



Co-op Market Grocery & Deli 2018 Donation Request Form

Co-op Market is proud to work with others in our community to enhance quality of life for our friends and neighbors. **Please review our Donation Policy before submitting your request.**

Organization Name Guys Read - Gals Read Inc.

Contact Name Bernardo Hernandez Date November 30, 2017

Phone (907) 687-8806 Email bbhb816@aak.net

Type of Organization:

- Agricultural
 Environmental
 Health-oriented

- Educational
 Community
 Other: _____

Have you received any donations from Co-op Market within the last year? Y / (N)

Type of donation you are requesting:

- Gift Certificate
 Gift Basket
 Food

- Lend-a-Hand Register Round-up*
 Sponsorship

**If you are submitting a Lend-a-Hand request, please apply by 12/1/17. Include a detailed statement on your letterhead of your organization's goals, how they align with our mission, and how the donations will be used to meet them.*

How will Co-op Market's participation be recognized? Thank you Ad in the News-Miner,
A book plate inserted in the books donated to the libraries, a
thank you on our web page -

If your request is being made for an event, please provide the following information:

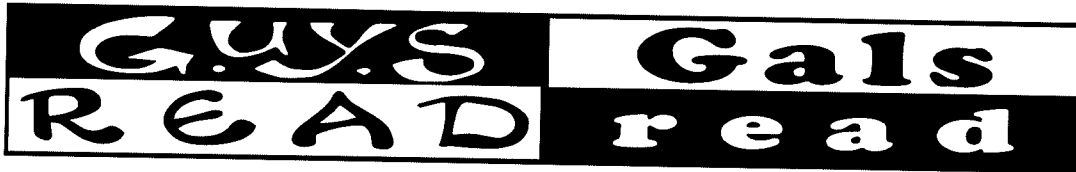
Event Name/Date Guys Read January & September; Gals Read February & October 2018

Description of Event Volunteer Adults Reading to 4th graders in public schools

Estimated Attendance We will read to 1100 fourth graders

Please send along with your request:

- Any additional materials (flyers, posters, brochures) that represent your organization or event.
- Proof of non-profit status (501C3), if applicable.



November 30, 2017

To Whom It May Concern:

The Guys and Gals Read Program organizes community volunteers to read fun and exciting books to 4th graders in elementary schools. The program was initiated here in Fairbanks and has been in operation 12 years. Approximately 45 men and 35 women read to about 1100 children twice a year. Men read to male students and women read to female students.

The Guys and Gals Read Program not only recruits and trains volunteers to read, but it also purchases the books that are read so that at least 6 copies remain in each school library for children to check out. Books are selected with input from the school district.

The problem: the majority of American boys and many girls stop reading for pleasure around the 4th grade. By reading exciting and enjoyable books to children at this age level, we are trying to stimulate their desire to read for fun and thereby enhance their comprehension, vocabulary and other skills. Furthermore, by having grown men read to boys, for example, the men serve as role models for boys that suggests that reading is "a cool thing to do."

Our Mission thus, is to stimulate interest in reading in children by making reading fun and exciting. This furthers our overarching goal of helping children achieve success in school and in life through improved literacy skills. This aligns with the Co-op Market goal of creating a knowledgeable community.

If selected for the Lend-a-Hand program, we will use the funds to purchase books for the program. Purchasing books costs several thousand dollars each year. In addition, if selected, we would request that the Guy and Gals Lend-a-Hand occur during the month of January or September. These months coincide with our efforts to recruit reading volunteers for the program. If these months are not possible, any month will be satisfactory.

Please see attached an "Overview of the Alaska Guys Read Gals Read Program" and one of our brochures. Also attached is proof of our 501C3 status.

Thank you for your contributions to our community and for the opportunity to apply for this funding. If you need further information, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Bernardo Hernandez

Vice President Guys/Gals Read

OVERVIEW OF THE ALASKA GUYS READ GALS READ PROGRAM

Introduction

Children who read recreationally perform better in school, work, and life. However, around 4th grade, the majority of American boys, and many girls, stop reading for pleasure. Making reading a fun activity is a key component for enhancing comprehension, vocabulary, and myriad other abilities.

Boys have few male reader role models to emulate, and often the books presented to them in fourth grade have a level of nuance that's gratifying to girls beginning to be interested in character development, evolving relationships, but not yet attractive to the slower developing brains of 4th grade boys. Boys crave identifying with thin central characters doing exciting or hilarious things.

