

<u>Media Contacts:</u> Justine David/Jalen Brandy Mower, 716-880-1427/716-465-5731 <u>JDavid@mower.com</u> / <u>JBrandy@mower.com</u>

Joy Testa Cinquino, Library, 716-858-7182, testaj@buffalolib.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Best-Selling Author Jacquie Abram to Discuss Her Award-Winning Book, Hush Money: How One Woman Proved Systemic Racism in her Workplace and Kept her Job, During Upcoming Community Events in Buffalo

Buffalo, New York (September 15, 2022) – International best-selling and award-winning author of *Hush Money: How One Woman Proved Systemic Racism in her Workplace and Kept her Job*, Jacquie Abram, will participate in two local community events, including a presentation and discussion with local corporate executives and government officials on the importance of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) and anti-racism practices within corporate spaces on Friday, September 30, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. at the Northland Workforce Training Center, 683 Northland Avenue. Abram will also discuss her book at a free community-wide event on Saturday, October 1, 2022 from 11:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. at the downtown Central Library Auditorium located at 1 Lafayette Square. The events are free and open to the public.

Abram earned the ranking of Amazon #1 Best Seller and is a recipient of the Readers Favorite gold medal for social issues novels. She is a sought-after keynote speaker who has been featured in Forbes, top digital media sites, and across social media platforms.

Prior to Abram's vocation as an author, and DEI and anti-racism consultant, she had an accomplished career in higher education. However, this tenure in a profession she loved was systemically stained by discrimination in the forms of covert and overt racism. Abram's first-hand experience as a Black woman navigating racism in corporate America led to the publication of *Hush Money*, a book inspired by true events and co-authored by her daughters. Abram began this journey as a self-published author selling books from the trunk of her car at parks and pop-up shops. Today, *Hush Money* is read in numerous countries around the world and has become an invaluable resource to anti-racism activists, allies, students, and employees and employers across the workforce.

Abram's presentation and discussion with local executives on Friday, September 30th will dive into the intricacies of her book and explore DEI solutions and best practices for companies to exercise. Attendees of the Saturday, October 1st community event will have an opportunity to participate in a Q&A discussion with Abram and receive a free copy of *Hush Money* while supplies last. Abram's book tour and visit to Buffalo is sponsored by the Library Foundation of Buffalo & Erie County in association the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library System, Ladybug Sharin' and the Buffalo NAACP.

About the Library Foundation of Buffalo & Erie County

Established in 1991, the Library Foundation of Buffalo & Erie County, Inc. is an independent not-forprofit organization dedicated to supporting Buffalo & Erie County Public Library System programs and projects that go beyond what is possible through public funding alone.

About Ladybug Sharin'

Ladybug Sharin' is the brand of Kimberly Johnson and her tribute to her late mother, Sharon A. Thomas, a former Chief Clerk of Buffalo City Court and a member and Chair of the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library Board of Trustees. Sharon was the first African American woman to hold both titles. Kimberly is the current Board Chair of the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library, a position she uses to further her interest in bringing people together on topics the are relevant to the community. She is a member of the 5/14 Steering Committee and a 2021 recipient of the Buffalo Black Achievers Award. Like her mother, Kimberly is passionate about the volunteer work she does for City of Buffalo libraries and is dedicated to serving her community.

About Buffalo & Erie County Public Library

Buffalo & Erie County Public Libraries, representing 37 libraries and the *Library on Wheels* bookmobile, circulated over 5.17 million materials, including over 1 million eBooks in 2021. Programming highlights include onsite and virtual events celebrating Black History Month, Women's History Month, and Indie Author Day, as well as health and wellness, career, and financial literacy fairs; technology and genealogy classes; family programs and more. Traditional and online library card applications are available in libraries and on the System's website at www.BuffaloLib.org/library-cards or by calling 716-858-8900.

