

Students Served
11,990

(across all programs and distributions)

Books Distributed
15,733

(across all programs and distributions)

Partnering Authors and Illustrators

148

(across all programs and distributions)



Students by Grade Level



2022-2023 Event Partners

Nonprofits

- Africa Access
- FRESHFARM FoodPrints
- The Kennedy Center
- Planet Word
- Shout Mouse Press
- Teaching for Change
- Washington Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights and Urban Affairs
- Writers and Artists Across the Country

Independent Bookstores

- Loyalty Bookstore
- Sankofa Books

Independent Schools

- Sidwell Friends School



Platinum Transparency 2023

Candid.



The 2022-23 school year was one of transition and growth for AOB. We undertook a facilitated strategic thinking process that included key stakeholders, board, and staff; the final product is a two-year work plan. We piloted our cohort initiative (see Program section below). Read Between the Wine, a book group for young Black professional women in DC and NYC, sponsored a semester-long book club for 5th graders with a surprise author visit. We began new partnerships with The Kennedy Center, Sankofa Books, and Washington Lawyers' Committee. Finally, we said goodbye to co-founder Dara La Porte who took a well-deserved retirement after 13 years.



Author Ibi Zoboi introduced students from Coolidge High School to her book *Nigeria Jones* at a partnered event at Sankofa Video Books & Cafe.

Programs

Kindergarteners at Neval Thomas and Malcolm X elementary schools enthusiastically welcomed authors Lesley Young (A-Train Allen) and Anna Hindley (A Is for All the Things You Are: A Joyful ABC Book), respectively, for the first cohort initiative visits. Over the next six years, these groups of students will participate in the entire range of AOB programming: flagship events; STEM and artist residencies; extension activities; and 5th grade book club. We retained Research Partners LLC to help us evaluate the impact of the cohort initiative.

Award-winning author Jacqueline Woodson talked to a capacity crowd in the Kennedy Center's Family Theater following a special preview of the stage adaptation of her book, *The Day You Begin*. Over 200 first, second, and third graders from Cleveland and Houston elementary schools received signed copies of Woodson's book and their classrooms and school libraries received ten copies each of the prolific author's other titles. The Kennedy Center provided transportation and tickets; local law firms supporting the schools covered book costs.

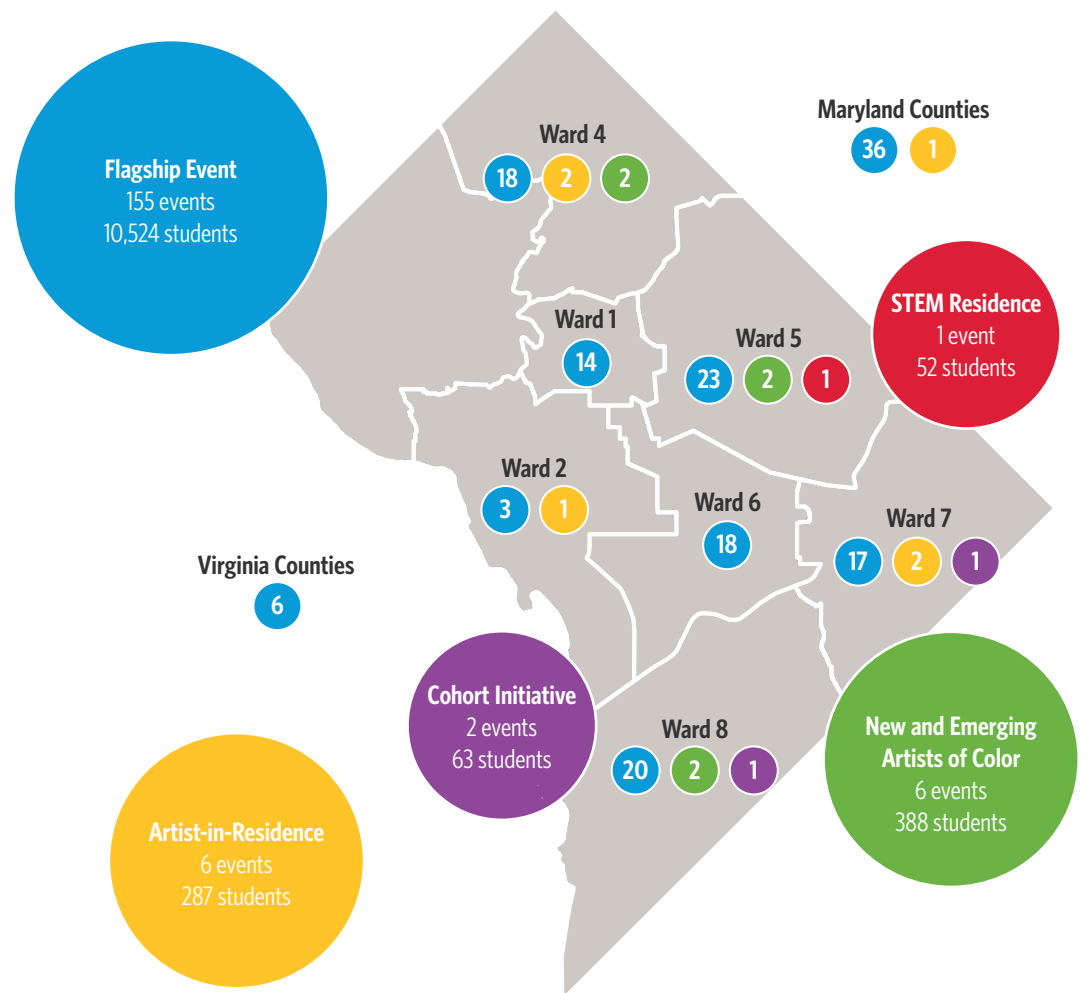


First graders at Martin Luther King Jr Elementary School get their copies of *Black Boy, Black Boy* signed by authors Ali Kamanda and Jorge Redmond.

Impact

- 93% of educators could align the event to curricular, unit, or school objectives.** Authors often talk about multiple drafts and how they edit their work, or the need for persistence and patience.
- 78% of students who attended an event said they would read the book right away or soon, as compared to 66% of students who also received the book but didn't attend the event.** Meeting an author or illustrator increases students' interest in and excitement about reading their book.
- After participating in a STEM Residence, 91% of students surveyed wanted to learn more about science.** Engaging in hands-on activities creates opportunity for individual and small group explorations.
- Students' understanding of how artists choose colors and create images for books increased from 43% to 73% after an Artist-in-Residence Program.** Spending multiple days with a professional allows time for in-depth instruction that enhances learning.

Data based on educator surveys (digital) and student surveys (digital and hard copy) distributed between October 2022 and April 2023.



Financials



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