

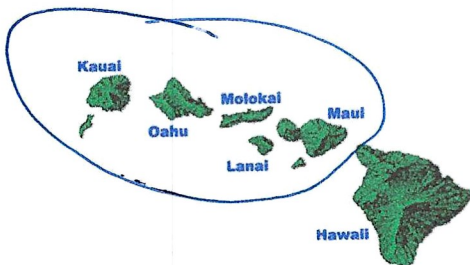
Book Trust Summary

Mission: Promoting equitable access to books of choice and literacy
Category: Youth
Contact: Ellyn Mortimer, Hawaii Development Officer
Address: 191 University Boulevard, Suite 527, Denver, CO 80206
Grant History: N/A

2025 Request:	\$25,000 for general operating support
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Notes:

- Started in 2001 in Colorado to facilitate low-income children in obtaining books from Scholastic Book Club at no charge to them.
- Expanded to Hawaiian Islands (except Big Island) in 2004.
- Serves 5841 Hawaiian children each year in 12 schools.
- Each child is provided a \$12 stipend to order books from the Scholastic Book Club flyer six times each year. Books are delivered directly to them at school. Children bring home.
- Limited access to libraries – most libraries have limited hours on weekends and close early during the week.
- Access to books of child's choice and interests increases literacy, motivation to learn, and overall educational success.





1/31/2025
Executive Summary

Promoting Literacy for Hawai'i Elementary Students

Mission and Purpose:

Book Trust's mission is to provide all children with equitable access to books of choice to promote reading motivation and engagement.

With Book Trust, students select books (at no cost to them) from the Scholastic Book Clubs flyer, which they add to their personal libraries – collections that are utilized outside of school hours and shared with siblings, family members, and friends.

To promote equity, Book Trust puts books **directly** into the hands of students while they are at school. Other programs that distribute books are reliant on parent participation and don't prioritize allowing students to pick their preferred titles. Through Book Trust, students have streamlined and consistent access to books of choice no matter what is happening in their lives outside of school. Every student in the classroom participates. Giving all children equal access to the program reduces potential shame and stigma for low-income students.

History:

Over 20 years ago, our founder, Adrienne Schatz, wondered why some children in her elementary school in Colorado didn't buy books from the Scholastic Books Clubs flyer. When she realized the truth: that they couldn't afford them, she committed to help and developed the idea for Book Trust. She launched the organization in 2001, with 170 students in two Colorado schools. Adrienne and her family also considered Maui home, and Book Trust began serving schools in Hawai'i in 2004. In this, our 20th year, we are serving 5841 students in 12 Title 1 schools throughout the islands.

Request:

Book Trust seeks \$25,000 in support from the Dorcy Foundation to promote literacy among 5841 elementary school students (PreK through fifth grade) at 12 Title 1 Hawai'i elementary schools in the current 2024/25 school year.

Program Overview:

The Book Trust model is drawn from research and is straightforward and powerful.

- Students choose books from the Scholastic Book Clubs flyer using a \$12 stipend in each of six ordering windows.
- Classes then celebrate the arrival of their books, students share their selections with classmates, teachers dedicate time for independent reading, and students take their new books home – allowing them to build literacy skills outside of the school day.
- Book Trust also provides resources to parents – mobile friendly tips and tools – to support their children's literacy journey, further promoting a culture of literacy in communities.

DISCOVER THE JOY
AND POWER OF READING

A full school participation list is included at the end of this proposal.

Need:

Having books in the home is one of the strongest predictors of academic success and leads to dramatic impacts on reading growth and achievement, higher-level reading skills, and attainment of more years of education, even when controlling for the education and income level of parents (Allington, 2014, and eight more). With books in homes, kids read at or above grade level, read more often, consume more words, have better vocabularies, and make good use of out of school time. But low-income families typically have few, if any, books in their homes (fewer than 10 books). But children living in bookless homes attain an average of three years less schooling than kids in book rich environments (Evans et al, 2010).

A close look at the academic achievement gap, which exists largely along class and racial lines, reinforces the importance of book ownership. By way of example, Nanaikapono Elementary on Oahu has a population with 100% of students eligible for free lunch, only 17% of students are proficient readers, and there is a 14% reading gap between high and low need students.

