

## NHR Students thriving despite distance learning challenges



*Kendall was thrilled to receive a laptop from NHR.*

When NHR pivoted to distance learning, our students met the challenge with enthusiasm! Parents expressed to us how much they appreciate that their children are still learning and making progress despite the challenges brought on by the pandemic.

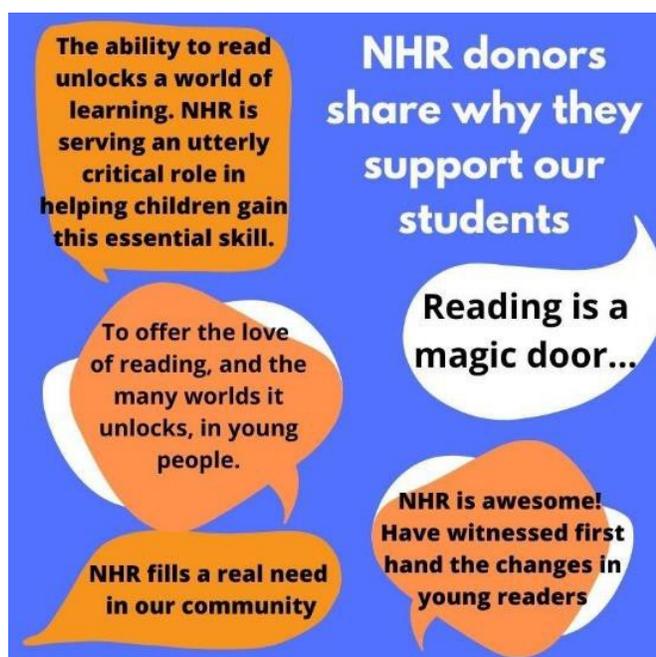
Kendall's mom, Grace, tells us that her nine-year-old daughter is excited when it is time for tutoring, reminding her mom, "I've got to get on New Haven Reads!" To facilitate tutoring and school, families have received learning resources and technology. Grace told us, "It is so helpful for me as a parent, I'm working. Having the support, she has all the materials here, and with Kendall feeling so comfortable, it's awesome".

Kendall continues to thrive and Grace can see the improvement, "She is more confident when she reads out loud and she raises her hand in class...even if she doesn't know all the words, she tries to figure them out."

Kendall's enthusiasm for reading leads her to share all that she has been learning with her mom who is now up to date on all the rules around the silent "e"! **"My tiny human is reading!"** says Grace proudly, **"I love New Haven Reads!"**

Some of our donors shared with us some of the reasons why they give to NHR.

Thank you for supporting our work in 2020!



**The ability to read unlocks a world of learning. NHR is serving an utterly critical role in helping children gain this essential skill.**

**NHR donors share why they support our students**

**Reading is a magic door...**

**To offer the love of reading, and the many worlds it unlocks, in young people.**

**NHR is awesome! Have witnessed first hand the changes in young readers**

**NHR fills a real need in our community**

## Our 2020 in Review

### Our commitment to transforming student outcomes remains!

The year 2020 may have challenged us all in unexpected ways, but at NHR, we are proud that we continued to share the joy and power of reading with thousands of children and families.

For our students, our programs had a very positive impact and provided an opportunity for them to engage with their tutors and our staff. Our amazing team adapted our programs to work online, we worked with partners to secure technology and internet access for families, and we distributed thousands of books across the community.



Our summer session hosted enrichment clubs and an online pre-kindergarten and kindergarten camp. Our campaign to purchase diverse books exceeded our wildest expectations and ensured that almost 4,000 books were distributed to local children. Across the summer, we hosted a lecture series with nationally renowned speakers. Even our annual Spelling Bee went virtual!



