



New York Nonprofit Press

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servicing people who serve people



Elected Officials “Get Caught Reading” at Leake & Watts

Leake & Watts is celebrating Get Caught Reading Month, a national public service campaign designed to remind people of all ages how much fun it is to read. Through Get Caught Reading events, community leaders will spend time in classrooms, reading their favorite childhood book to preschool children (ages 3-5) and elementary school students from low-income communities, many of whom have special needs.

New York State Senator Andrea Stewart-Cousins, New York State Assembly Members Mark Gjonaj, Shelley Mayer, and Gary Pretlow, Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano, New York City Council Members Anabel Palma and Andy King, and Westchester County Legislators Catherine Borgia are the first community leaders scheduled to visit several Leake & Watts preschools and elementary school in the Bronx and Yonkers. Last week, Yonkers City Councilmember Michael Sabatino read to preschoolers at the Leake & Watts Ames Center.

“Leake & Watts is excited to have our community leaders join us for Get Caught Reading Month so that our young children see how enjoyable reading can be, see other adults as positive role models, and learn about the value of public service,” says Leake & Watts Executive Director Alan Mucatel.

“Reading aloud is one of the most important activities for improving literacy. I appreciate the opportunity to read with the students of Leake & Watts, and share with them my own love of reading and books,” said Assemblymember Mayer. “As educators, we know the importance of reading and early childhood education. Activities such as this are critical.”

“There is little more important that elected offi-



Yonkers City Councilmember Michael Sabatino read to preschoolers at the Leake & Watts Ames Center last week.

“Reading to young children early on contributes significantly to positive emotional, social and intellectual development. I’m excited to read to the students of the Brownell School and Seabury Day Care Center for Get Ready to Read month.”

“The window to your future is reading,” said Council Member Andy King. “I am honored to celebrate Get Caught Reading Month by reading to the students at Biondi Elementary School.”

Additional upcoming events include:

- May 16: Westchester County Legislator Catherine Borgia will visit the Marion & George Ames Early Childhood Learning Center at 463 Hawthorne Avenue in Yonkers.
- May 16: NY Assembly Member Gary Pretlow will visit the Biondi Elementary School at 1529 Williamsbridge Road in the Bronx.

- May 22: NY Assembly Member Shelley Mayer will visit the Marion & George Ames Early Childhood Learning Center at 463 Hawthorne Avenue in Yonkers.
- May 30: NYC Councilwoman Annabel Palma will visit both the Leake & Watts Dr. Katharine Dodge Brownell Preschool at 450 Castle Hill Avenue in the Bronx and the Leake & Watts Seabury Day Care Center at 575 Soundview Avenue in the Bronx.
- May 30: State Senator Andrea Stewart-Cousins will visit the Marion & George Ames Early Childhood Learning Center at 463 Hawthorne Avenue in Yonkers.