

# SAMPLE News Release

Release Date: <DATE>

For immediate release  
<CONTACT INFO>

## ***Diversity Rocks the Book Recruiting Guest Readers***

This coming <MONTH>, the <ORGANIZATION> will run a city-wide program that addresses the lack of diversity in children's literature. **Diversity Rocks the Book** will put more than <NUMBER> diverse books in front of and into the hands of <CITY> students, to begin to create for them a world in which all children can see themselves in the pages of a book. The <ORG> is recruiting Guest Readers to visit local classrooms during the month of <MONTH> and read one of the selected books. Interested individuals can <INSTRUCTIONS FOR RESPONDING> to be a guest reader; <CITY> teachers will be able to schedule a guest reader by <INSTRUCTIONS FOR TEACHERS>.

Diversity Rocks the Book was inspired by current national efforts to support diversity in books led by Dr. Rudine Sims Bishop, Professor Emerita of Education at Ohio State University and grass-roots efforts such as We Need Diverse Books. Both argue that when children cannot find themselves reflected in the books they read, or when the images they see are negative, or laughable, they learn a powerful lesson about how they are devalued in society. The program was created by the City of Holland, MI in 2018 and is being replicated in communities across the state.

The <CITY> DRB project planning committee, comprised of local educators, librarians, and service organization representatives, selected picture books, chapter books, and middle grade novels for this year (see attached list). In selecting the titles, the committee considered a wide array of characters, experiences, and points of view. All of the titles were released this past year.

<LOCAL QUOTE> “

For more information visit <WEB ADDRESS>.

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