MEDIA ADVISORY

Media Contact: Mersadies Hunter

E: <u>mhunter@literacycooperative.org</u>

P: 216-776-6189

CLEVELAND – Cuyahoga County Organizations Partner for Read Across America Day, Encouraging Families to Celebrate Diversity and Inclusion in the World Around them through Reading

Cuyahoga County organizations will join the annual National Education Association's (NEA) Read Across America Day celebration on Wednesday, March 2. NEA's Read Across America Day, the nation's largest celebration of reading, expects more than 45 million readers of all ages to pick up a book and read.

To celebrate the fun and importance of reading, The Literacy Cooperative is asking you to join NEA and our many partners to bring a community of readers together for a flurry of reading excitement!

We encourage families to celebrate this year's theme of diversity and inclusion through cooking recipes together, listening to stories, or reading books from diverse authors using the hashtag #CLEReads2022 and #ReadAcrossAmerica. We have developed a great list of local authors, diverse books, and family-friendly recipes. Our goal is to show children and families the enjoyment of reading and to build a diverse community of readers on March 2nd and every day.

Literacy is vital for academic and professional success. Research shows that regularly reading aloud with your young child stimulates their brain and expands their understanding of the world.

WHO: The Literacy Cooperative, Oberlin Kids, Cleveland Heights and University Heights City Schools, MomsFirst, Cleveland Department of Public Health, Ideastream, Cleveland Metropolitan City Schools, Invest in Children, The Centers for Families & Children, Family Connections, Starting Point, Towards Employment, Cuyahoga Community College, Reach Out and Read, Division of Children and Family Services, Cuyahoga County Public Library, Rocky River Public Library, Cleveland Kids' Book Bank, Literacy Innovations, Collinwood Reads, Senders Pediatrics, Dickens Reads, Cleveland Public Library, and surprise guest appearances from local authors!

WHAT: Online story readings, social media interaction, and events throughout Cuyahoga County – visit <u>www.literacycooperative.org/media/news/raaday2022</u>/, for story time schedules, featured authors and books, and partner events. Throughout the day, we and our partners will be showcasing local authors through pre-recorded book readings and interviews and inviting the community to post pictures on social media of them reading together or enjoying a suggested recipe.

WHEN: March 2nd is the event date, but reading is important every day!

WHERE: At home, online, and in person!

About The Literacy Cooperative: The Literacy Cooperative is an umbrella organization that brings foundations, organizations and people together to find practical solutions to improve literacy. Our advocacy seeks to implement a 2Gen, or whole family, approach to learning – knowing that when families learn together, each individual family member is set to succeed. Learn more here.

About The National Education Association: The National Education Association is the nation's largest professional employee organization, representing 3.2 million elementary and secondary teachers, college faculty, school administrators, education support professionals, retired educators and students preparing to become teachers.

