PRESS RELEASE

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RUNNING PRESS

CONTACT
Gabby Piccirilli
610-592-5222
gpicciri@runningpress.org

RUNNING PRESS KIDS' BOOK DONATION PROGRAM BRIDGES EDUCATIONAL GAP

75,000 Books Donated to Impoverished U.S. Elementary Schools Through Run Into Reading Program

PHILADELPHIA, PA, Mar. 19 —Data from the Department of Education revealed that in the United States, 13 million children are enrolled in school districts where the children's materials circulation is less than 10 per student. This includes 3.4 million students in poverty and 6.6 million students of color. Running Press Kids, home to 160+ titles from board books to nonfiction for middle grades, sought to address this gap and initiated a book donation program, Run Into Reading.

Running Press Kids donated 75,000 books to impoverished elementary schools across the United States, hoping to ensure disadvantaged students have adequate access to reading materials in the classroom. Deliveries arrived in each of the 50 states and have made their way into classroom libraries.

"At RP Kids, we are deeply committed to publishing content that we believe will help children understand important issues such as wellness, mindfulness, inclusion, and self-care," said Kristin Kiser, Senior Vice President and Publisher of the Running Press Group. "We are so grateful to have the opportunity to make an impact in elementary schools across America and have selected books we feel will inspire and enrich young learners."

The titles selected include "I Am Somebody" by Nyasha Williams, "Your Freedom, Your Power: A Kid's Guide to the First Amendment" by Allison Matulli, and "Love Bubble" by Harold Green III. Each book discusses societal issues playfully and can be easily understood by elementary-aged students while fostering empowerment among the younger generation. Many of the books have accompanying activity sheets available for free download on the RP Kids' website for teachers to integrate into lesson plans.

"Having these new books has done wonders for our classroom and given me an avenue to talk about important issues at the students' level. "I Am Somebody" is a storytime favorite. We are so thankful to Running Press for their generosity," said Michele Frank, first-grade teacher in Camden, New Jersey.

Running Press Kids begins to plan for their next donation by connecting with other schools in need, as well as organizing author readings at select elementary schools. During April and May, Williams, Matulli, and Green will engage students by reading excerpts from their books and leading classroom activities.

Running Press publishes titles that inspire, entertain, and delight readers with innovative formats and Irresistible packages. RP Adult publishes humor, pop culture, lifestyle, mystical wellness, self-help, and inspiration; RP Kids includes board books, picture books, and YA and MG fiction and nonfiction; RP Studio features joyful journals, decks, and puzzles; and RP Minis includes collectibles and mini books. Black Dog & Leventhal publishes content-rich, visually captivating books on subjects like popular culture, social history, science, sports, games, and photography, for adults and younger readers. Avalon Travel includes Moon Travel Guides and Rick Steves' best-selling travel guides to Europe.

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