



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Rhode Island Center for the Book Announces the 2021 *Reading Across Rhode Island* title:  
*Stamped: Racism, Antiracism, and You* by Ibram X Kendi and Jason Reynolds**

**PROVIDENCE, RI** – *Reading Across Rhode Island*, Rhode Island’s One Book, One State community read program kicks off its 19<sup>th</sup> year by encouraging everyone to read *Stamped: Racism, Antiracism, and You* by **Ibram X Kendi and Jason Reynolds** with this year’s Honorary Chair Val Tutson, multiple award winning storyteller and Executive Director of Rhode Island Black Storytellers. *Reading Across Rhode Island* is a program of the **Rhode Island Center for the Book**, made possible through a vibrant collaboration of librarians, teachers, book group leaders and readers from across the state.

*I’m honored that STAMPED has been chosen as the Reading Across Rhode Island book. I spend a lot of time in Rhode Island and have a special love for the state, so I’m excited to discuss this book, and all it contains, with you all April 8th!*

-Jason Reynolds

### **About This Year’s Book**

**The #1 *New York Times* bestselling, “must-read” (*San Francisco Chronicle*), “amazingly timely and stunningly accessible” (Jacqueline Woodson) exploration of race and racism from award-winning, beloved authors Jason Reynolds and Ibram X. Kendi.**

*This is NOT a history book.*

*This is a book about the here and now.*

*A book to help us better understand why we are where we are.*

*A book about race.*

The construct of race has always been used to gain and keep power, to create dynamics that separate and silence. This remarkable reimaging of Dr. Ibram X. Kendi’s National Book Award-winning *Stamped from the Beginning* reveals the history of racist ideas in America and inspires hope for an antiracist future. It takes you on a race journey from then to now, shows you why we feel how we feel, and why the poison of racism lingers. It also proves that while racist ideas have always been easy to fabricate and distribute, they can also be discredited.

Through a gripping, fast-paced, and energizing narrative written by beloved award-winner Jason

Reynolds, this book shines a light on the many insidious forms of racist ideas—and on ways readers can identify and stamp out racist thoughts in their daily lives.

-Little, Brown and Company

### **About the Author**

Jason Reynolds is an award-winning and #1 *New York Times* bestselling author. Jason's many books include *Miles Morales: Spider Man*, the Track series (*Ghost*, *Patina*, *Sunny*, and *Lu*), *Long Way Down*, which received a Newbery Honor, a Printz Honor, and a Correta Scott King Honor, and *Look Both Ways*, which was a National Book Award Finalist. His latest book *Stamped: Racism, Antiracism, and You*, is a collaboration with Ibram X. Kendi. Jason is the 2020-2021 National Ambassador for Young People's Literature and has appeared on *The Daily Show with Trevor Noah*, *Late Night with Seth Meyers*, and *CBS This Morning*. He is on faculty at Lesley University, for the Writing for Young People MFA Program and lives in Washington, DC. You can find his ramblings at [JasonWritesBooks.com](http://JasonWritesBooks.com).

Jason Reynolds author website: <https://www.jasonwritesbooks.com>

Jason Reynolds Twitter: <https://twitter.com/JasonReynolds83>

### **Reading Across Rhode Island Kicks Off virtually on January 26<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 - 7:30 pm with the Pell Center at Salve Regina University**

Readers are invited to join moderator Jim Ludes, Executive Director, Pell Center for International Relations and Policy, Providence Mayor Jorge Elorza, Honorary Chair Val Tutson and Reading Across Rhode Island Education Chair Maureen Nagle for an engaging introduction to the book. Register at [ribook.org](http://ribook.org).

**April 8<sup>th</sup> Jason Reynolds Reading Across Rhode Island Author Event** Registration will be available on the Rhode Island Center for the Book website in February. Look for other upcoming book-related events throughout the year at **[ribook.org](http://ribook.org)**.

**Contact** Kate Lentz at [kate@ribook.org](mailto:kate@ribook.org) for sets of books available to classroom teachers, library discussion groups and senior centers. Further reading lists, book discussion guides, the author's website, audio interviews and other supplementary materials may be found on the Rhode Island Center for the Book website at **[ribook.org](http://ribook.org)**.

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**Rhode Island Center for the Book** is a 501(c)(3) not for profit organization devoted to promoting personal and community enrichment by celebrating the art and heritage of reading, writing, making, and sharing books. Founded in 2003, the RI Center for the Book is the state affiliate of the Center for the Book at the Library of Congress and resides at The Pell Center at Salve Regina University.

**PHOTOS ATTACHED:** *Stamped* Book Cover, Author photo