



## *Great Grants and Initiatives*

**Grantor: Bohemian Foundation**

**Grantee or Initiative: Book Trust**

**Grant: Support to expand to Lincoln Junior High**

Book Trust enriches the literacy culture of families in need by providing children the opportunity to choose, own, and delight in books. Book Trust, a nonprofit organization located in Fort Collins, Colorado, enables children identified as qualified free or reduced lunch in students in their school districts to choose and purchase books every month of the school year.

Every year since its inception in 2000, Book Trust has added locations, classrooms, and students. After being piloted in three Colorado classrooms in spring 2000, the program has steadily expanded. In 2007-2008 Book Trust grew by nearly 280% during the school year, to serve 115 schools in six states – California, Colorado, Hawaii, New Hampshire, New York, and Texas. Washington and Florida are on the horizon!

*“Book Trust is an incredible equalizer for Lincoln Junior High students. Lincoln participants are excited about ordering, receiving, and reading their own books. Many of these students who would have previously considered themselves as non-readers, now embrace this opportunity. Students are heard talking about the books they received and are reading. They share books with each other and recommend books to others. Book selection is often based on sequels, author, topic, and/or peer recommendations. Without Book Trust, these same students would not have had the opportunity or pride of book ownership. These students would not have considered themselves readers, but through book choice and ownership, literary strengths are developed. This self-perception creates an equalizing break for adolescences facing low socio-economic situations. Thank you for including Book Trust at Lincoln Junior High School.” Jill Wood, Lincoln Reading Teacher*