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 19th 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 reimagining 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.

Jason Reynolds author website: https://www.jasonwritesbooks.com
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Reading Across Rhode Island Kicks Off virtually on January 26th 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.

April 8th 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.

Contact Kate Lentz at 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.

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