



Winter, Newsletter 2017

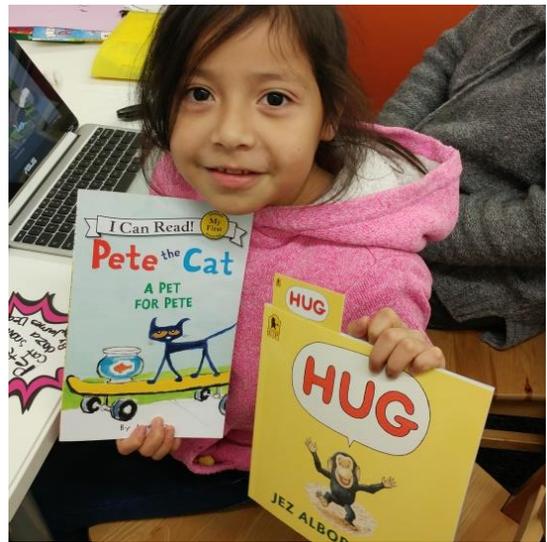
## Guess Who is Celebrating 15 Years?

New Haven Reads has been sharing the joy and power of reading in our community for 15 years! What started out as a book bank in founder Christine Alexander's garage has now grown into one of the leading literacy organizations in the State of Connecticut.

In our 15 years in service to our community, we have:

- Distributed over **1,600,000** gently used books back into the community.
- Worked with over **3,000** students in our tutoring program.
- Supported over **250** students in our Kindergarten program.
- Spent the summer with **300** literacy campers.

To celebrate this important anniversary, everyone is invited to a reception at the L&B Room at Yale's Sterling Memorial Library on Thursday, March 30, 2017 from 5:30 to 7 PM. For tickets and more information, please visit our website: [donatenow.networkforgood.org/nhreventpayment](http://donatenow.networkforgood.org/nhreventpayment)



## Make a Difference in 2017!

Are you still looking for a rewarding yet achievable New Year's resolution? Why not commit one hour a week to volunteering at New Haven Reads? Our tutors tell us that it is one of the best hours of their week! We are always in need of volunteers for our one-on-one literacy tutoring program. If you're interested in the book bank, why not help out with field trips? No experience is necessary and we provide all of the training and support you need. Start the year out right by helping us make a significant impact on the life of a

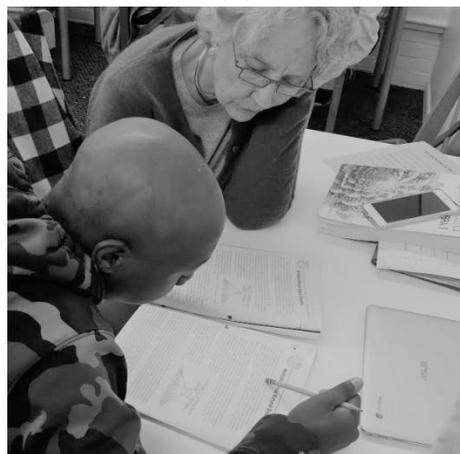
To find out more, visit our website at [Newhavenreads.org](http://Newhavenreads.org) or contact Keri Humphries our Outreach Coordinator at [volunteer@newhavenreads.org](mailto:volunteer@newhavenreads.org)



## Tutor Spotlight: Lane English

With over 28 years of experience teaching kids as well as working as an educational therapist, Lane English knows the value of making learning enjoyable. “I try to have fun with the child. My priority is to try and make them have fun when they’re here and then, in the process, be really happy about what they’ve done. It’s really important to me that they don’t drag their bodies out of here.”

Lane started tutoring with New Haven Reads last year at our Dixwell site and now tutors out of our new Willow Street location. “I enjoy just being here,” she says of Willow Street. “I think the ambience is just great for kids and adults. It’s refreshing and it’s fun. I go home thinking I’m so glad I did that today.”



When asked about working with kids with trouble reading, Lane says, “People don’t always give them a future. They’re always working on their present. You have to have an idea that you’re fitting into the world’s future; that this is not going to be a problem forever. And if it is, there are places you can do great work.”

