

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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GET GRAPHIC! BOOK PUBLISHED, AVAILABLE FOR SALE

Buffalo, NY – The Buffalo & Erie County Public Library and its partners in *Get Graphic! The World in Words and Pictures* has announced the publication of a graphic novel created entirely by teenagers from Western New York. The book was published courtesy of Hein Publishing, who was a partner in the project.

The graphic novel, which features the original artwork of 53 students from area schools, was unveiled at a reception for the artists, their families and the project partners on Saturday, May 16th at the Central Library. *Get Graphic! Our World in Words and Pictures* is available for sale in person at the Central Library's gift store *Novel Ideas* for \$10.00 plus tax or by phone using Mastercard, Visa and Discover card at (716) 858-7198 for \$10.00 plus tax and shipping and handling.

Get Graphic: The World in Words and Pictures is a community-wide two year project designed to introduce teens, parents, librarians and teachers to the exciting and extremely popular literary format of graphic novels. The project is aimed at engaging adolescents aged 14 to 18 with educational and creative activities designed to increase literacy and lifelong learning. The graphic novel was the culmination of the two year initiative. The project was made possible by a Family Literacy Library Services grant from the New York State Library, New York State Education Department, which was announced last summer.

Get Graphic is a collaborative project that is comprised of partners from throughout Western New York, including the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library, the Nioga Library System, UB Libraries, UB Department of Library and Information Studies, the Albright-Knox Art Gallery, The Buffalo News *Next* Magazine, Erie I BOCES School Library System, Hein Publishing, Buffalo Public Schools Library System and WBFO radio.