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**Project Poetry & Pictures Partners with Reach Out and Read to Donate
900 books to Detroit Area Pediatricians**

April 2010 (Wellesley, MA) – In celebration of National Poetry Month, Project Poetry & Pictures, a program of the Kurzweil Foundation, Wellesley, MA, is pleased to announce the donation of 900 copies of the book, *Forever Poems for Now and Then* to the greater Detroit area coalition of Reach Out and Read. *Forever Poems for Now and Then* is co-written by mother and daughter and illustrated by great masters. Each original poem is paired with a great work of art. The books will be distributed to the waiting rooms of pediatrician offices, children's clinics and hospitals.

Project Poetry & Pictures (PP&P), established in 2004, serves children and families facing disadvantages or challenging circumstances and seeks to promote literacy and arts through two major endeavors. The first is book donations to organizations serving children and families. The other is poetry and art educational activities in elementary school classrooms and after school programs. In 2005, PP&P, partnered with Reach Out and Read to give 1400 books to New England pediatric medical offices.

Reach Out and Read (ROR), a national organization, was founded in 1989 in Boston and is affiliated with Boston Medical Center. It is endorsed by the American Academy of Pediatrics. Among its literacy enriching initiatives, ROR sponsors training of doctors and nurses to advise parents about the importance of reading aloud and to give books to children at pediatric check-ups from 6 months to 5 years. ROR places books in medical waiting rooms where volunteers are staffed to read to children, encouraging a literacy rich environment.

“We are extremely pleased to be celebrating National Poetry Month and partnering with Reach Out and Read again for this Detroit area donation” said Dr Sonya Kurzweil, Director of Project Poetry & Pictures. “It is our final phase of donating this book and we will be ending in a personally meaningful way for me. As a young immigrant child growing up in Detroit and Oak Park Michigan, books were a luxury. To participate in

lessening this hardship for children where I grew up is very gratifying for me especially during these challenging economic times in the Detroit area”.

For more information about Project Poetry & Pictures, please visit www.projectpoetryandpictures.org.