

Thank You

Dear Gordon Philanthropies,

I wanted to take a moment to express my deepest gratitude for your support in bringing my children's book to students at Century Park Elementary School. Being a product of this school, it meant the world to me to come back and visit as an author, alumni, and educational leader. Meeting and interacting with students who sit in a seat that I once sat in was an unforgettable experience.

As the author of the picture book, *First Black Girl: Black Women Who Opened the Door for Black Girls*, I am humbled and overjoyed to make reading relevant and fun. Your generous contribution has made it possible for me to share my love for storytelling and inspire young minds. Seeing the students' excitement and curiosity was truly heartwarming, and I am grateful to have had the opportunity to share my story and experience as an author with them.

I am appreciative to have been a part of their journey and to have played a role in fostering their love for books. Your support has not only made a difference in my life but also in the lives of the children who have benefited from your generosity. Thanks to your support, you allowed little ones to see someone that look like them in illustrations and words written on each page. You have given them the gift of literacy and imagination, and for that, I am incredibly grateful.

Once again, I would like to thank you for your support. I hope to continue to make a positive impact through my work, and your sponsorship has made that possible.

Warm Regards,



Loretta Johnson-Smith, Ed.D.