The Alaska Guys and Gals Read program (GR2) has proven exceptionally successful at attracting all levels of readers to fun, kid-friendly books. Since its inception 12 years ago, GR2 has attracted nearly 100% of 4th graders to its programs while experiencing nearly zero disciplinary issues.

Materials and Methods

Heavily-illustrated books are used to attract low-level readers, and fresh, new titles and authors are featured to attract active readers. Graphic material is utilized for several reasons:

- Unskilled readers are drawn in by the illustrations which convey the story's context ("Comics are the gateway drug to reading," as Neil Gaiman has noted and numerous studies have upheld),
- The books' vocabularies are usually several grade levels above the intended audience. They're less intimidating than text-only books to low-level readers, and
- Are often more fun and engaging.

The books featured in GR2 are carefully previewed and selected by program administrators and then vetted by the school district. In general they follow these criteria:

KID-FRIENDLINESS – Age appropriate, funny, exciting, outrageous, or all three. Generally, the books should contain fresh, new concepts;

GOOD ILLUSTRATIONS – Well executed, evocative artwork that allows all levels of readers to enjoy the book, effective sequencing of frames (good flow and not herky-jerky), legible lettering of text, engaging illustrations on every page, or on each two-page spread at a minimum;

SIMILAR BOOKS – Books that are part of a popular series (not already owned by the school libraries), from popular authors, popular genres, or with connections to popular cultural (for example, movie tie-ins);

SIMPLE CENTRAL CHARACTERS FOR GUYS – 4th grade boys enjoy projecting themselves into the central character, so it must be interesting yet vague enough that many boys can identify with it;

CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT AND EVOLVING RELATIONSHIPS FOR GALS – 4th grade girls' brains develop faster than similarly-aged boys, and their reading tastes are more sophisticated;

FAST-OPENING PLOTS – Particularly for the boys, the stories must open up quickly to engage them within the 20 minutes of available reading time;

CRITICAL APPROVAL - Books under consideration must have received positive reviews from credible review sources (Kirkus, School Library Journal, Booklist, etc.)

The schools provide

- Processing and cataloging of the books,
- A place to hold the reading sessions (libraries, commons areas, classrooms, etc.), and
- A member of the staff to be present during the readings.

The program provides

- Training recruitment and orientation,
- Books for the school libraries and for volunteer readers to practice with,
- Teams of volunteer readers, and
- 8 reading presentations.

Program Description

The Fairbanks GR2 programs run for two weeks in the fall and two in the winter, with each public elementary school receiving a total of eight presentations. 2-person teams of adult readers visit the schools at lunchtime (avoiding conflicts with recess and instructional time) and read for 20 minutes. Eight books are read to the boys, one at each lunchtime reading session, and each of the girls' four books are read to them at two reading sessions, allowing the more nuanced elements of their books to be explored.

A different team of men read to the boys each time to expose them to as many male readers as possible, but the same team of women read at the same school throughout the program.

3 copies of each featured title are donated to each school library, and the 4th graders get first crack at checking them out before they're released to the rest of the school.

While reading the books, document cameras or iPads are used to project the pages onto a wall or screen and readers use laser pointers or their fingers to indicate where on the page the reading is taking place.

At the overall program's conclusion separate parties for boys and girls are held at the public library allowing librarians an opportunity to share their many resources with parents who are often unfamiliar with all a modern library has to offer. And every kid leaves with a book.

The Key Elements

- Read during the normal 4th grade lunchtime,
- Feature heavily-illustrated, age- and gender-appropriate books,
- Project the pages while indicating where you're reading.

Funding

The current annual GR2 budget for 18 schools is \$25,000. The program is funded through private donations from service clubs, fraternal organizations, businesses, and private individuals.

Volunteers

Readers are recruited through radio advertising, flyers, and word of mouth. A 30 minute orientation familiarizes the readers with how the program works, the equipment, and the books. The program has proven very gratifying to the volunteers while being so unintrusive to their daily schedules that we experience a high retention rate. The only significant complaint we've received from volunteers is that the program ended too soon.

