



DIAS AND SO CAN YOU!

by MARLEY DIAS FOUNDER OF #1000BLACKGIRLBOOKS

Introduction by Ava DuVernay

Marley Dias Gets It Done (And So Can You!) **Marley Dias**

Founder, #1000BlackGirlBooks, Editor in Residence, Elle.com, and author, Marley Dias Gets It Done (And So Can You)

Interviewer: Taryn Robinson Chute Middle School Class of 2018, Evanston

Thursday, February 1, 2018, 6:00 PM Evanston Township High School Auditorium, 1600 Dodge Ave., Evanston, IL 60201

Presented by Family Action Network (FAN),

in partnership with Baker Demonstration School, Chute Middle School, ETHS D202, Evanston-Skokie D65, Foundation 65, the Joseph Sears School, the Wolcott School, and Youth and Opportunity United (Y.O.U.).

> This event is free and open to the public. Suitable for youth 6+. Info: familyactionnetwork.net





FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: MARLEY DIAS

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Thursday, February 1, 2018, <u>Marley Dias Gets It Done (And So Can You)</u>, 6:00 PM, Evanston Township High School Auditorium, 1600 Dodge Ave., Evanston, IL 60201. Marley Dias is the 13-year-old social activist behind #1000BlackGirlBooks, an international movement to collect and donate children's books that feature Black girls as the lead character. With the help of her mother's foundation, GrassROOTS Community Foundation, Ms. Dias launched the #1000BlackGirlBooks drive in November of 2015, leveraging the power of social media to reach a larger audience. The goal was to collect 1,000 books featuring Black female protagonists by February 2016. The story went viral and was picked up by media outlets around the world as well as bloggers, schools, youth-focused organizations, and thousands of individuals who wanted to participate in the project.

In *Marley Dias Gets It Done (And So Can You)*, an accessible "keep-it-real" guide, Ms. Dias explores activism, social justice, volunteerism, equity and inclusion, and using social media for good. She shows kids how they can galvanize their strengths to make positive changes in their communities, while getting support from parents, teachers, and friends to turn dreams into reality. Focusing on the importance of literacy and diversity, Ms. Dias offers suggestions on book selection and delivers hands-on strategies for becoming a lifelong reader.

In light of the #1000BlackGirlBooks campaign's huge success, Ms. Dias was recently named one of *Forbes* magazine's **"30 Under 30,"** and is a recipient of a 2017 *Smithsonian* magazine **"American Ingenuity Award."** In September of 2016, she began her role as **Editor in Residence** at **Elle.com** where she interviewed **Ava DuVernay, Misty Copeland**, and **Hillary Clinton**.

For the Feb. 1 FAN event, Ms. Dias will be interviewed **Taryn Robinson**, a 13-year-old 8th grade student at Chute Middle School in Evanston. Ms. Robinson's interests include dancing, filmmaking, and spending time with friends and family.

Sponsored by Family Action Network (FAN), in partnership with Baker Demonstration School, Chute Middle School, Evanston Township High School D202, Evanston-Skokie D6, Foundation 65, the Joseph Sears School, the Wolcott School, and Youth and Opportunity United (Y.O.U.). FAN is grateful for the support of its 2017-18 annual sponsors Compass Health Center, Evanston Township High School D202, New Trier High School D203, the Martin & Mary L. Boyer Foundation, Magnetar Capital, and Tina & Byron Trott; strategic partners Acclaim Media, the Butler Family Foundation, Center for Talent Development at Northwestern University, Connections for the Homeless, Curt's Café, Envestnet, Erikson Institute, Evanston/Skokie D65, the Finnegan Family Foundation, Grosvenor Capital Management, Hackstudio, Loyola University Chicago School of Law, the Mammel Foundation, the Master of Science in Education Program at the School of Education and Social Policy at Northwestern University, the McGaw YMCA, New Trier Parents' Association, North Shore Community Bank, Northern Suburban Special Education District (NSSED), Northwestern University, R4 Services, LLC, The Book Stall at Chestnut Court, The Family Institute at Northwestern University, Youth & Opportunity United (Y.O.U.), and YWCA Evanston/North Shore; and in-kind sponsors Kirkland & Ellis LLP and Turing Group.

