



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Ashley Pontius | National Strategies Public Relations

Phone: 813-409-4091 | Email: apontius@nspublicrelations.com

**REACH OUT AND READ OF GREATER NEW YORK TO HOST ANNUAL
BENEFIT, *A BOOK FOR EVERY CHILD*, HONORING ELIE TAHARI,
RENOWNED FASHION DESIGNER AND GLOBAL PHILANTHROPIST**

NEW YORK (Oct. 3, 2025) – Reach Out and Read Greater New York is proud to honor world-renowned fashion designer and philanthropist Elie Tahari with the 2025 Literacy Leadership Award for his longtime support of early childhood literacy at its Annual Benefit: *A Book for Every Child*, on Tuesday, Oct. 21 at Tribeca Rooftop in New York City. Selected for his deep commitment to giving back to children in need, Tahari embodies the resilience, creativity, and generosity that reflect the very mission of Reach Out and Read of Greater New York.

“We are honored to recognize Elie Tahari for his incredible legacy of perseverance and philanthropy,” said Emily Marchese, Executive Director of Reach Out and Read of Greater New York. “His commitment to uplifting children and families reflects our world to build a healthier, more equitable future through early literacy.”

Born in Jerusalem, Mr. Tahari spent his childhood in an Israeli orphanage before immigrating to New York City at 19, with his talent and a determination to succeed. From those humble beginnings, he built his company from scratch into a global fashion powerhouse.

A longtime supporter of children’s charitable causes, Mr. Tahari shares Reach Out and Read of Greater New York’s belief that reading together builds strong families and unlocks a child’s greatest potential.

“Books opened my imagination as a child and gave me hope for a better future,” said Elie Tahari. “I am deeply honored to support Reach Out and Read of Greater New York’s mission to give every child the same opportunity to dream, learn, and thrive.”

Marchese added: “Mr. Tahari’s personal journey mirrors the aspirations of the families Reach Out and Read of Greater New York serves, ambitious and hopeful communities striving to create better futures for their children.”

The event will be hosted by Carol Anne Riddell, award-winning journalist and host of CUNY TV's *Arts in the City* and *Book It*. The evening will include cocktails, dinner, an awards ceremony, and a spirited auction led by professional auctioneer Pat Tully.

Event Details

Reach Out and Read of Greater New York
Annual Benefit: A Book for Every Child
Tuesday, October 21, 2025
6-10 p.m.
Tribeca Rooftop
2 Desbrosses Street
New York, NY 10013

Purchase tickets: onecau.se/abookforeverychild

Event-related inquiries: gala@reachoutandreadnyc.org

Each year, Reach Out and Read of Greater New York recognizes exceptional medical professionals who go above and beyond to promote early literacy, support whole families, and advance health and education equity across the region. The honorees are nominated by their peers and embody the heart of Reach Out and Read of Greater New York's mission in their daily work.

This year's Pediatric Impact Award recipients include:

The Health Equity Advocate Award

Lauren Jen, MD, FAAP
The Children's Aid Society

The Advocate for Diverse Books Award

Cheryl Archbald, MD, MPH, FAAP
Montefiore Medical Group

The Jack E. Pace III Living, Breathing Reach Out & Read of Greater NY Award

Warren Seigel, MD, MBA, FAAP, FSAHM
NYC Health + Hospitals/South Brooklyn Health
& Vanessa Salcedo, MD, MPH, FAAP
Union Community Health Center

The Trusted Messenger Award

Robert Clarick, MD
Montefiore Medical Group

The Whole Family Advocate Award

Jeannette Martinez
Family Health Centers at NYU Langone

The New Champion Coordinator Award

Suanne Kowal-Connelly, MD, FAAP

Harmony Healthcare Long Island

Each year, Reach Out and Read of Greater New York serves over 250,000 children, from birth to 5 years old, across 220 clinics in Greater New York, with a focus on serving high-need families. The nonprofit distributes over 400,000 free books yearly in more than 10 languages, reaching hundreds of thousands of children across the city and helping families build early literacy skills at home. Benefit proceeds support the heart of Reach Out and Read of Greater New York's mission: to provide a book for every child at every checkup in New York City, Long Island, and the Hudson Valley. Funds raised strengthen Reach Out and Read of Greater New York's programs and ensure more children across the region have access to the resources they need to succeed. To learn more, visit: www.reachoutandreadnyc.org.

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About Reach Out and Read of Greater New York: For over 25 years, Reach Out and Read of Greater New York has prepared young children for success by partnering with pediatric providers to integrate books and reading guidance into well-child visits, helping families build strong literacy routines and bonds at home. This evidence-based program fosters early literacy, encourages a love of reading, and strengthens family connections to support thriving communities. As part of the nationwide Reach Out and Read, the vibrant network reaches families across the United States, supporting 9.3 million well-child visits annually, including a quarter of a million families in the Greater New York region alone. Through this nationwide work, over six million new books are distributed each year, more than 30,000 medical providers are engaged, and over 6,000 program sites offer reading guidance to families at every routine well-child visit. The Reach Out and Read of Greater New York annual benefit celebrates philanthropists and community champions in the local region committed to advancing early literacy and family well-being. Reach Out and Read of Greater New York's programs currently reach 39 percent of children under five in the region, with plans to expand to 50 percent within the next five years. To learn more, visit: www.reachoutandreadnyc.org.

About Elie Tahari: Elie Tahari is a globally recognized fashion brand known for its timeless elegance, modern sophistication, and impeccable craftsmanship. For over 50 years, the brand has embodied effortless luxury, offering meticulously tailored ready-to-wear collections that blend classic silhouettes with contemporary design. Now in a bold new era, the brand fuses luxury with a downtown edge, redefining power dressing through sharp tailoring and fluid movement to empower a new generation. With a presence in over 800 retailers in-store and online across 40 countries, and more than \$1B in gross revenue, the brand continues to set the standard for refined style, dressing those who own their presence with quiet power and undeniable confidence. For more information, visit <https://www.elietahari.com/>.