



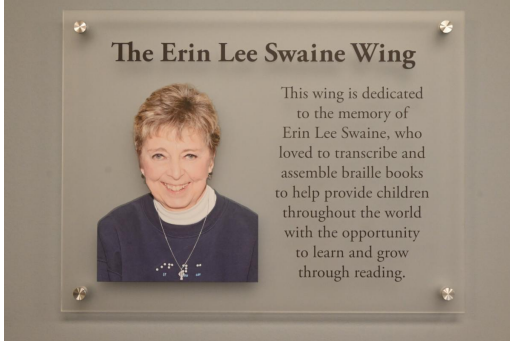
2025 Spring Newsletter

Seedlings' Open House RECAP!



Image description: The crowd watching as ZuZu reads from Braille Boy with Amanda Hercula holding the microphone for him.

**Seedlings' office expansion
introduces the new Erin Lee
Swaine Wing!**



In honor of Seedlings' super supporter and dedicated volunteer, Erin Swaine.

image description: A photo of the Erin Lee Swaine Wing plaque.

Livonia-Westland Chamber Ribbon Cutting Ceremony!



Image description: Seedlings' staff in front of a red ribbon while Executive Director, Amanda Hercula holds scissors for the ceremony.



image description: a photo of ZuZu with a microphone held up for him as he flips through Braille Boy.

You can watch the ribbon cutting ceremony and ZuZu Sampson's FULL Braille Boy reading here:

[Open House Recap Video](#)



image description: our merch table at the Open House with staff helping a customer.

We unveiled our NEW MERCH which can be found in our online shop for purchase. All sales go directly towards book production!

[Shop](#)

Now!



image description: attendees in line for snacks at the Open House.

This incredible event was made possible thanks to our event sponsor:
The David W. Elliott Memorial Foundation



GOAL MET!!!

DOUBLE YOUR IMPACT!

\$5,000 DONATION MATCH

sponsored by David W. Elliott
Memorial Foundation

*Thank you for helping us raise a
total of \$5,190*

image description: A graphic reads "Double your impact! \$5,000 Donation Match sponsored by David W. Elliott Memorial Foundation. Thank you for helping us raise a total of \$5,190."

They also sponsored our **\$5,000** match donation challenge. We are proud to announce that we have met and surpassed our goal ending with **\$5,190** raised! Thank you all for your participation and support.

We would also like to thank our food and equipment donors: Busch's, Absopure, Costco, and Phoenix Theatres, and Shaw Construction & Management Co.!



We got so many amazing photos from the night, thanks to our employee Kelly! You can view the full event photo album here:

[Open House Photo Album](#)

Seedlings' Labeling Party!



image description: photo of two volunteers holding up board books.

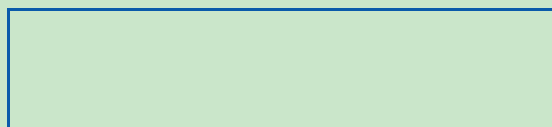
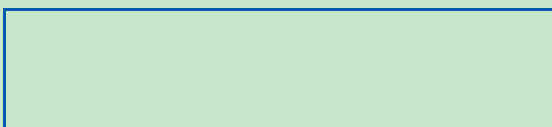
We recently held a labeling party for volunteers from Community Financial Credit Union to help out with labeling our books! A huge thank you to the CFCU team!

If you are interested in volunteering with Seedlings, we need more volunteers with **afternoon availability**.

Please contact our volunteer coordinator, Wren, at:
wren@seedlings.org or 734-427-8552 ext. 3005.

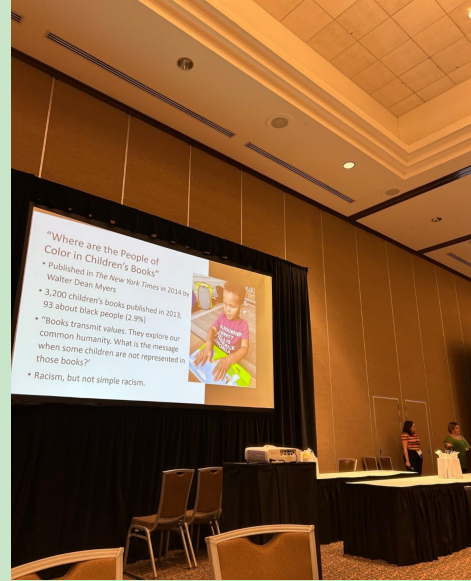
MAER Conference

Seedlings was able to share resources at the annual MAER held in the Lansing Center.





Our founder, Debra Bonde was awarded the MAER David & Joann Search Lifetime Achievement Award.



Current Executive Director, Amanda Hercula, gave a presentation on diversity and representation in children's books with her sister, Jessica KusKu.

