

Proskauer Reads to New York City Students, Partners with Read Ahead

August 7, 2017

August 7, 2017 (NEW YORK) – Proskauer is a proud partner of Read Ahead, an organization that promotes literacy in elementary schools through mentoring and one-on-one weekly read-aloud sessions. The Firm's relationship with Read Ahead began four years ago and was initiated by partner Andy Bettwy.

Through the partnership, Proskauer volunteers read to elementary students at two schools near its New York office. The Firm's volunteers are committed to spending meaningful time with the children, helping to arm them with tools they need to learn and grow. By instilling in children a deep love of reading, Read Ahead volunteers improve those students' odds for success both at school and beyond.

Read Ahead's annual fundraising gala "Books and Beyond" is chaired by partner Julie Allen, who is also a passionate volunteer. Drawing 300 guests to the Tribeca Rooftop last May, the gala surpassed its goal and raised nearly \$600,000 for Read Ahead. Julie has chaired this event for four consecutive years. She noted the impact of the Firm's partnership with the organization, saying, "Being involved with Read Ahead means making an impact. All of the children benefit from the time and care we give to them. We're not just giving them the tools to excel in school, we're giving them the tools and confidence to succeed in life," she said.

Partner Margaret Dale, a longtime volunteer for Read Ahead, adds, "Read Ahead is important to me because it allows me not only to help a child learn to read, but also to teach them about opportunities they might not otherwise know about. In the process, we all make a new friend, which feels great too."

Proskauer places special importance on advancing education as part of its corporate social responsibility and pro bono initiatives, guided by a belief in creating and supporting programs that lead to lasting change.

- **Andrew Bettwy**

Partner

- **Margaret A. Dale**

Partner