



# The 2016 Ezra Jack Keats Baltimore Bookmaking Competition

Enoch Pratt Library, The Reginald F. Lewis Museum, Jump In Studio, Inc. and Baltimore City Public Schools is partnering with The Ezra Jack Keats Foundation to host Baltimore City's first annual Ezra Jack Keats Bookmaking Competition. Students in grades 3-12 in Baltimore City public schools are eligible to participate. Under the supervision of teachers/librarians, students will write, illustrate, and hand-bind original picture books based on a topic of their choice.

Each school will select one winner in each of three categories—grades 3-5, grades 6-8, and grades 9-12. These entries must be submitted to Baltimore Bookmaking Competition, c/o Terry Taylor, at The Reginald F. Lewis Museum on **January 24, 2016**, by 5:00 PM, and will be judged by a select committee of librarians, teachers, and industry professionals on February 10, 2016.

One winning book will be selected per category. School-wide winning entries will be displayed at the Enoch Pratt Public Library throughout May. City-wide winners will present their books at the 2016 Reginald F. Lewis Museum's African American Children's Book Festival where they will receive a cash prize of \$500. No more than two students may collaborate on one book, in which case, each winner will receive \$250.

This is a phenomenal opportunity for Baltimore City Students. It will open doors for their imaginations and potentially spur them on to pursue careers in literature and the arts! As a classroom activity, students will learn the value of research, strengthen their writing and editing skills, and receive hands on experience on the creative end of book publishing, aligning with many of the Common Core Standards.

**To learn more, visit [www.ejkbaltimorebookmaking.blogspot.com](http://www.ejkbaltimorebookmaking.blogspot.com)**

We hope that you will join us this academic school year in launching Baltimore's first Ezra Jack Keats Bookmaking Competition! Any questions may be forwarded to Shadra Strickland at [info@shadrastrickland.com](mailto:info@shadrastrickland.com). For Baltimore City Schools inquiries please contact Beth Napier or Brian Schneckenburger.



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