Results

Over its 12 year run,

- GR2 has read to over 11,000 4th graders attending the Fairbanks North Star Borough elementary schools, drawing nearly 100% of the students,
- Only one reading has one boy been asked to leave because of disciplinary issues,
- Accolades have been received from principals, parents, librarians, teachers, and lots of boys and girls, and
- GR2 has won two national awards (the Public Library Association's first Innovations in Literacy Award (2013), and the National Association of Counties Academic Achievement Award (2010).



ALASKA

G.U.Y.S
READ

Gals
read



THE ALASKA

GUYS **Gals**
READ **read**

SUCCESS STORY

What is it?

The Guys and Gals Read programs successfully excites 4th grade boys and girls about books and reading by making it fun. The programs' effective approach was created in Fairbanks by librarians and is managed by Guys Read Gals Read, Inc., a 501c3 nonprofit organization (EIN 47-2634465).

Why 4th Grade?

Most boys and many girls stop reading for pleasure around their 4th grade year, often due to a lack of adult reader role models and access to fun books.

How Does it Work?

- Volunteers who appreciate reading visit schools during the 4th grade lunchtime and read the first part of fresh, heavily-illustrated, and "kid-friendly" books.
- Schools are visited by readers four times in the fall and four times in the winter.
- Each featured book is read from one time, and multiple copies of the books are donated to the school libraries beforehand.

Does It Work?

- Our Guys Read program has won two national awards for its promotion of academic achievement and its innovative approach to literacy.
- Other communities in Alaska and the Lower 48 have successfully adopted the program.

How Can I Help?

- Volunteer to read: It's fun, convenient and gratifying! Programs run for two weeks and reading sessions last less than 30 minutes.
- Sponsor the Program: Guys and Gals Read is entirely funded by private tax-deductible donations and in-kind support from businesses, organizations, and individuals.

Promote Reading

- Spread the word about the importance of reading in school, work, and life.
- Read to the children in your life, and let them see you read to yourself.
- Share your love of books and reading with others.

Where Can I Learn More?

Visit our website: GuysGalsRead.org
Write: P.O. Box 196, Ester, AK 99725



From: **Greg Hill** hillofbooks@gmail.com
Subject: **Two-page 501 c3 letter**
Date: **November 29, 2017 at 5:17 PM**
To: **Bernardo Hernandez** bbhb816@ak.net

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE
P. O. BOX 2508
CINCINNATI, OH 45201

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Date: **JUL 13 2016**

GUYS READ-GALS READ INC
PO BOX 196
ESTER, AK 99725-0196

Employer Identification Number:
47-2634465
DLN:
17053057302036
Contact Person:
SALLY B DAVENPORT ID# 31050
Contact Telephone Number:
(877) 829-5500
Accounting Period Ending:
December 31
Public Charity Status:
170(b)(1)(A)(vi)
Form 990/990-EZ/990-N Required:
Yes
Effective Date of Exemption:
January 26, 2015
Contribution Deductibility:
Yes
Addendum Applies:
No

Dear Applicant:

We're pleased to tell you we determined you're exempt from federal income tax under Internal Revenue Code (IRC) Section 501(c)(3). Donors can deduct contributions they make to you under IRC Section 170. You're also qualified to receive tax deductible bequests, devises, transfers or gifts under Section 2055, 2106, or 2522. This letter could help resolve questions on your exempt status. Please keep it for your records.

Organizations exempt under IRC Section 501(c)(3) are further classified as either public charities or private foundations. We determined you're a public charity under the IRC Section listed at the top of this letter.

If we indicated at the top of this letter that you're required to file Form 990/990-EZ/990-N, our records show you're required to file an annual information return (Form 990 or Form 990-EZ) or electronic notice (Form 990-N, the e-Postcard). If you don't file a required return or notice for three consecutive years, your exempt status will be automatically revoked.

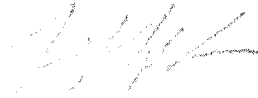
If we indicated at the top of this letter that an addendum applies, the enclosed addendum is an integral part of this letter.

For important information about your responsibilities as a tax-exempt organization, go to www.irs.gov/charities. Enter "4221-PC" in the search bar to view Publication 4221-PC, Compliance Guide for 501(c)(3) Public Charities, which describes your recordkeeping, reporting, and disclosure requirements.

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GUYS READ-GALS READ INC

Sincerely,



Jeffrey I. Cooper
Director, Exempt Organizations
Rulings and Agreements