As we look forward to serving more students in 2021, **we are grateful for your support to help us to close the education gaps these children face!**

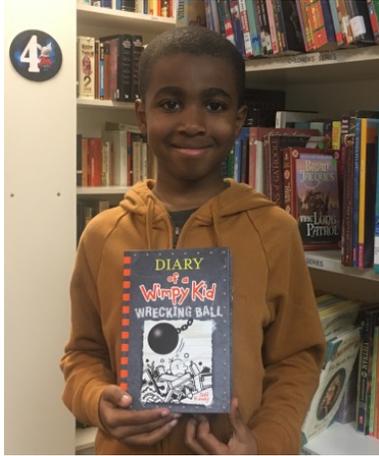
## Winter by the Numbers

- **270** one-on-one tutoring students for **410** hours of programs every week.
- **225** distance learning tutors
- **7** Kindergarten program students
- **3,211** books distributed



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## Upcoming Events



### Book Bank Teacher Open House

January 29 and 30 at our 45 Bristol Street Book Bank. Covid protocols will be observed. Please register on our website or contact [books@newhavenreads.org](mailto:books@newhavenreads.org) for more information.

### Virtual Tutor Training

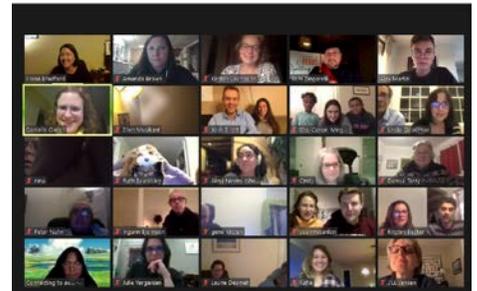
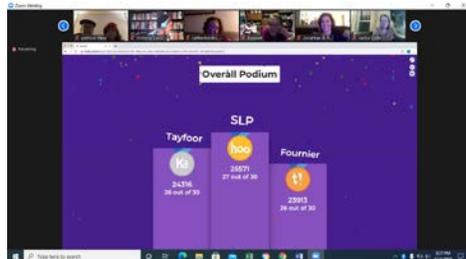
Saturday, January 30; 11 AM to 12 PM via Zoom. Nakesha Alleyne, a Licensed Clinical Social Worker, will speak about COVID-19 effects on students. Please register on our website

**February Recess** No tutoring from February 14 to 21

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## Our 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Spelling Bee was a success!

We are so grateful to everyone who joined us back in December for a very different Spelling Bee. We raised over \$19,600 for our online literacy programs and had a great time!



Because we were virtual, we had participants from across the country – from Oregon to Virginia! Congratulations to our winners! We appreciate all of our sponsors and participants who came together to make this a memorable Bee.



## Free Books Available

Weather permitting, book carts will be displayed in the 45 Bristol Street parking lot on Mondays and Fridays from 12:30pm to 3:30pm. All are welcome to take books. Please share this with your networks. We continue to accept book donations by appointment only.

For more information, please contact [books@newhavenreads.org](mailto:books@newhavenreads.org)

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## Volunteer Spotlight - Lynn Autry

Book Bank volunteer, Lynn Autry is now in her third year at NHR. At the Book Bank, she sorts donations, fills book orders, and helps to host field trips. Lynn says that her read-aloud skills have improved since she started reading to field trip students. "My favorite book to read is called *We Don't Eat Our Classmates*," she says. "I'm getting really good at reading that one."



Field trips are not the only part of the job that Lynn looks forward to. "I really enjoy unpacking each box and bag of donated books," she explains. "It's sort of like Christmas morning every week because I never know what treasure will be uncovered." Of course, volunteering in the Book Bank has the added perk of "adopting a few books for myself or for a friend."

Though the Book Bank is currently closed and field trips are paused, Lynn tells us, "I'm looking forward to the time when we'll be back to normal with boxes of books to unpack and kids to meet on field trips."

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**Thank you for supporting New Haven Reads!**

**You can keep in touch with all that is happening at New Haven Reads by following us on social media!**



**New Haven Reads**

45 Bristol Street, New Haven, CT 06511

[information@newhavenreads.org](mailto:information@newhavenreads.org)

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