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## **STUDIO MOVIE GRILL SUPPORTS THE EDUCATION COMMUNITY AS THE HATE U GIVE #DAYOFDIALOGUE AMBASSADOR**

### **Hosts Free In-Theater Events for Teachers and Students at Locations Around the Country**

Dallas, Texas – October 25, 2018 –Studio Movie Grill (SMG) the leader of the in-theater dining concept operating 314 screens in 30 locations nationwide, today announced it will welcome more than 3,500 teachers and students from school districts in and around the communities they serve for an SMG Movies + Meals #DAYOFDIALOGUE with **THE HATE U GIVE**, the acclaimed motion picture based on Angie Thomas’ best-selling novel. SMG’s #DAYOFDIALOGUE will take place on October 29<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 AM in each respective participating city. All participating schools will receive free tickets to see the film and free lunch provided to all attendees.

Hosted in partnership with educational outreach firm [BazanED](#), and supported by BazanED’s full free companion curriculum for in-school use, the collaboration is designed to enhance students’ knowledge of race relations, empower student voice and strengthen communities. The joint effort highlights one of many ways the business community at large can support teachers and students in their communities.

“What better way for our SMG teams to live our mission, to open hearts and minds, one story at a time, than to make an impact by wholeheartedly supporting this important film and offering our theaters for a continuing conversation between educators and students as part of our ongoing outreach and Movies + Meals program?” says Brian Schultz Founder/CEO, Studio Movie Grill.

Angie Thomas' award-winning, bestselling novel about a 16-year old girl who witnesses the fatal shooting of her childhood best friend at the hands of a police officer, took schools by storm all over the country last year. The novel gives African American students the opportunity to see themselves in characters like 'Starr Carter' and exposes other students to issues black communities across the nation face daily with racism, police violence and troubled neighborhoods.

"THE HATE U GIVE film and book are essential tools for educators to support social emotional learning, history and dialogue within their classrooms that inherently supports our neighborhoods," says Jackie Bazan, Founder/CEO of BazanED. "We have held extensive screenings and discussions surrounding this film to all facets of our community, and the response has been the same reflecting the urgent, timely and relevant nature of this story. We can ALL do something to address these issues and we hope Studio Movie Grill's unprecedented support of their communities encourages other business leaders to rally and do the same."

THE HATE U GIVE's Curriculum Guide includes nine interdisciplinary lesson plans that meet Common Core State Standards and is easily adaptable to TEKS, Discussion Guide, Student Social Action Guide and various additional assets. Created by BazanED, THE HATE U GIVE educational toolkit is designed to help educators to teach with film.

### **ABOUT THE HATE U GIVE**

Starr Carter is constantly switching between two worlds: the poor, mostly black, neighborhood where she lives and the rich, mostly white, prep school she attends. The uneasy balance between these worlds is shattered when Starr witnesses the fatal shooting of her childhood best friend Khalil at the hands of a police officer. Now, facing pressure from all sides of the community, Starr must find her voice and stand up for what's right. *The Hate U Give* is based on the critically acclaimed *New York Times* bestseller by Angie Thomas and stars Amandla Stenberg as Starr, with Regina Hall, Russell Hornsby, Issa Rae, KJ Apa, Algee Smith, Sabrina Carpenter, Common, and Anthony Mackie. *The Hate U Give* is directed by George Tillman, Jr. Distributor: Twentieth Century Fox Film

### **ABOUT STUDIO MOVIE GRILL**

Established in 1998, Studio Movie Grill ("SMG") modernized the traditional movie-going experience by combining first-run movies with full-service, in-theater dining. SMG has swiftly grown to 30 locations in 9

states with further expansion planned. SMG was named to Inc. