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**STUDENT COMIC BOOK CREATORS CELEBRATE THEIR WORK**  
**Comic books written and designed by kids in after-school programs**  
**throughout NYC on display in Upper East Side Barnes & Noble**

Kids and comic books. The love affair goes back generations. But since 2001, kids in New York City, and now around the world, have been writing, designing and publishing their own comic books through the Comic Book Project, a literacy initiative developed in partnership with TASC (The After-School Corporation) and NYC Department of Youth & Community Development.

On Thursday, May 28<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm, young creators of comics will be showcasing their work at the Barnes & Noble on the Upper East Side (150 E. 86<sup>th</sup> Street) during the Comic Book Project NYC Celebration. Heroes with super powers *and* super smarts will be tackling heady topics. In the past, young comics have written about things like bullying, environmental protection and financial literacy.

Since its inception, the Comic Book Project has reached 20,000 kids in New York City and over 200,000 around the world, and it has trained over 10,000 educators through workshops and professional development events.

The students' words and illustrations have made an impact, not just on their own lives (many early participants have gone on to careers in marketing and journalism, and one student from 2002 is getting his masters in digital media and animation at NYU), but also on the lives of people in their communities. One comic that featured the story of an abused child and his experience with foster parents was shown to the Arizona state assembly, leading to new legislation related to the foster care system.

The Comic Book Project fosters critical life skills: creativity, managing deadlines, accepting feedback, and collaboration, not to mention literacy, social awareness and character development.

*The Comic Book Project is a world-renowned literacy initiative that engages young people in the process of planning, writing, designing, and publishing original comic books. CBP publishes and distributes student work for other children to use as learning and motivational tools. By engaging youth in the creative process of brainstorming, sketching, plotting, designing, and finalizing original comic books, CBP enables students to become content creators, rather than mere information receivers.*



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For more information, visit: <http://www.comicbookproject.org/> or call/email founder Dr. Michael Bitz at 917.674.0014 / [mbitz10@gmail.com](mailto:mbitz10@gmail.com).