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Media Contact: Margret Aldrich
612-203-6856/maldrich@littlefreelibrary.org

Little Free Library Celebrates Milestone 100,000th Library

In recognition of this landmark, LFL nonprofit organization will donate 100 Little Free Library book-sharing boxes to schools, community centers and other sites that serve children

Hudson, WI (March 11, 2020) – Little Free Library® (LFL) today unveiled its 100,000th book-sharing box, which was donated to the Association for the Advancement of Mexican Americans (AAMA) in Houston. To celebrate this milestone, LFL is granting 100 Little Free Library boxes to sites that will create greater book access for children.

The 100,000th Little Free Library, found at AAMA's outreach center at 204 Clifton Street, joins LFL's global network. Since the first Little Free Library book-sharing box was created in 2009, they have been established in all 50 U.S. states and 108 countries.

"Reaching today's 100,000 Little Free Library milestone is a testament to the worldwide network of passionate volunteer stewards who support book access," said LFL Executive Director Greig Metzger. "Through their efforts, over 36 million books will be shared this year. Book access is the foundation of literacy development, which in turn provides for healthy, engaged and prosperous communities. We are honored to support that global effort."

AAMA, which is marking 50 years of serving Latino families this year, received the 100,000th Little Free Library via LFL's [Impact Library Program](#), a donor-driven initiative that places little libraries in underserved areas. The library features the artwork of award-winning illustrator John Parra from the book *Little Libraries, Big Heroes*. In addition to the library, AAMA will receive free English- and Spanish-language books for a year, provided by learning company Houghton Mifflin Harcourt (HMH).

"The impact that the Little Free Library will have on the students, clients and families we serve is truly incredible," said Joe Jimenez, President and CEO of AAMA. "What better way to support literacy than through a hands-on approach that this library will provide? It will enable us to forge partnerships with our community and the parents, thereby playing a critical role in their development as an educated family unit."

The launch ceremony of the special Little Free Library included a ribbon-cutting, story time with Miss Houston, free books for preschool students in attendance, and remarks from Jimenez and Metzger,

including the announcement of the 100 Little Free Library giveaway. Separate from the event, Mayor Sylvester Turner declared March 11, 2020 “Little Free Library Day” in Houston.

Little Free Library invites sites that serve children in the U.S. and Canada—such as schools, community centers and public libraries—to apply to receive one of 100 Little Free Library book-sharing boxes at LittleFreeLibrary.org/lfl-100. Each library will include a starter set of children’s books provided by HMH. The application is open until April 11.

“We want these libraries to reach organizations that help a critical constituency: children and their families in book deserts,” said Metzger. “The data is clear; books in children’s hands accelerate and strengthen reading skills. Little Free Library wants to continue to be a catalyst for learning success.”

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NOTE TO EDITORS: Additional photos available upon request. Photo credit: Vicky Pink, © Little Free Library

About Little Free Library: Little Free Library (LFL) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that inspires a love of reading, builds community, and improves book access by fostering neighborhood book-exchange boxes around the world. LFL has received recognition from the Library of Congress, the National Book Foundation and others for its dedication to expanding book access for all. There are 100,000 Little Free Library book-sharing boxes worldwide; through them more than 165 million books have been shared. To learn more, visit LittleFreeLibrary.org.

About the Association for the Advancement of Mexican Americans: AAMA was established in 1970 as the Association for the Advancement of Mexican-Americans. AAMA provides services to nearly 10,000 individuals annually. The nonprofit’s efforts are focused in the areas of educational attainment, workforce readiness, health and well-being. The mission of AAMA is to inspire and empower Latinos to pursue their potential and achieve success. For nearly 50 years, AAMA has been one of the most effective organizations in the state to help Latino families to become healthy and productive citizens. Learn more at aama.org.

About HMH: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt (NASDAQ: HMHC) is a learning company committed to delivering connected solutions that engage learners, empower educators and improve student outcomes. As a leading provider of K–12 core curriculum, supplemental and intervention solutions and professional learning services, HMH partners with educators and school districts to uncover solutions that unlock students' potential and extend teachers' capabilities. HMH serves more than 50 million students and 3 million educators in 150 countries, while its award-winning children's books, novels, non-fiction, and reference titles are enjoyed by readers throughout the world. For more information, visit hnhco.com.