But books alone are not enough. Studies confirm that choice matters. Students who choose their own books work harder to read, gain more understanding from the text, read more often, and are simply stronger readers (Gambrell, 1996 plus 2 more).

For low-income students in Hawai'i, especially in rural areas, there are unique barriers to book access. Almost all Hawai'i Public Libraries are closed on Sundays, many are closed on Saturdays, and most branches close by 4 pm on weekdays, limiting opportunities for children with working parents. Additionally, not all Hawai'i schools have libraries that are always open. When schools do have working libraries, classes may only be able to visit a few times per month.

Mahalo:

We offer sincere gratitude to the Dorcy Foundation for considering this request and we look forward to a partnership to create a stronger and more literate Hawaii.

With Aloha,
Ellyn Mortimer
Hawaii Development Officer
(808) 276-1526



Hawaii School Participation List
School Reported Student Count
School Year 2024 – 2025

Kauai Island Schools	Elsie H. Wilcox Elementary	748 students
Lanai Island Schools	Lana'i Elementary	296 students
Maui Island Schools	Kula Elementary	380 students
Maui Island Schools	Makawao Elementary	480 students
Maui Island Schools	Wailuku Elementary	589 students
Maui Island Schools	Waihe'e School	599 students
Maui Island Schools	King Kamehameha III Elementary	400 students
Maui Island Schools	Lihikai Elementary	676 students
Molokai Island Schools	Kualapuu Public Charter School	292 students
Oahu Island Schools	Palolo Elementary	285 students
Oahu Island Schools	Wai'anae Elementary	400 students
Oahu Island Schools	Nanaikapono Elementary	696 students
		5841 Total



STATE OF HAWAII
Kualapu'u Public Charter School
 P O Box 260
 Kualapu'u, Molokai, Hawaii 96757
 Phone: (808) 567-6900, Fax: (808) 567-6906

August 21, 2024

To Whom It May Concern:

It is with great pleasure that I offer my support for Book Trust, a nonprofit that is focused on engaging every child in book choice and ownership, cultivating literacy-rich communities.

Book Trust serves some of the highest-need students in our school that do not have consistent access to books or the means to purchase books. We know that book access is the single biggest barrier to literacy for many of our students and their families. Book Trust offers a solution by providing students with an opportunity to choose books of interest via Scholastic Book Clubs flyers, at no cost to them, throughout the school year.

I have been a principal at Kualapu'u Public Charter School for 28 years, and we were one of the first schools to have Book Trust. There are no bookstores on Molokai, and our public library has limited hours, and limited outreach. So our island schools are sometimes the only points of access for books for young children. Our students look forward to choosing books and are filled with excitement every month once their books arrive and on Book Celebration Days. The stories, the plots, and the characters within the books bring much joy to their day, and they share those books with friends and family.

Learning to read and learning to love reading helps young people succeed academically and graduate with increased skills and knowledge, resulting in a more highly educated, skilled, and successful populace. Book Trust provides equitable access to books of choice and creating a culture of literacy in the classroom and at home positively affects motivation to read and reading practices and habits.

I offer my full support of Book Trust and their mission without reservation to assist them in their important work in Hawaii. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Lydia Trinidad
 Principal

JOSH GREEN, M.B.
 GOVERNOR



STATE OF HAWAII
 DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
 MAKAWAO ELEMENTARY
 3542 BALDWIN AVENUE
 MAKAWAO, HI 96768

KEITH T. HAYASHI
 SUPERINTENDENT

August 22, 2024

To Whom it May Concern,

It is with great pleasure that I offer my support for Book Trust, a nonprofit dedicated to engaging every child in book choice and ownership, cultivating literacy-rich communities. Book Trust serves some of the highest-need students in our school who do not have consistent access to books or the means to purchase them. We know that book access is the biggest barrier to literacy for many of our students and their families. Book Trust offers a solution by providing students with an opportunity to choose books of interest via Scholastic Book Clubs flyers, at no cost to them, throughout the school year.

I have been the principal at Makawao Elementary School for the past two years. Our students eagerly look forward to choosing books and are excited every month once their books arrive and on Book Celebration Days. The stories, the plots, and the characters within these books bring much joy to their day, and they share these books with friends and family.

Learning to read and developing a love for reading helps young people succeed academically and graduate with increased skills and knowledge, resulting in a more highly educated, skilled, and successful populace. Book Trust provides equitable access to books of choice, and creating a culture of literacy in the classroom and at home positively affects motivation to read and fosters reading practices and habits.

I offer my full support for Book Trust and its mission without reservation, and I am eager to assist them in their important work in Hawaii. I hope you will consider supporting the organization as well.

Thank you for your consideration. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Ginifer Nania
 Principal



Kula Elementary School

5000 Kula Hwy Phone: (808) 876-7610
 Kula, Hawaii 96790 Fax: (808) 876-7616

www.kulae.k12.hi.us



August 26, 2024

To Whom It May Concern:

It is with great pleasure that I offer my support for Book Trust, a nonprofit that is focused on engaging every child in book choice and ownership, cultivating literacy-rich communities.

Book Trust serves some of the highest-need students in our school that do not have consistent access to books or the means to purchase books. We know that book access is the single biggest barrier to literacy for many of our students and their families. Book Trust offers a solution by providing students with an opportunity to choose books of interest via Scholastic Book Clubs flyers, at no cost to them, throughout the school year.

I have been a Principal at Kula Elementary School for over 3 years. Our students look forward to choosing books and are filled with excitement every month once their books arrive and on Book Celebration Days. The stories, the plots, and the characters within the books bring much joy to their day, and they share those books with friends and family.

Learning to read and learning to love reading helps young people succeed academically and graduate with increased skills and knowledge, resulting in a more highly educated, skilled, and successful populace. Book Trust provides equitable access to books of choice and creating a culture of literacy in the classroom and at home positively affects motivation to read and reading practices and habits.

I offer my full support of Book Trust and their mission without reservation to assist them in their important work in Hawaii. I hope you will consider supporting the organization as well.

Thank you for your consideration. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me if you have any questions.

Mahalo,

Marianne Wheeler,
 Principal
 marianne.wheeler@k12.hi.us



Kula Elementary School

5000 Kula Hwy Phone: (808) 876-7610
 Kula, Hawaii 96790 Fax: (808) 876-7616
 www.kulae.k12.hi.us



August 26, 2024

Aloha,

I am happy to offer my support for Book Trust, a nonprofit that is focused on engaging every child in reading through book choice and ownership, cultivating literacy-rich communities.

Book Trust serves some of the highest-need students in our school that do not have consistent access to books or the means to purchase them. We are a Title I school with over 50% of our student population qualifying, often making book access a barrier to literacy for many of our students. Book Trust offers a solution by providing them with an opportunity to choose books of interest via Scholastic Book Clubs flyers, at no cost to them, throughout the school year.

I am the current curriculum coordinator (CC) and a past classroom teacher at Kula Elementary School. Being a classroom teacher showed me the excitement book boxes create each month and the disappointment some students experience when they are unable to gain access to books. Since participating in the program, our students look forward to choosing books and are filled with excitement every month once their books arrive and on Book Celebration Days.

Learning to read and learning to love reading helps young people succeed academically and graduate with increased skills and knowledge. Book Trust provides equitable access to books of choice and creates a culture of literacy in the classroom and at home, which positively affects motivation to read and reading practices and habits.

I offer my full support of Book Trust and their mission without reservation to assist them in their important work in Hawaii. I hope you will consider supporting the organization as well.

Mahalo nui loa,

Amber Olson
 Curriculum Coordinator
 Kula Elementary School
 amber.olson@k12.hi.us
 (808) 876-7610 ext. 276

M.D. JOSH B. GREEN,
GOVERNOR



HAYASHI KEITH T.,
SUPERINTENDENT



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
KA 'OIHANA HO'ONA'AUAO
NANAIIKAPONO ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL
89-153 MANO AVE. WAIANA'E, HI 96792

September 13, 2024

August 21, 2024

To Whom It May Concern:

It is with great pleasure that I offer my support for Book Trust, a nonprofit that is focused on engaging every child in book choice and ownership, cultivating literacy-rich communities.

Book Trust serves some of the highest-need students in our school that do not have consistent access to books or the means to purchase books. We know that book access is the single biggest barrier to literacy for many of our students and their families. Book Trust offers a solution by providing students with an opportunity to choose books of interest via Scholastic Book Clubs flyers, at no cost to them, throughout the school year.

