



**Los Angeles-based Social Impact Nonprofit *Let's Talk LD* Honors Disability Justice Advocate and Organizer Lydia X.Z. Brown, Esq. with its 2020 Beacon Award**

September 22, 2020 – Los Angeles-based Social Impact Nonprofit *Let's Talk LD* will honor disability justice advocate, organizer, educator, attorney, strategist, and writer Lydia X.Z. Brown, Esq. with the organization's **Beacon Award on Friday, September 25, 2020.**

“The Beacon Award is our organization’s way of celebrating those rare individuals who are audacious in their activism and single-mindedly committed to advancing meaningful and impactful reforms designed to produce equity in educational and employment opportunities for individuals who are neurodiverse,” said KD Harris, Co-Founder and Executive Director of *Let's Talk LD*. According to KD Harris, “Mx. Brown’s approach to activism is visceral, you experience it with every ounce of your being. They are unapologetic in conceptualizing programs and policies that are designed to shift power in ways that ensure equity, fairness, and justice for multi-marginalized disabled people.”

Lydia has been honored by the **White House, Washington Peace Center, National Council on Independent Living, Disability Policy Consortium of Massachusetts, National Association for Law Placement/Public Service Jobs Directory, Society for Disability Studies, and American Association of People with Disabilities**. In 2015, *Pacific Standard* named Lydia a Top 30 Thinker under 30, and *Mic* named Lydia to its inaugural list of 50 impactful leaders, cultural influencers, and breakthrough innovators. Their work has been featured in scholarly publications including *Disability Studies Quarterly*; *Addressing Ableism: Philosophical Questions via Disability Studies*; *Religion, Disability, and Interpersonal Violence*; *Barriers & Belonging: Personal Narratives of Disability*; *Feminist Perspectives on Orange is the New Black*; *Torture in Healthcare Settings*; and *Films for the Feminist Classroom*; and community publications including *The Asian American Literary Review*; *All In Your Head Zine: To The Bone*; *QDA: A Queer Disability Anthology*; *Criptiques*; *Disability Intersections*; *Black Girl Dangerous*; *hardboiled magazine*; *POOR Magazine*; and *NOS Magazine*. For more info on Lydia and their work <https://autistichoya.net/bio/>.

Lydia X.Z. Brown will also serve as one of the Keynote Speakers at *Let's Talk LD's 2020 College Planning and Transition Conference for Learners who are Neurodiverse* being live streamed on **Saturday, September 26, 2020** and **Sunday, September 27, 2020**. The Conference is one of only a handful of College Conferences in the nation that is designed and produced specifically for students who are neurodiverse (with diagnoses of Attention Deficit/Hyperactive Disorder, Autism Spectrum Disorder, and/or Specific Learning Disabilities). This conference presents opportunities for students Grades 8 through 12, current college students, their families, in addition to educational, therapeutic, and clinical professionals, to access relevant resources, gain insights from dozens of noted nationally-recognized college transition and neurodiversity experts, and to engage in relevant discussions concerning the college planning and transition journey. Info about the Conference can be found at <http://bit.ly/LTLDC20> and at [College Conference Session Agenda](#) .

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#### About Let's Talk LD

**Let's Talk LD** addresses critically important social justice and equity of educational opportunity issues faced by those in the neurodiverse community. It is our mission to meet learners with special needs where they are, at critical periods in their development and learning, in an effort to implement innovative programs that can support these learners in living productive and fulfilling academic, social, and professional lives defined by self-sufficiency, self-determination, and purpose.

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