

## Good Shepherd Academy Students Named 2017 National Book Challenge Winners

*Local Nutley students awarded for publishing their own book*



Nutley, N.J., May 10, 2017 – Local educator, Miss Anna Anselmo, and the kindergarten class at Good Shepherd Academy has been announced as one of Studentreasures Publishing National Book Challenge winners for the 2016-2017 school year. Each of the 18, kindergarten authors were recognized for their contributions to their book, *“Our Imaginary Friends”*, that was published earlier this year through one of Studentreasures’ free publishing programs.

Miss Anselmo’s class came up with the idea for *“Our Imaginary Friends”* after thinking about the fun characters in their favorite movie, *“Inside Out”*. The kindergarten authors put in their best effort, writing and illustrating their imaginary friends, from Fluffy, who is made of cotton candy, to Foxy the Koala, that loves to sing and climb trees, before they sent it off to be published.

“My students are very proud of their accomplishment! The process of creating our book was a lot of fun and a truly memorable experience. We are honored to have been selected as winners for the National Book Challenge and because of our accomplishment my students look forward to writing each day!” said Miss Anna Anselmo, Kindergarten teacher at Good Shepherd Academy.

As winners of the National Book Challenge, Miss Anselmo’s classbook was selected from entries across the country and was awarded based on the originality, creative storyline and illustrations of their book. This nationwide contest was open to more than 800,000 books that were submitted to Studenttreasures for publishing this school year.

“At Studenttreasures, we are fortunate to witness creativity and talent in classrooms around the country. We especially congratulate Miss Anselmo and her students for earning this achievement and completing a project that provides lasting memories and a one-of-a-kind keepsake,” said Chad Zimmerman, President and Chief Executive Officer, Studenttreasures.

“Educators share that creating and publishing their own books through our easy publishing programs motivates students to write, inspires students to learn, instills pride and makes learning fun for these students.”

#### *About Good Shepherd Academy*

Good Shepherd Academy is a Pre School through 8th academy located in Nutley, NJ. Good Shepherd Academy provides a sound foundation of Christian ethics and intellectual achievement within an atmosphere of gospel centered values, while fostering its Catholic identity and fulfilling the Church’s mission: “assisting young people to see and understand the role of faith in one’s daily life and in the larger society.” The administration and faculty are committed to providing a rigorous curriculum aligned with relevant standards and 21<sup>st</sup> century skills.

#### *About The National Book Challenge*

The National Book Challenge is part of Studenttreasures’ publishing programs, which incorporates fun lesson plans, and is easy to enter. All Studenttreasures published authors are eligible. For more details about the program and a complete list of winners, visit The National Book Challenge.

#### *About Studenttreasures Publishing*

Named “best free school publishing program” Studenttreasures has helped more than 400,000 teachers create exciting writing lessons and turn more than 12 million students into proud authors of their own beautiful hardbound books. For more than 30 years, the leading student publishing company has partnered with nearly 30,000 schools through its book publishing programs. With the goal of helping every child become a published author, the free program provides engaging, hands-on art and writing lessons – including online book publishing – in classrooms across the United States and Canada.