

## Trinity Access Programmes (TAP) Bookmarks

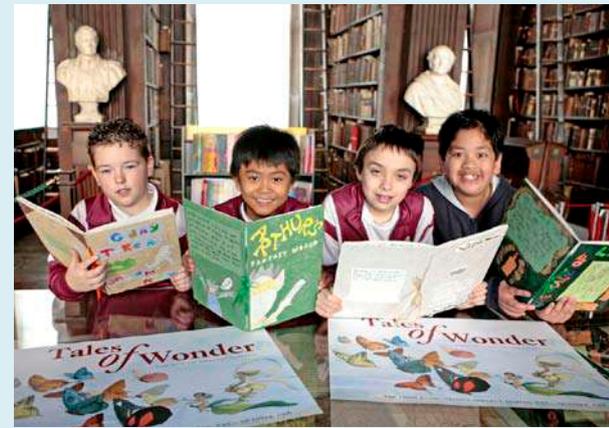
The Trinity Access Programmes (TAP) are a key part of Trinity's social mission. TAP aims to increase participation in education by students from non-traditional backgrounds, to address educational disadvantage and to create a university campus that mirrors the diverse composition of Irish society.

Since 1993, TAP has worked in partnership across the education sector and with families, communities and businesses to widen educational access through a range of innovative, targeted educational programmes. TAP provides a continuum of support to primary, second-level, young adult and mature students, enabling them to overcome barriers and fulfil their educational potential.

### Bookmarks

The **Bookmarks** programme is a story writing, illustration and bookbinding workshop series, for 10 - 12 year olds delivered by TAP in collaboration with the Trinity College Library and the School of English.

**Bookmarks** aims to inspire children to become the next generation of Irish authors, illustrators and publishers. The programme places a strong emphasis on raising levels of literacy and on developing children's writing skills and creativity.



### The Programme

The **Bookmarks** programme is one of a number of outreach activities for primary schools which aim to build a positive relationship between school students and Trinity College Dublin, with the hope of raising their aspirations regarding third-level study.

Delivered, both in-school and on-campus by artists, authors and TCD academics, **Bookmarks** features three months of workshops aimed at helping children to write, illustrate and bind their own handmade books.

The children also have access to Trinity's outstanding collection of Children's Books which cover three centuries - The Pollard Collection; as a stimulus for their creativity and as a means of learning about their own literary and cultural heritage.

The programme ends with an awards ceremony and a public exhibit of the children's handmade books in Trinity's Long Room.



*"TAP is very proud of the Bookmarks programme and the unique opportunity which it provides for children to acquire new skills and to be exposed to the world of children's literature in a very hands-on manner. The quality of the children's books are excellent, and with continued involvement in TAP's outreach programmes, which attract over 4,000 students annually, these same students and their peers will successfully make the transition to both second and third level."*

**Kathleen O'Toole, TAP**

## Supporting TAP

TAP's mission has been strongly supported by a range of businesses, individuals and Trinity Alumni groups. We are extremely grateful for this invaluable support which has ensured that a transformative educational experience is available to people of all ages from disadvantaged areas of Dublin – one which will impact on their own families and communities for generations to come.

In addition to State funding, TAP endeavours to secure at least one third of the cost of all programmes from private philanthropic or corporate sources. This support has allowed TAP to continue to learn, grow and innovate. We are keen to ensure this support is sustained through these challenging times so that we can continue to offer hope and opportunity to those most at risk from adverse economic circumstances.

### Why support the Trinity Access Programmes?



Support for TAP helps change lives, transform communities and is in a very real way an investment in Ireland's future. To sustain this pioneering work, TAP is seeking the imaginative support of partners in social responsibility. By supporting TAP you will be helping to:

- Create opportunities and eliminate barriers for bright students from under-represented backgrounds
- Prepare the role models and leaders of the future in their schools and communities
- Change negative expectations and make a real difference in communities affected by disadvantage
- Effect positive change in the Irish education system
- Make a direct and lasting impact on thousands of lives.

*"I really enjoyed the project and I found out that I have a very big imagination."*

*"This has been brilliant and I recommend it to anyone. I hope that many more people get a chance to do this."*

*"My most enjoyable part of Bookmarks was being able to design my own book and feel what it's like to be an author and illustrator."*

#### 5<sup>th</sup> class Bookmarks participants

*"The children thoroughly enjoyed the experience and were very disappointed to see it come to an end."*

*"The children really enjoyed it and gained lots of creative ideas from it. The workshops were constructive, creative and the children participated and engaged in them. The artists were brilliant and I would highly recommend their work."*

#### Class teachers of Bookmarks participants



**If you are interested in finding out more about TAP, or would like information on how to get involved as a supporter, please contact:**

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