## Legislative Breakfast 2016

On Friday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, board and staff members sat down with State Representative Toni Walker and Senator Gary Winfield to discuss our program and its impact on the greater New Haven community. We are incredibly grateful for the support from all of our local legislators who are tirelessly committed to increasing literacy rates in our community. Thanks to them, we’re receiving a grant of \$50,000 from the state of Connecticut.

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## Coins-for-Change

Do you still need to empty out last year’s coin jar? New Haven Reads has been chosen as the recipient of Connex Credit Union’s Coins-for-Change program! During the first quarter of 2017 (January, February and March), all of the coin counter fees from Connex’s Hamden Branch at 2100 Dixwell Avenue will be donated to New Haven Reads.



## Tutor Spotlight: Allegra Ranelli

We are excited to announce that Allegra Ranelli, who has been a tutor with us since 2014, is a semi-finalist for the coveted Coca-Cola Scholarship. She was chosen based on merit from over 87,000 high school seniors! She now has a chance at being one of 150 applicants to receive \$20,000 in college scholarships. Congratulations, Allegra!



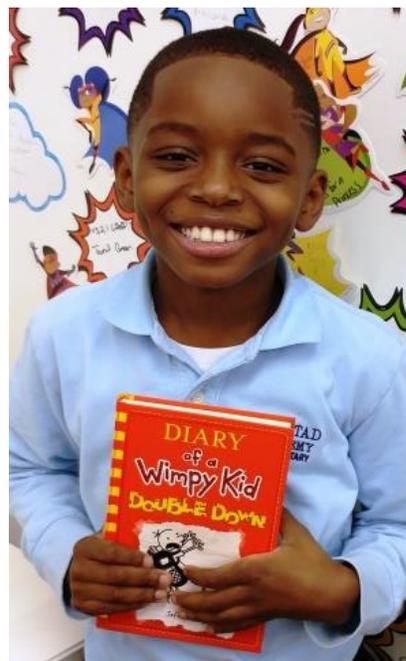
## December 2016 by the Numbers



- **452** Students tutored each week with **45%** of students (**202**) coming twice a week.
- **654** tutoring hours each week with an additional **98** Pre/K and Kindergarten hours.
- **386** Tutors
- **49** students enrolled in Pre/K and Kindergarten program.
- **8,705** books distributed to the community via the Book Bank.
- **119** Students on our tutoring wait list and an additional **38** students on our Pre-K/kindergarten wait list.

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## Holiday Book Giveaway



Every holiday season, New Haven Reads gives new books to our students. Over the last few years, Abrams Publishing has donated 96 copies of the latest in the *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* series to our giveaway!



## Sharing the Joy and Power of Reading in 2016

Thanks to the support of people like you, 2016 was a fantastic year for New Haven Reads. We opened a fourth location inside the repurposed Marlin Business Center. This new Willow Street Site, sitting in the shadow of East Rock Park, allows us to accommodate as many as 150 new students. Furthermore, proximity allows us to partner with our new neighbor, the East Rock Magnet School, who sends students over directly after school for homework help and literacy tutoring.

None of this would have been possible without the invaluable support of our volunteers and donors. We cannot thank you enough for taking part in our journey. Together, we are going to make New Haven a city of readers, one child at a time!

## Upcoming Events

**General Tutor Training** ,  
*Thursday, January 26<sup>th</sup>*  
*Dixwell Yale Community Learning Center*  
*101 Ashmun Street*  
*1:00 to 3:00 pm*

**New Haven Reads 15<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration**  
*Thursday, March 30*  
*Yale Sterling Library*  
*120 High Street*  
*5:30 to 7:00 pm*

**Volunteer Appreciation Day**  
*Thursday, April 6*  
*The Study at Yale*  
*1157 Chapel Street*  
*5:30 to 7:00 pm*

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**Interested in volunteering with us? Do you have a group that might want to get involved with NHR?**

Please contact us about opportunities at our Book Bank or in our tutoring program.  
Contact [Keri@newhavenreads.org](mailto:Keri@newhavenreads.org)

**For more information, feel free to contact us at [information@newhavenreads.org](mailto:information@newhavenreads.org) or by phone at (203) 752-1923. Come visit us at 45 Bristol Street, New Haven, CT 06511**