

Lambda Theta Nu Sorority, Inc.

LambdaThetaNu.org



Cristina Mendoza
Director of Communications
communications@lambdathetanu.org

June 12, 2020

Lambda Theta Nu Sorority, Inc. Donates \$20,000 to the Anti-Racist Children's Book Fund by the Conscious Kid

Providing service to our communities is one of the three core pillars that drive our organization. Since its inception, Lambda Theta Nu Sorority, Inc. has been dedicated to enhancing educational opportunities for the Latinx community. Tijeras, our national philanthropy program, was initiated in 2001 and has been instrumental in achieving this mission. Tijeras is a Spanish word for “scissors”; two blades held together by a pin. Likewise, our national community service program is represented by the two blades of academic excellence and community service held together by the pin of our sisterhood, the three core pillars upon which our organization was founded.

In 2012, we honed in on early childhood literacy as our focus for our philanthropic efforts. Research has solidified time and time again that early literacy provides learning experiences that are linked to reduced grade retention, academic achievement, higher graduation rates, and generally, fosters greater creativity and enhances communication and social skills. “Lambda Theta Nu Sorority, Inc.’s philanthropic mission is to advance early childhood literacy in ways that go beyond basic reading but also exposure to diverse ideas, cultures, characters, art, and values through literature. In the pursuit of our ideals the sisters of Lambda Theta Nu Sorority, Inc. have donated \$20,000 to the Anti-Racist Children’s Book Fund curated by The Conscious Kid,” said Vice-Chair, Anaka Rivera.

For nearly 20 years, Lambda Theta Nu Sorority, Inc. undergraduate chapters’ have been raising funds to support Latinx Literacy and have fundraised over \$193,115 since the start of the program. On a yearly basis, chapters across the country host fundraisers and advocate for literacy within their communities by bringing awareness to university campuses. We have also allowed members of our Alumnae Association to contribute to this fund when remitting their yearly dues - continuing their undergraduate commitment as working professionals in our communities. With these funds, our organization creates a national grant that goes to a fellow 501(c)(3) non-profit organization whose mission is dedicated to promoting literacy and access to education.

Considering current events, the National Board of Directors, on behalf of the membership, redirected Tijeras funds to aid an organization that truly encompasses our mission and we will assist them in

Lambda Theta Nu Sorority, Inc.

LambdaThetaNu.org



further cutting through the barriers that the lack of literacy creates. The Conscious Kid's *Anti-Racist Children's Books Education Fund* is designed to counter racist socialization, structural racism, and racial bias. Naming race and racism early and often is one of the most critical and practical ways to resist and disrupt oppression. The Anti-Racist Children's Book Fund gets books into classrooms throughout the country. The fund supports forty-one books that will foster critical conversations, between teachers and students, on individual, systematic and internalized racism. Through literacy, they are able to talk about the issues around racism and also give children the tools necessary to take action.

“As an educator, I have followed The Conscious Kid for a few years and have incorporated many of their book suggestions into my classroom instruction. I am ecstatic to know we are contributing to an organization that will get these necessary books into classrooms all over the country,” said Director of Community Service, Dolores Jimenez. Our hope is that our donation to The Conscious Kid will help promote access to children's books centering around underrepresented and oppressed groups throughout our nation.

###

About Lambda Theta Nu Sorority, Inc.

Founded in 1986, Lambda Theta Nu Sorority, Inc. is nonprofit based on the ideals of community service, academic excellence, and sisterhood. Members represent a diverse group of women of different backgrounds, fields of study, and professional arenas. United by determination, strength, and honor; the sorority celebrates the richness of Latino culture, fosters academic achievement, and serves local, college campuses, and the community at large through a common bond of sisterhood. For more information, visit <http://www.lambdathetanu.org>

About The Conscious Kid

The Conscious Kid is an education, research, and policy organization dedicated to reducing bias and promoting positive identity development in youth. We partner with organizations, children's museums, schools, and families across the country to promote access to children's books centering underrepresented and oppressed groups. For more information, visit <https://www.theconsciouskid.org/about/>