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Birmingham Talks Presents “Storytime”– An Inaugural Annual Fundraiser That Celebrates the Power of Words and Supports Early Literacy

“We are writing the future of Birmingham, together.”

BIRMINGHAM, AL – Birmingham Talks, a local nonprofit that offers free early literacy programs for children aged five and under, is excited to host its first annual fundraising event, “Storytime.” The event will take place on Thursday, September 14th, from 5:30 to 7:30pm, at Lumi (located at 2201 2nd Ave S, Birmingham, AL 35233), and promises to be an unforgettable experience.

Birmingham Talks, in partnership with 1504 (a local narrative studio), has curated an impressive exhibit and lineup of live performances that will not only captivate guests but highlight the profound role that words and early literacy play in our community.

Citywide impact. Lifelong impact.

Children need to hear over 21,000 words daily for optimal brain development, and over 92% of children in Birmingham who enter Birmingham Talks programs receive far less than that. As a direct result of these programs, children from lower-talk environments increase their word exposure by approximately fifty percent.

Birmingham Talks has served more than 2,000 children and families since its inception in 2019. The organization recently received a historic \$1M investment from the City of Birmingham, a testament to its impact on our city and on our children's futures.

As a celebration of our success to date, our mission, and our future, “Storytime” will feature an interactive exhibit that melds data with heartfelt personal stories from program participants. This special exhibit will provide an enlightening look at the power of early literacy in and for our community.

The joy of stories and reading

Enjoy an evening of captivating live performances by renowned artists, including Pulitzer Prize-winning author John Archibald, Grammy-nominated duo The Secret Sisters, award-winning author Randi Pink, pop culture commentator Jamie B. Golden, and award winning poet Salaam Green.



Thank You Books brings a touch of nostalgia to “Storytime” with a “book fair for grown-ups,” inviting guests to revisit the enchantment of school book fairs and explore a thoughtfully curated collection of delightful reads.

Supporting early literacy initiatives

All proceeds from “Storytime” will support our early literacy programs and our goal of increasing interactive talk between children and their caregivers.

“We believe that every word has the potential to spark curiosity, ignite imagination, and shape futures. Storytime is not just an event; it’s a celebration of words, stories, and the roles they play in our lives,” said Ruth Ann Moss, Executive Director of Birmingham Talks.

To learn more about Storytime and purchase tickets, visit <https://www.classy.org/event/storytime/e495269>.

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About Birmingham Talks

Birmingham Talks supports the future stability and prosperity of our city by focusing on our most precious resource—our children. The organization’s innovative programs use cutting-edge technology and personalized coaching to increase interactive talk between babies and their caregivers—ensuring all the children in our community are prepared for both kindergarten and a life of economic mobility. Research shows that the earliest support helping kids develop language skills can have the most positive and cost-effective lifelong impact. Together, we’re ensuring that Birmingham can become the best city in America to raise a child under five. To learn more visit www.bhmtalks.org.