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May 29, 2019

Book Trust Announces 2019 Schatz Teacher of the Year Award
Edison Elementary Teacher Earns Honor Among Nationwide Nominees

Council Bluffs – Book Trust today announced that Edison Elementary Teacher Becky Liston has been named the 2019 Schatz Teacher of the Year. Liston was chosen for the honor among teacher nominees dedicated to early literacy from across the country.

In its second year, the Book Trust Schatz Teacher of the Year Award recognizes teachers who best exemplify Book Trust’s mission of engaging every child in book choice and ownership, cultivating literacy-rich communities. Liston was nominated by fellow educator and Book Trust Manager, Sara Pruss. Pruss said, “Becky does a fantastic job of helping students choose books for their own reasons, personal interest and not a peer’s interest, because she believes in the research that when children choose what they read, they are more likely to read.”

The award was presented to Liston by Book Trust Founder and Board Member Adrienne Schatz as part of Edison Elementary’s “Breakfast and Books” celebration. Schatz said, “Teachers have always been key to the impact Book Trust makes in helping kids discover the joy and power of reading. This award recognizes that and the critical role teachers play in the lives of their students every day.”

Book Trust President and CEO Tiffany Kuehner, who also was on hand to present the award, said, “Edison Elementary has been a model in delivering the Book Trust program with commitment. We’re grateful for the leadership and partnership of Edison Principal Mike Naughton and his dedicated teachers, along with United Way of the Midlands and Scholastic Book Clubs, that help us make Book Trust possible for students here and in nine additional elementary schools in Nebraska and Iowa.”

Through the Book Trust program, 306 Edison students in kindergarten through third grade chose more than 5,000 new books that they celebrated, read, and took home to share with friends and families and start home libraries.

Across the country this school year, Book Trust engaged more than 57,000 students in choosing and owning nearly one million books.

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