

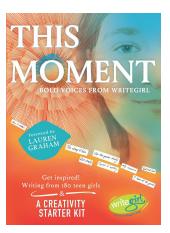
PRESS RELEASE

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New WriteGirl Anthology Showcases the Unheard Voices of At-Risk Teen Girls

From school violence and climate change to love, friendship and lemon meringue pie, *This Moment: Bold Voices from WriteGirl* contemplates issues firing up today's teens

- Showcasing brand-new work of nearly 200 at-risk teen girls
- Published by WriteGirl, recipient of National Arts and Humanities Youth Program Award
- Foreword by Lauren Graham, *Gilmore Girls* star and *New York Times* best-selling author of *Talking as Fast as I Can*

LOS ANGELES, CA: WriteGirl, the award-winning nonprofit focused on teen mentorship through creative expression, unveils its latest anthology, *This Moment: Bold Voices from WriteGirl*, on November 2, 2019. Written exclusively by teen girls in and around Greater Los Angeles, *This Moment* features the passions, fears and hopes of 180 young authors in the form of stories, poems, memoirs, lyrics and scripts.

In her foreword, Lauren Graham, *New York Times* best-selling author and WriteGirl mentor, contemplates the future impact of these young writers: "This is just the beginning of all these girls will do. With the power of the words they'll read and write in the future, they just might find the answer to everything."

Founded in 2001, WriteGirl is a nationally-recognized nonprofit creative writing and mentoring organization for at-risk teen girls. Through workshops, readings, publishing opportunities and one-on-one mentoring with professional women writers, WriteGirl helps girls discover the power of their voices and unleash their potential—at home, in school and beyond.

"The creative words of 180 teen girls burst through the pages of this new anthology," said WriteGirl founder and Executive Director Keren Taylor. "They offer wisdom, humor, warnings and rallying cries, and there is a fresh vitality here that is worthy of a book in print."

Attica Locke, Edgar-winning author and writer/producer of the forthcoming series *Little Fires Everywhere*, says of the anthology, "I am in awe of these young women's courage, lyricism, wisdom and grace on the page. They are bright lights on the literary horizon."

This Moment will be released to the public on November 2, 2019. WriteGirl's previous anthologies have garnered a total of 91 awards and honors to date and have been reviewed by national publications, including *Publishers Weekly*, the *Los Angeles Times Book Review* and *School Library Journal*.

About WriteGirl

<u>WriteGirl</u> is a Los Angeles-based creative writing and mentoring organization pairing at-risk teen girls with professional women writers for mentoring, workshops, readings, publications and assistance with college and scholarship applications. Now in its 19th year, WriteGirl has won more than 80 awards and honors and has maintained a 100 percent success rate in helping members graduate from high school and enroll in colleges across the nation. In 2013, First Lady Michelle Obama presented WriteGirl with the National Arts and Humanities Youth Program Award, a federal initiative in partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts, National Endowment for the Humanities and the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

For more information, visit <u>www.writegirl.org</u>.