I have been a teacher at Nānāikapono Elementary School for over 18 years. Our students look forward to choosing books and are filled with excitement every month once their books arrive and on Book Celebration Days. The stories, the plots, and the characters within the books bring much joy to their day, and they share those books with friends and family.

Learning to read and learning to love reading helps young people succeed academically and graduate with increased skills and knowledge, resulting in a more highly educated, skilled, and successful populace. Book Trust provides equitable access to books of choice and creating a culture of literacy in the classroom and at home positively affects motivation to read and reading practices and habits.

I offer my full support of Book Trust and their mission without reservation to assist them in their important work in Hawaii. I hope you will consider supporting the organization as well. Thank you for the consideration. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me if you have any questions.

Mahalo,

Misty Dacucuy
Misty Dacucuy
Instructional Coach
Nānāikapono Elementary School
Misty.dacucuy@12.hi.us
(808)305-7800

To Whom It May Concern:

It is with great pleasure that I offer my support for Book Trust, a nonprofit that is focused on engaging every child in book choice and ownership, cultivating literacy-rich communities.

Book Trust serves some of the highest-need students in our school that do not have consistent access to books or the means to purchase books. We know that book access is the single biggest barrier to literacy for many of our students and their families. Book Trust offers a solution by providing students with an opportunity to choose books of interest via Scholastic Book Clubs flyers, at no cost to them, every month of the school year.

Our students look forward to choosing books and are filled with excitement every month once their books arrive and on Book Celebration Days. Book Trust has helped to foster the love for reading. Students are filled with genuine anticipation and excitement each month! Learning to read and learning to love reading helps young people succeed academically and graduate with increased skills and knowledge, resulting in a more highly educated, skilled, and successful populace.

Book Trust is providing equitable access to books of choice and creating a culture of literacy in the classroom and at home positively affects motivation to read and reading practices and habits.

I offer my full support of Book Trust and their mission without reservation to assist them in their important work in Hawaii. I hope you will consider supporting the organization as well. Thank you for the consideration. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me if you have any questions.

Mahalo,

Corey Nakamura, Principal
Elsie H Wilcox Elementary School
corey.nakamura@k12.hi.us
808-274-3150



September 13, 2024

To Whom It May Concern:

It is with great pleasure that I offer my support for Book Trust, a nonprofit that is focused on engaging every child in book choice and ownership, cultivating literacy-rich communities.

Book Trust serves some of the highest-need students in our school that do not have consistent access to books or the means to purchase books. We know that book access is the single biggest barrier to literacy for many of our students and their families. Book Trust offers a solution by providing students with an opportunity to choose books of interest via Scholastic Book Clubs flyers, at no cost to them, every month of the school year.

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Mahalo,

Jennifer Sakai, RTI Teacher & Book Trust Manager
Elsie H Wilcox Elementary School
jennifer.ota@k12.hi.us
808-274-3150

Book Trust
Statement of Financial Position
June 30, 2024
(With Comparative Totals as of June 30, 2023)

	2024	2023
Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 1,997,309	4,013,591
Contributions and grants receivable (note 3)	57,127	328,019
Prepaid expenses and other assets	25,307	42,381
Total assets	\$ 2,079,743	4,383,991
 Liabilities and Net Assets		
Accounts payable	\$ 72,917	324,591
Accrued payroll liabilities	55,429	185,827
Deferred revenue	37,500	23,750
Refundable advance (note 3)	350,000	350,000
Total liabilities	515,846	884,168
 Net assets		
Without donor restrictions	1,311,885	2,971,953
With donor restrictions (note 4)	252,012	527,870
Total net assets	1,563,897	3,499,823
 Commitments (note 5)		
Total liabilities and net assets	\$ 2,079,743	4,383,991

See the accompanying notes to the financial statements.

BOOK TRUST
Dorcy Foundation Support For Hawaii Schools
7/1/2024 - 6/30/2025

	<u>12 schools</u> <u>5,841 Students*</u>
REVENUE	
<u>Donations</u>	
Dorcy Foundation	\$ 25,000
Foundations	-
Foundation Secured Funding	126,480
Foundation Pending Funding	100,000
Other Donations	157,934
Events	120,000
Total Donation Revenue	529,414
School Fee Revenue- Secured	<u>135,000</u>
Total Revenue	<u><u>\$ 664,414</u></u>
EXPENSES	
<u>Program Expenses</u>	
Books	\$ 332,820
Teacher Training, Resources, & Program	
Operations	<u>175,931</u>
Total Program Expenses	<u>508,751</u>
<u>Support Services</u>	
Administration	35,864
Promotion & Fundraising	<u>119,799</u>
Total Support Services	<u>155,663</u>
Total Expenses	<u><u>664,414</u></u>
NET PROFIT/(LOSS)	<u><u>\$ 0</u></u>

*Note: Student numbers are estimates and can change throughout the year.