NEW updates to our **ADOPT-A-READER PROGRAM!**



Our 'ADOPT-A-READER' Program is changing

We are expanding eligibility to...
Minnesota, Iowa, and Wisconsin
residents!

The application process will now
be done through our website:
[https://www.seedlings.org/free-
programs/adopt-a-reader-form/](https://www.seedlings.org/free-programs/adopt-a-reader-form/)

Questions?
Contact Community Outreach
Assistant, Lauren:

lauren@seedlings.org
734-427-8552 x 3007



image description: An adopt a reader graphic has the information listed below with a photo of a child smiling at the camera and the Seedlings logo.

APPLY HERE

As a reminder, you may reapply EACH calendar year to receive 10 FREE books. This program does not auto-enroll. You must resubmit each year.

For questions, please direct to our Community Outreach Assistant, Lauren at lauren@seedlings.org or 734-427-8552 x 3007.

SAVE THE DATE! Seedling's Annual Online Auction



SEEDLINGS' ANNUAL ONLINE AUCTION

October 20-23,
2025

Help raise over \$50,000 For
Seedlings Braille Books for
Children to provide 5,000+
braille books to children with
vision loss!




Sponsorship opportunities available!

Bid on Gift Cards,
Certificates, Tickets,
Weekend Getaways, Golf
& Spa Packages & more!




Questions?
Contact us!

Find our page at:
biddingforgood.com/braillebooks

 734-427-8552

Caleigh, Ext. 3006

 Caleigh@seedlings.org

Seedlings is a 501(c)3 organization. Federal ID 38-2565354

image description: 2025 auction flyer with contact info listed, the website and QR code, and text "Help raise over \$50,000 for Seedlings Braille Books for Children to provide 5,000+ braille books to children with vision loss! Bid on Gift Cards, Certificates, Tickets, Weekend Getaways, Golf & Spa Packages & more!"

Seedlings will host its yearly online auction from
October 20th-23rd, 2025!

Our auction relies on sponsors and item
donations. For more information on sponsorship

packages and item donations, visit:

Online Auction
Details

Check out our AMAZON WISHLIST!



*image description: a braillo in the office with
braille cells on the wall that spell "READ".*

With the growth to our facility, we have updated our [Amazon Wishlist](#) to include essential office supplies that helps keep us running smoothly every day. If you would like to support our mission in a simple but impactful way, check out our updated wishlist:

Seedlings' Amazon
Wishlist

We Need Your Feedback!

If you currently receive our book catalog, please share your thoughts with us:

I like receiving the physical catalog

I only need a digital copy

Our New Titles!

Seedlings' new titles this month:

#1642 The Turtle of Oman

#1643 She Persisted: Deb Haaland

#1644 Gracie Under the Waves

#5032 Spectacular Stories for Curious Kids:
Sports Edition

#1641 Horrible Harry Goes to the Moon

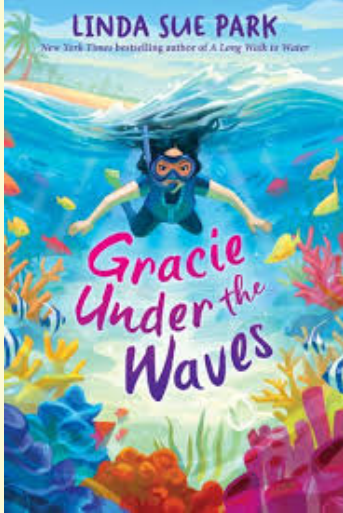


Image Description: The cover of Gracie Under the Waves..

#1640 Fizz and the Handbag Dognapper
#1639 Eerie Elementary: The School is Alive
#1638 Dragon Masters #4: Power of the Fire Dragon

Shop
Now!

Seedlings Spotlight



Image description: Seedlings reader, Willow, is pictured with a braille picture book in front of her while smiling.

Willow (pictured) was one of Seedlings' readers! Read this quote we received from her guardians:

"My name is Willow. I am 2 years old. I had a severe HIE at 3 months, causing vision loss and cortical vision impairment. I love the Seedlings braille books because I can touch and feel the pictures and the braille. I learned how to turn the pages with help using these specific ones. My favorite book is "Baby Animals Touch and Feel". I need help holding the books because I have not learned how to sit or hold my head up to do so alone. My brain is degenerative and one day, I would like to donate the books back so others can enjoy them as I do."

We were deeply saddened to receive news from Willow's guardian that she passed away, as her condition was terminal. We hope to honor her memory here at Seedlings and send our wishes to her loved ones. Thank you Willow for being one of our readers!

[Seedlings Website](#)

[Donate](#)

[How You Can Help](#)

800-777-8552
P.O. Box 51924
Livonia, MI 48151

Contact Us



Seedlings Braille Books for Children is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization. Federal ID 38-2565354. All donations are tax deductible to the full extent of the law.

Seedlings Braille Books for Children | 14151 Farmington Road | Livonia, MI 48154 US

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!