FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Julia Dao
P: 678-757-5597
julia@pebbletossers.org

Pebble Tossers Expands Teen Leadership Program to Title I Schools, Partners with Langston Hughes High School

Local Atlanta nonprofit enters new phase of growth focused on expanding equitable access across Title I schools with pilot partnership.

Atlanta, GA: Pebble Tossers Inc., Metro Atlanta's leading youth service-learning nonprofit, announces a landmark partnership with Langston Hughes High School to launch its flagship Teen Leadership Program (TLP) in January for communities represented by Title I schools. The pilot will broaden equitable access to hands-on service and vital leadership development for underserved students.

"If young people are to lead the change they want to see, we need to meet them where they are," said Jonathan Gosse, Executive Director of Pebble Tossers. "Expanding the TLP directly into schools provides students with an accessible entry point into community engagement and leadership. Working with Langston Hughes High School is the start of something bigger than just opening doors. We're excited to begin working with students who are eager to bring their voice and lived experiences to the forefront of real, positive change."

For nearly two decades, Pebble Tossers has transformed youth engagement across Metro Atlanta through service-learning and age-appropriate opportunities. The nonprofit built on this momentum with the founding of its Teen Leadership Program (TLP) in 2020, which serves as a launchpad for high school students to identify pressing local challenges, mobilize peers, and lead sustainable solutions together. By expanding into Title I schools, the organization will set a new standard for youth development and encourage students from underserved communities to build lifelong habits of purpose-driven leadership.

"The expansion of the Pebble Tossers Teen Leadership Program at Langston Hughes High School represents an exciting opportunity for students to grow as leaders and changemakers," said Melissa Johnson, CIS of Atlanta Site Coordinator for Langston Hughes High School. "I have seen firsthand the impact that meaningful experiences, mentorship, and community engagement can have on a young person's confidence and future success. This partnership will empower students to find their voice, serve their communities, and develop the skills needed to thrive both inside and outside the classroom."

The pilot follows the sunsetting of Pebble Tossers' membership program, introduced in 2018 to give youth and families an avenue for volunteer opportunities. This new direction re-anchors the organization's mission, and by drawing on the roots Langston Hughes High School has nurtured with the community, Pebble Tossers can connect with more students and ensure their voices are represented in an environment grounded in inclusivity and possibility.

Twenty 9th- and 10th-grade students will make up the pilot TLP cohort at Langston Hughes High School, running from January to April, with plans to expand to more schools. Supporters can invest in Pebble Tossers' pilot, which serves as a scalable blueprint for youth leadership for years to come.

About Pebble Tossers
Pebble Tossers is Metro Atlanta's leading youth service-learning nonprofit organization focused on providing families with a comprehensive path to youth development through service, from preschool to graduation. Customized programming empowers youth to lead by providing age-appropriate service opportunities infused with a unique service-learning curriculum focused on social-emotional learning, positive youth development, social justice, and positive psychology. For more information, visit www.pebbletossers.org.

###