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PRESS RELEASE News For Immediate Release

New Happy Kwanzaa Sign on the New Haven Green!

NEW HAVEN, CT (December 13, 2022) -

Happy Kwanzaa Sign Joins New Haven Festival of Lights on the Green!

The members of Anti-Racism In Action (ARIA), a local anti-racist nonprofit with a mission to build an antiracist community, urges every member of the Elm City to get out the kinara and celebrate Kwanzaa! In honor of the international holiday, ARIA has placed a sign on the New Haven Green that reads Happy Kwanzaa. A seven day celebration that begins on December 26, Kwanzaa honors the seven African principles of Umoja, Kujichagalia, Ujima, Ujamaa, Nia, Kuumba and Imani.

"Kwanzaa is a recognition and celebration of our African roots. A time of reflection, it is a celebration for everyone, of every shade, who seeks more love in the world." says Rayna Walters, one of ARIA's CoFounders. "Our festivities are an opportunity for unity." Ms. Walters is joined by Co-founders Garrett Griffin, Jr and Kurt Zimmermann.

Kwanzaa is a time of healing and reconciliation through the celebration of first fruits. The principles of Kwanzaa provide guidance in coping with the issues of racism that permeate our society today. For more information about ARIA visit www.antiracisminaction.org.

ABOUT THE COFOUNDERS:

Rayna Walters, Garrett Griffin, Jr. and Kurt Zimmermann are three New Haven charter and public school teachers. Together, they have been working to eradicate racism and end its associated traumas. ARIA offers free anti-racist curriculum on its website, Professional Development for teachers and youth programs.