

LOS ANGELES PUBLIC LIBRARY
BOARD REPORT

June 25, 2026

TO: Board of Library Commissioners
FROM: John F. Szabo, City Librarian
SUBJECT: **RECOMMENDATION TO ACCEPT A GRANT FROM CRITICAL MINDED FOR
ANGEL CITY PRESS**

A. RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Board of Library Commissioners adopts the following resolution:

RESOLVED, That a grant of \$15,000 from the nonprofit Critical Minded be accepted for the purpose of expanding the number of pages in *Leave it for the Children: A Sixty-year Visual History of the Pan African Peoples Arkestra*, a forthcoming Angel City Press publication; and,

FURTHER RESOLVED, That a letter of thanks be sent to Critical Minded expressing the grateful appreciation of the Board and staff for the grant.

B. FINDINGS:

1. On January 23, 2025, the Board of Library Commissioners approved the publishing agreement with Samuel Lamontagne and Darol Kay for the exclusive license in the copyright of *Pan Afrikan People's Arkestra (working title)*. It was approved by the City Council on February 26, 2025, (Board Resolution No. 2025-2 (C-2)) and (Council File No. 25-0067).
2. Critical Minded, a nonprofit which is part of Allied Media Projects, is a grant making and learning initiative that supports cultural critics of color in the United States.
3. Critical Minded has awarded Angel City Press a \$15,000 grant to support the publishing of *Leave it for the Children: A Sixty-year Visual History of the Pan African Peoples Arkestra*, allowing for an increase in book length from the planned 208 pages to approximately 325 pages.
4. Expanding the number of pages in the book will allow for greater discourse on a topic that is underrepresented in published works.
5. As part of the grant, Angel City Press will provide to Critical Minded a narrative and financial report describing how the funds were used.
6. A letter of thanks should be sent to:

Critical Minded
4731 Grand River Avenue, Suite 400
Detroit, MI 48208

Prepared by: Karcy Bowles, Senior Project Coordinator

Reviewed by: Heather Smith, Acting Business Manager
Susan Broman, Assistant City Librarian

LIBRARY RESOLUTION NO. 2026- (C-)

RESOLVED, That a grant of \$15,000 received from the nonprofit Critical Minded be accepted and deposited in Trust Fund 831, Account 372 for the purpose of expanding the number of pages in *Leave it for the Children: A Sixty-year Visual History of the Pan African Peoples Arkestra*, a forthcoming Angel City Press publication; and,

FURTHER RESOLVED, That a letter of thanks be sent to Critical Minded expressing the grateful appreciation of the Board and staff for the grant.

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