Book Trust
Statement of Activities
Year Ended June 30, 2024
(With Comparative Totals for the Year Ended June 30, 2023)

	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	2024 Total	2023 Total
Revenue and Support				
Contributions and grants:				
Individuals	\$ 391,049	-	391,049	595,008
Foundations	899,400	813,800	1,713,200	1,475,242
Organizations	(4,431)	97,510	93,079	187,590
Corporations	2,728	-	2,728	169,111
Total contributions and grants	<u>1,288,746</u>	<u>911,310</u>	<u>2,200,056</u>	<u>2,426,951</u>
School fees	1,028,792	-	1,028,792	920,990
Special events revenue	227,802	-	227,802	178,958
Less costs of direct benefit to donors	(59,080)	-	(59,080)	(63,909)
Other income	86,440	-	86,440	109,640
	<u>2,572,700</u>	<u>911,310</u>	<u>3,484,010</u>	<u>3,572,630</u>
Net assets released from restrictions (note 4)	1,187,168	(1,187,168)	-	-
Total revenue and support	<u>3,759,868</u>	<u>(275,858)</u>	<u>3,484,010</u>	<u>3,572,630</u>
Expenses				
Program expenses	4,176,671	-	4,176,671	3,047,084
Supporting services:				
Management and general	318,217	-	318,217	470,299
Fund raising	925,048	-	925,048	927,347
Total supporting services	<u>1,243,265</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,243,265</u>	<u>1,397,646</u>
Total expenses	<u>5,419,936</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,419,936</u>	<u>4,444,730</u>
Change in net assets	(1,660,068)	(275,858)	(1,935,926)	(872,100)
Net assets at beginning of year	<u>2,971,953</u>	<u>527,870</u>	<u>3,499,823</u>	<u>4,371,923</u>
Net assets at end of year	<u>\$ 1,311,885</u>	<u>252,012</u>	<u>1,563,897</u>	<u>3,499,823</u>

See the accompanying notes to the financial statements.

Book Trust
Statement of Functional Expenses
Year Ended June 30, 2024
(With Comparative Totals for the Year Ended June 30, 2023)

	Program Services			Supporting Services				
	Books	Program Operations	Total program services	Management and general	Fund raising	Total supporting services	2024 Total	2023 Total
Book costs	\$ 3,545,639	-	3,545,639	-	-	-	3,545,639	2,580,616
Discounts on books	(531,860)	-	(531,860)	-	-	-	(531,860)	(386,449)
Book costs, net	3,013,779	-	3,013,779	-	-	-	3,013,779	2,194,167
Salaries and related benefits	-	735,647	735,647	266,156	678,631	944,787	1,680,434	938,808
Professional and contract services	-	317,590	317,590	22,861	105,344	128,205	445,795	1,104,595
Payroll taxes	-	46,503	46,503	18,275	52,951	71,226	117,729	59,939
Fundraising event expense	-	-	-	-	71,028	71,028	71,028	76,024
Travel and school visits	-	17,659	17,659	1,764	48,519	50,283	67,942	30,254
Other office expenses	-	27,159	27,159	7,381	12,735	20,116	47,275	63,009
Information technology/software	-	12,774	12,774	1,363	9,799	11,162	23,936	16,868
Insurance	-	5,560	5,560	417	739	1,156	6,716	6,266
Miscellaneous	-	-	-	-	4,382	4,382	4,382	18,709
Total functional expenses	3,013,779	1,162,892	4,176,671	318,217	984,128	1,302,345	5,479,016	4,508,639
Less expenses included with revenue in the statement of activities	-	-	-	-	(59,080)	(59,080)	(59,080)	(63,909)
Total expenses	\$ 3,013,779	1,162,892	4,176,671	318,217	925,048	1,243,265	5,419,936	4,444,730

See the accompanying notes to the financial statements.