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***New York Times* Bestselling Author Dhonielle Clayton to Spearhead Massive
Nationwide Book Giveaway**

Clayton to coordinate with We Need Diverse Books and Macmillan to provide copies
of *The Marvellers* and *The Memory Thieves* to students in all 50 states

New York, NY (August 2023) –

With support from Macmillan Children's Publishing Group, *New York Times* Bestselling author Dhonielle Clayton will be donating 2000 copies of each of the novels in her middle grade Conjureverse series, *The Marvellers* and *The Memory Thieves*, with the goal to send copies to schools in all 50 US states. We Need Diverse Books will facilitate the book giveaway and ensure that the titles will be provided to educators and students.

The Marvellers, Clayton's first foray into middle grade set in a magical school known as the Arcanum Training Institute was an instant bestseller upon its hardcover publication in Spring 2022. It was named a Kirkus Best Book of the Year, a School Library Journal Best Book of the Year, a Texas Bluebonnet Award Winner, a Charlotte Huck Honor Book, and an Amazon Best Book of the Year, among numerous other accolades. The paperback edition will be published on August 29, 2023.

Its sequel, *The Memory Thieves*, will be published on September 26th, 2023. An early starred review from *Kirkus Reviews* noted that "Clayton continues building a world that is intricate, captivating, and sure to satisfy."

"I wrote the Arcanum Training Institute as a magic school open to kids from around the world as a counterpoint to the many magic schools in the children's literature canon that are open to a select few, with the hopes of creating a setting that all kids would be able to see and immerse themselves in," said Clayton. "One day I hope to be able to visit students in as many schools around the world as possible to introduce them to the Conjureverse, but in the meantime, I'm hoping that by sending copies of these books, I can invite more young people into this world and remind them that each one of them is marvelous and deserving of magic."

"We Need Diverse Books warmly thanks Dhonielle for this wonderful donation of books, which will help diversify shelves in schools and libraries nationwide," said Caroline Richmond, Executive Director of We Need Diverse Books. "Since 2014, WNDB has provided

over 100,000 diverse titles to educators, and Dhonielle's gift will allow us to reach an even broader audience."

"In writing the Conjureverse, Dhonielle invites readers to a magic school where all are welcome," said Brian Geffen, Executive Editor at Henry Holt Books for Young Readers. "We're moved to see her honor that inspiring notion with such a generous donation to ensure these books get into as many students' hands across the country as possible."

Note To The Press:

Dhonielle Clayton is the *New York Times* bestselling author of The Conjureverse series, The Belles series, *Shattered Midnight*, co-author of *Blackout*, *Whiteout*, *The Rumor Game*, and of the Tiny Pretty Things duology, a Netflix original series. She hails from the Washington, D.C. suburbs on the Maryland side. She taught secondary school for several years, and is a former elementary and middle school librarian. She is COO of the non-profit We Need Diverse Books. She is the President and founder of Cake Creative and Electric Postcard Entertainment, IP story companies creating diverse books for all ages. She's an avid traveler, and always on the hunt for magic and mischief.

Founded by marginalized authors, **We Need Diverse Books** strives to diversify the publishing industry and make our bookshelves more equitable — all to promote literacy, build empathy, and reduce bias. Established in 2014, WNDB is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit that serves diverse creators, publishing professionals, educators, and students nationwide. Learn more at www.diversebooks.org.

Macmillan Publishers is the U.S. trade division of the Holtzbrinck Publishing Group, a large family-owned media company headquartered in Stuttgart, Germany. Its publishing companies include prominent imprints around the world that publish a broad range of award-winning books for children and adults in all categories and formats.

U.S. publishers include Celadon Books, Farrar, Straus and Giroux, Flatiron Books, Henry Holt & Company, Macmillan Audio, Macmillan Children's Publishing Group, The St. Martin's Publishing Group, and Tor Publishing Group. In the UK, Australia, India, and South Africa, Macmillan publishes under the Pan Macmillan name. The German company, Holtzbrinck Deutsche Buchverlage, includes among its imprints S. Fischer, Kiepenheuer & Witsch, Rowohlt, and Droemer Knauer.