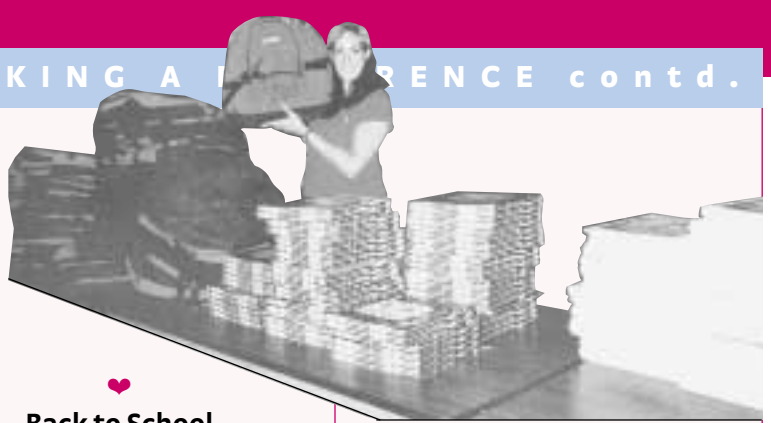
■ *Craig Henick and Ed Sun* – funds raised for BJJ. Shown here – Diego Allegretta shaving Ed's head to help raise funds.



■ *Halloween Costume and Decoration Sale* – proceeds from 1,000 costumes sold at the Geller-

*continued*

## MAKING A DIFFERENCE contd.



### Back to School With Brooke Packs

"Nothing can prepare you for back-to-school like a Brooke Pack . . ."

Last year over 1,250 children in need received a Brooke Pack backpack to begin the new school year. This year for Back to School 2008, we hope to give out 2,000 Brooke Packs.

Oftentimes, this backpack is a child's one personal possession. Each is filled with books, books on tape/CD, complimentary CD/tape player, AA battery packs, pencils, pens, rulers, erasers, crayons, markers and notebooks. Backpacks are assembled by BJJ volunteers for children in homeless shelters around the metropolitan area, for graduates of our family literacy programs and other children at risk – and, upon special

*"Nothing can prepare you  
for back to school  
like a Brooke Pack. . . ."*

request, for children less fortunate outside of NY, such as children affected by Hurricane Katrina in 2004 and in Island Harvest programs in 2007. Since 2002, BJJ

volunteers have distributed more than 4,200 backpacks to children in the metropolitan area and beyond! We are proud to announce

that this program is one of the fastest growing programs in our initiatives.

### Mask Making & Theater With Brooke's Books at PS 111

In this new literacy-based after-school program, both literacy and expressive communication skills are encouraged in children in grades

K-2. Each program session has four components: homework help, reading, art and move-



*Volunteers packing Brooke Packs . . . and pleased recipients! Special thanks to our wonderful volunteers, and to Care to Knit for the gift of scarves and hats for our Brooke Packs.*



ment. Children can explore books available to them in the Brooke Jackman Library through read-alouds, independent reading and partner reading. They'll then work together to create masks based on favorite characters from their selected stories.

Children will also participate in movement activities and improvisational theater games that help them become more aware of their bodies. As a culmination to the program, children will perform selected stories for their families, teachers and peers using the masks they created.



### BJF Scholarships For OBEN Community

This year's BJF scholarship recipient is Roxanne Moadel-Artie, who while in Cambodia, befriended a young man who through her generosity and diligence is now attending college. The scholarship is awarded each year to an Oyster Bay HS Senior who is compassionate, kind and involved in community service – qualities that exemplify Brooke's spirit.

In addition, Brooke's high school friends also presented the annual Friends of Brooke Jackman Award, to four young women actively involved in the OB community: Rebecca Kaplan, Gabriele Kaplan, Danielle Capazoli and Stephanie Labadorf.



### BJF Library Initiative – 3rd One Coming!

In partnership with Books for Kids Foundation, BJF has opened two libraries in Manhattan, with the hopes of fostering a love for reading by making books accessible for all. Each library comes equipped with an age-appropriate book collection carefully selected to reflect the backgrounds and life experiences of the children. Libraries include comfortable chairs, rugs, listening centers, motivational posters and decorations. These warm and welcoming environments encourage children to explore the world of books.

The first library was dedicated in 2005, at Manhattan's PS 111 after-school program, and the second was established at the Grand Street Settlement Child Care Center

on the Lower East Side. Our third library is scheduled to open in 2008 at a center for abused children in Brooklyn.

*continued*

### Featured Contributions – 2007-08

## Allstate, Miracle Day & Stars . . .

*continued*

Mindich home – with brownies and cookies – with help of Melisa, Lily, Willow, Lisa, Zoe, Teddy, Robin, Sammy and Ryan. Thanks to Alan for the gift of costumes and decorations!

■ *New York Family Magazine* – BJF was among charities listed for their good work.

■ *Molly Samuel's Bat Mitzvah* – collecting school supplies from family and friends, for BJF in honor of Brook's legacy.

