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ANNOUNCING THE HIGHLIGHTS FOUNDATION DIVERSITY FELLOWSHIP IN CHILDREN'S LITERATURE

Honesdale, PA—The Highlights Foundation has announced The Diversity Fellowship in Children's Literature, a 24-month professional development and mentorship program for People of Color and Indigenous authors or illustrators who are actively pursuing publication within the children's publishing industry.

The Diversity Fellowship will include a robust curriculum specifically intended for professional development; access to a Mentor specifically selected and dedicated to one full year of one-to-one professional coaching; full travel and tuition costs to attend the five workshops at the Highlights Foundation that make up this Fellowship; and opportunities to meet and network with peers and industry professionals.

Our Mentors are author/illustrator Floyd Cooper, author Debbi Michiko Florence, author Emma Otheguy, author Paula Chase Hyman and author Yvonne Wakim Dennis.

The Foundation will begin accepting applications for the Diversity Fellowship on March 15. Applications will look at writing and/or illustrating ability, seriousness of purpose, and potential to make a significant impact on children's publishing.

"We are excited to see this program come together, and grateful to the many industry professionals, authors, and illustrators who have contributed to the thinking and planning behind this program," said George Brown, Executive Director of the Highlights Foundation.

For a full description, please visit <u>www.HighlightsFoundation.org/diversity-fellowship</u>.

The Highlights Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit whose mission is to improve the quality of children's literature. For 35 years, the Highlights Foundation has been teaching the craft of writing and illustrating for children and young adult audiences.