

Lehrman Foundation

The Jacob & Charlotte Lehrman Foundation



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On behalf of the Jacob & Charlotte Lehrman Foundation Board of Directors, I am pleased to announce that the Literacy Lab (www.theliteracylab.org) has been selected as the 2011 Lehrman Foundation Impact Award recipient (www.lehrmanfoundation.org)!

Under the leadership of Founder and Executive Director Ashley Johnson, the Literacy Lab provides high-quality, targeted reading remediation to low-income students in order to increase their literacy skills, leading to increased academic success and greater opportunities in life. By providing individualized reading instruction which targets fundamental skills, the Literacy Lab's trained tutors lead students to higher reading levels and increased confidence.

Now in its third year of programming, the Literacy Lab is working one-on-one with 300 underserved students in DCPS and public charter schools, providing each student with approximately 50 hours of individualized/personalized reading instruction. During a six-month period last year, participating students increased their reading ability by an average of 1.74 grade levels.

As the winner of the 2011 Lehrman Impact Award, the Literacy Lab will receive a one-time \$25,000 grant to strengthen its infrastructure, and ultimately serve more students.

After a thorough review process and meetings with several organizations, One World Education (www.oneworldeducation.org) was the finalist for the 2011 Impact Award. One World Education ("OWEd") works with students and educators to improve learning and literacy in DC schools and communities. By creating an academic outlet for students to share and improve their writing about culture and global issues, student writing is celebrated and serves as teaching tools for other students. Serving approximately 3,500 DCPS and public charter school middle and high school students this year (plus 1,000 additional students in MD and VA), OWEd has grown into an organizational leader that promotes youth literacy and develops peer-to-peer curriculum that empowers teachers and engages students.

Both the Literacy Lab and One World Education are partners of Fair Chance (www.fairchancedc.org).

In 2001, recognizing the many programmatic and financial challenges non-profits face as they evolve, the Lehrman Foundation created the \$25,000 annual Impact Award to support an outstanding emerging non-profit organization that is making an extraordinary difference in the city. For more information on past recipients, please see <http://www.lehrmanfoundation.org/awards.html>.