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Book Industry Charitable (Binc) Foundation Celebrates 20 Years of Helping Booksellers

Ann Arbor, MI – The Binc Foundation announces the celebration of twenty years of helping booksellers and their families in times of financial hardship. Due to the generosity of dedicated book people including book industry associations, bookstore owners, bookstore employees and publishers, thousands of booksellers across the country have been helped by Binc's charitable programs, which include financial assistance grants and higher education scholarships.

The Foundation was born on February 20, 1996 in response to the desire of Borders employees across the U.S. to help each other during times of crisis. This simple idea pooled the donations of Borders staff and created a safety net for coworkers facing personal financial emergencies. In 2011, with the liquidation of Borders, the Foundation could have ceased to exist. Fortunately, the nonprofit's Board of Directors put their trust in the Foundation's staff to continue and expand operations industry wide as the Book Industry Charitable Foundation (Binc).

Today, Binc continues the mission that has led it from the beginning, to strengthen the bookselling industry through charitable programs that support booksellers and their families. Book people from across the industry have embraced helping each other and the results have exceeded everyone's expectations. Since 1996 over \$5.2 million has been given in financial assistance grants and scholarships to more than 6,900 bookstore employees and their dependents. The majority of Binc donors will be fortunate enough never to need an assistance grant, they donate with the desire that started it all, to help their friends and colleagues through times of hardship.

The Foundation has planned a yearlong anniversary celebration aimed to improve awareness of how Binc helps bookstore employees who are facing a personal financial crisis and highlighting achievements. If you would like to help ensure the future of the Foundation and help continue the essential work Binc is doing to assist booksellers and their families, please consider taking Binc's [20 for 20 Challenge](#) by donating \$20 or by signing up as a sustaining donor at \$20 per month. More information can be found at <http://www.bincfoundation.org>.

About The Book Industry Charitable (Binc) Foundation

The Book Industry Charitable Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that coordinates charitable programs to strengthen the bookselling community. Established in 1996, the core program provides assistance to bookstore employees who have a demonstrated financial need arising from severe hardship and/or emergency circumstances. Since its inception, the organization has provided over \$5.2 million in financial assistance and scholarships to more than 6,900 families. Support for the Foundation's programs and services come from all sectors of the book industry.

The Book Industry Charitable Foundation's mission is to strengthen the bookselling community through charitable programs that support employees and their families. The Foundation was imagined and built by booksellers and proudly continues to be their safety net. It is our vision to be a caring community of book people.

Additional information can be found at <http://www.bincfoundation.org>. ###