■ *Miracle Day* – grant from CIBC World Markets, for “improving the health, education, or welfare of children at risk.”

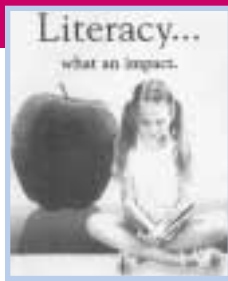
■ *Old Brookville Police Benevolent Association* contribution – gift to the Run for Literacy.

■ *Mike and Michelle DelColle* – contribution to the BJF in lieu of wedding favors.

■ *OBHS Interact Club* – raised funds for BJF.

*“The trajectory of  
my life was prison or  
an early grave.  
The work you do . . .  
saves lives.”*

– Byron Pitts,  
CBS newscaster and  
Emmy Award Winner,  
in referring to literacy programs  
by BJF and others



## For the Love of Reading . . .

- ★ A lifelong reader becomes a lifelong learner.
- ★ Parents are a critical component of their children's academic success. When parents are involved in their students' education from an early age, children achieve higher grades and better test scores.
- ★ To foster a love of reading in your child, be a role model; reading in front of children shows that you value reading.
- ★ Discuss books with your children. . . . Visit your local library often, and encourage them to get their own library cards and choose their own books.
- ★ Set aside a special time to read, when you and your family are relaxed.
- ★ Many children like to hear the same story again and again. It comforts them and develops language skills.

*"Since 2003, BJF has provided more than 100 camp scholarships to low-income, inner-city children through S.C.O.P.E."*

## MAKING A DIFFERENCE cont'd.

### Brooke's Books Nature Reading Programs At the Hatchery

*What's It Like to Be a Fish?* and *Look Out for Turtles* are among nature books provided by the BJF for the Cold Spring Harbor Fish Hatchery's weekend nature program, and for environmental education programs for students in underserved districts. Book topics are selected to relate to the students' visits – in both class and group trips – to the Hatchery.

### Remembering WTC 9/11 In Our Schools

In September, the World Trade Center Visitor Center inaugurated its Tribute Teacher Awards, for six schools and teachers who have created exemplary educational projects that help honor the memory of those lost and those who helped on September 11. The BJF was among the sponsors of this new annual tribute.



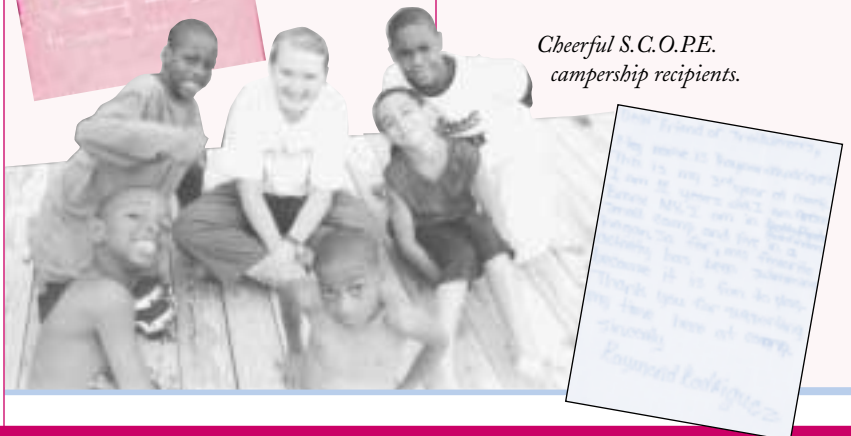
*S.C.O.P.E. campers celebrate the summer.*

### S.C.O.P.E Campership Initiative – Helping Literacy Year-Round

Since 2003, BJF has provided more than 100 camp scholarships to low-income, inner-city children through S.C.O.P.E. Seen as an important adjunct to school, camp can help children develop self-esteem and social skills in a safe environment.

As of June 2007, BJF has supported fifteen at-risk students from our youth/family literacy programs in attending these literacy-based summer camps. As June 2008 approaches, BJF is proud to announce that all fifteen camperships will go to students in this year's BJF-supported programs – thus keeping their literacy focus going throughout the year.

*Cheerful S.C.O.P.E. campership recipients.*



## The Benefit – Wine & Prizes At the Palace, for BJJ

Torrential rain slowed traffic and stranded drivers . . . but 500 attendees loved October's Sixth Annual Cocktail Reception at the New York Palace Hotel nevertheless! At "A Wine Experience," guests tasted and compared wines from around the world, to everyone's great delight.

This year's Brookster Award recipient was Michael DelColle, whose unstinting assistance with the annual Run for Literacy helped make it so successful. Sponsorships, community interest and strong community participation – not to mention course set-up and clean-up – are among Michael's gifts to this event. The event raises essential funds for the literacy programs of the BJJ.

The Bear Stearns Fixed Income Women's Network received an award as well, accepted by Sara Bonesteel, Catherine Buss and Gail Gallagher, for their continuing support of the Foundation.

