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New Roads School hosts conversation about race and education with Professor Ibram X. Kendi

School speaker series seeks to dismantle systemic racism through discourse

SANTA MONICA, California (Nov. 25, 2020) — Systemic racism reaches into many institutions, including education, with damaging effects for many people of color. From a young age, black and brown students struggle with access to effective academic resources and schools. Additionally, the stress of racism and implicit bias disproportionately affect these students' learning development and achievement.

New Roads, an independent preparatory K-12 school based in Santa Monica, is exploring the enduring impact of systemic racism on primary and secondary education during a moderated virtual session on Dec. 2 with noted scholar and author Professor Ibram X. Kendi.

New Roads has invited Kendi, who popularized the term "antiracist" in 2019, to lead this exploration of race and education through a personal and historic lens, as part of its Critical Conversation Speaker Series. Named as one of Time Magazine's 100 most influential people of 2020, Professor Kendi is a nationally recognized antiracist scholar and historian and has authored numerous books and academic journals on African American studies.

"New Roads is built on respecting the inherent worth and dignity of each person," said Head of School Luthern Williams, who will moderate the event. "Antiracism is in our founding DNA. Dismantling systemic racism starts with informed, nuanced and deliberative discourse about the role schools can play in empowering educators and students to engage in really meaningful ways."

The New Roads Critical Conversations Speaker Series engages historians, scientists, scholars, activists, politicians, authors, and researchers in the most important issues of today.

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About New Roads School

New Roads School is a college preparatory K-12 private independent school in Santa Monica, CA, serving over 514 school age children from the greater Los Angeles area. New Roads School

provides an inspired educational program from which an authentically diverse student population, mirroring the rich diversity of Los Angeles, develops a personal dedication to learning, a respect for independent thinking, and an expanding curiosity about the world and its people.