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PRESS RELEASE

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**NON-PROFIT KIDS IN THE SPOTLIGHT CELEBRATES NEW PRODUCTION
STUDIO WITH RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY**

The event honored the first social enterprise in the entertainment industry focused on creating paid work opportunities for young adults aging out of foster care

LOS ANGELES – Kids In The Spotlight (KITS) is thrilled to announce the opening of their Production Studio with Purpose, and the ribbon-cutting ceremony that was held on March 30th, 2023 at the KITS studio located at 14200 Aetna St. Van Nuys, CA 91401.

The ceremony was graced by the presence of esteemed dignitaries, including Mayor Karen Bass, a strong advocate for foster youth and the arts, whom KITS surprised with an Impact Award for her work. Officials from City Council District 6 and California Senate District 12 were also in attendance, with Senator Menjivar's office presenting KITS a Certificate of Recognition for the grand opening. The ceremony program included KITS Ambassador Ty Burrell (Modern Family), longtime supporter Dawnn Lewis (Young Rock, A Different World) and Robin Winston, News and Traffic Anchor for NBC4's weekday morning newscast 'Today in LA' serving as Emcee alongside CEO Tige Charity and alumni of the KITS Script-to-Screen program.

Notable attendees included Earth, Wind and Fire's Philip Bailey, KITS 2022 Gary Burrell Humanitarian Award honoree and media personality Zach King, Hollywood Foreign Press Association President Helen Hoehne, Nika King (65, Euphoria), Renée Lawless (The Haves and the Have Nots), Nadine Ellis (Our Kind of People), Kirk Bovill (Winning Time: The Rise of the Lakers Dynasty), Joni Bovill (Bosch, Better Call Saul), and James Pickens, Jr. (Greys Anatomy).



The event was covered by KNBC, Telemundo and Fox 11, providing media coverage of KITS's mission and the efforts to bridge the equity and inclusion gap between the entertainment industry and the child welfare system by providing former foster youth with professional work opportunities.

KITS's studio is a social enterprise for film and television producers, allowing them to rent space that includes a minimum of two youth aged 18-24, serving as PAs per production. By doing so, KITS can create over 800 work opportunities annually for foster youth and generate revenue to build their Performing Arts Residential Academy for youth in foster care.

KITS believes that the support of dignitaries such as Mayor Karen Bass and KITS Ambassador Ty Burrell will bring greater awareness to the mission of KITS and inspire the community to come together to support the cause.

For those interested in supporting Kids in the Spotlight, donations are welcomed. Visit bit.ly/KITSSstudio

To learn more about KITS, please email press@kitsinc.org

About Kids In The Spotlight:

Kids In The Spotlight (KITS) is a Los Angeles County-based organization that helps foster youth heal and grow from trauma through the power of storytelling and filmmaking. In the KITS flagship Script-to-Screen program, foster youth ages 12-24 write, cast, and star in their own short films, telling their stories their way. With over 5300 square feet of production space, the KITS Production Studio with Purpose (PSWP) offers full-service studio space for filmmakers with a sound stage, interchangeable sets, a talk show/newsroom set, a conference room, kitchenette, accessible bathrooms, a designated eight-car parking lot with accessible parking, street parking, and more. Your support of PSWP will help provide job opportunities for youth impacted by foster care. Learn more at <https://www.kitsinc.org/production-studio>

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