

**Lucia Bocchino for Promising Young Artists Update:  
January 15, 2020  
NJPAC, Newark, New Jersey**

**CHILDREN'S EDUCATIONAL ART BOOKS PRESENTED TO NEWARK PUBLIC  
SCHOOL ART TEACHERS**



On January 15, 2020, the Lucia Bocchino Fund for Promising Young Artists presented 65 educational, art-centric children books to the Visual Art Teachers of the Newark Public Schools at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJPAC) auditorium.

Members from the Lucia Bocchino Fund, NJ Transit, and the Newark Public School System's Director of Visual & Performing Arts, Margaret El, gathered with over 150 teachers for

the presentation. Artist Serena Bocchino, writer and illustrator of What Am I? The Story of an Abstract Painting, donated these books as a community outreach as part of her Public Art Installation that was recently exhibited at Newark Penn Station. A component of the installation featured page by page displays of the children's book, depicting the creation of abstract art. The temporary public art installation, at Newark Penn Station, included 27 illustrations from the book, enlarged to 3 x 5 feet installed from October 2019 to January 2020.

*The teachers were thrilled to receive the books that contain teaching lessons for the children and positive messages about inclusion, creativity, and friendship.*

*Alex Bocchino and Serena Bocchino, Board members, for the Lucia Bocchino Fund for Promising Young Artists were in attendance. Christine Blanco, from NJ Transit, and the initiator of the TRANSITIONALarts project spoke to the teachers about her vision to enhance transit stations with public art Installations across New Jersey. NJ Transit and New Jersey State Council for the Arts chose Ms. Bocchino as the inaugural artist for Newark Penn Station's Public Art Installation, which included illustrations from one of her art books for children (What Am I? The Story of an Abstract Painting) and three other large public art installations based on her paintings.*