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Lead to Read KC's New Season of Author Visits Starts November 6

Kansas City, Mo., October 28, 2024 - <u>Lead to Read KC</u> launches another season of local author visits with interactive read-alouds at thirty-one partner schools. New this year, Chris Goode, founder and president of Ruby Jean's Juicery, will read his children's book *Ruby Jean's Garden* to students. Goode joins three other local writers in the Author Partnerships program which promotes health and wellness life skills for youth.

"Chris Goode's book aligns perfectly with our mission and we're absolutely delighted to share his work with the students we serve," said Rhea M. LeGrande, Lead to Read KC Executive Director. "Through our author visits, we're able to foster a love of reading while inspiring students to learn and practice healthy choices."

The first of the fall 2024 visits will take place:

November 6, 1-1:30 p.m. with Chris Goode
at Faxon Elementary, 1320 E 32nd Terrace, KCMO 64109

November 7, 12:15-12:45 p.m. with **Vladimir Sainte** at **Center Elementary,** 9401 Euclid Avenue, KCMO 64132

November 12, 12:30-1 p.m. with Nikiyah Crosdale at George Melcher Elementary, 3958 Chelsea Avenue, KCMO 64130

November 14, 11:30 a.m.-Noon with Kristen Heath at Carver Dual Language, 4600 Elmwood Avenue, KCMO 64130

All four of the authors in the program have created books that support social, physical and emotional learning skills. Author visits are scheduled at Lead to Read KC partner schools and each student in attendance receives a free copy of the author's book. These engagements with local writers are pivotal in promoting key wellness skills for all students, especially those dealing with anxiety, depression, or other trauma. Learn more about Reading for Life at Learn more about Reading for Life at Leadtoreadkc.org/author-partnerships/ or watch a video about the program on Lead to Read KC's YouTube channel.

<u>Lead to Read KC</u> is a children's literacy nonprofit dedicated to transforming Kansas City into a community where all students thrive academically and personally through unparalleled access to reading resources, mentorship and support.