BJJ executive director Erin Jackman introduced a video showing children receiving Brooke Packs, and talking about how they learned to read. One three-year-old mentioned that her favorite book is *If You Give a Mouse a Cookie*, which was on tape in her Brooke Pack. A mother's comment, "The Jackmans reached out and touched my life . . . Brooke's life touched my life," was a poignant moment in the video.

Master of Ceremonies for the evening was Jonathan Dienst of



*"The measure of  
who we are  
is what we do  
with what  
we have."*

– Vince Lombardi



*At the Palace Benefit (clockwise from top) – accepting award for Bear Stearns: Gail Gallagher, Catherine Buss and Sara Bonesteel with Bob Jackman . . . Ross Jackman with Brookster Award recipient Mike DelColle and his wife Michelle . . . wonderful wine! . . . the Jackman family . . . live auction participants . . . MC Jonathan Dienst of NBC.*

NBC, with Jill Moray the lively auctioneer. Silent auction items – art, golf, sports events, trips among them – received generous bids. And for the live auction – air travel and seats at American Idol Finale, watch a game from the Mets owners' luxury sky box, dinner for 4 at Rao's Italian Eatery, honorary basketball girl or boy for a New Jersey Nets Game, golfing in Ireland, private dining at Daniel Boulud's Sky Box, on-air makeover by Bobbi Brown on the Today Show, six-night Caribbean vacation in the

Dominican Republic, walk-on role in the ABC Series "October Road" – the array of prizes received enthusiastic bids and raised vital funds for our programs.

We give special thanks to the wineries and to our donors of auction prizes and myriad in-kind gifts – please see [www.brookejackmanfoundation.org](http://www.brookejackmanfoundation.org) for a full list of these wonderful Foundation friends. Our work – helping children in need through the miracle of books – flourishes because of each of you.

## 5K Run May 17 In Oyster Bay

*After teeming rain on Friday, sun broke through to provide a glorious day for runners and walkers alike, opening festivities for the 5th annual Health and Fitness Fair sponsored by State Senator Carl Marcellino and the Oyster Bay Chamber of Commerce. Co-chairs – Erin Jackman and Steve Gourlay Jr of Evolution Fitness, with help from many generous sponsors. Wonderful arrangers of the Children's Fun Run – Jen Isles and Iris Jackman, with face painting, tattoos and a medal for each participating child. Details – [www.brookejackmanfoundation.org](http://www.brookejackmanfoundation.org).*



### Thank You . . . We Welcome Your Help

Thank you . . . to each and every person who contributed to the Foundation's success in its first six and a half years.  If you would like to celebrate a joyous occasion, honor the accomplishments of friends, family or loved ones, or honor the memory of someone you love, we would welcome your donation – the Brooke Jackman Foundation, PO Box 354, Mill Neck, NY 11765. Please visit our website for details – [www.brookejackmanfoundation.org](http://www.brookejackmanfoundation.org).



*"I hope you get worldwide  
and everyone loves you."*

– Shakira



*"Most of the important  
things in the world  
have been accomplished  
by people who have  
kept on trying  
when there seemed  
to be no hope at all."*

– Dale Carnegie



*"I give you thanks  
for making  
the other kids  
feel happy  
like you made me."*

– Jokeyni

The Brooke Jackman  
Foundation



### The Brooke Jackman Foundation

The Brooke Jackman Foundation is a public 501 (c)(3) charitable organization created in October 2001 in response to the World Trade Center attack that claimed the life of Brooke

Jackman, age 23. Its mission is to honor Brooke's legacy – a deep love of reading and a profound interest in helping children – by helping to create and support programs enhancing the literacy and self esteem of children in and around New York City. Project Brooke, Brooke Pack, and Brooke's Books are among the projects offered to children in diverse city, agency, and school programs.

Inquiries and offers of help are welcome – The Brooke Jackman Foundation, Inc., P.O. Box 354, Mill Neck, NY 11765.

[www.brookejackmanfoundation.org](http://www.brookejackmanfoundation.org)

*Matching gifts* – The BJF is a public 501 (c)(3) charity under the Internal Revenue Code, and welcomes matching funds from corporations.

### Board of Directors 2008

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*"What the mind  
of man can conceive and  
believe it can achieve."*

– Napoleon Hill

# The Brooke Jackman Foundation



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## Upcoming Events

### October Benefit – New York Palace Hotel

Please save the date for the fall reception – our Seventh Annual Benefit on Thursday, October 23, 2008, at the New York Palace Hotel. Enjoy “A Wine Experience” featuring wines from around the world . . . bid on irresistible silent and live auction items. ★ Summertime reminders will reach each of you, with invitations to follow. Updates meanwhile – [www.brookejackmanfoundation.org](http://www.brookejackmanfoundation.org).



*“In 2008 our journey  
continues. In this newsletter,  
we highlight children  
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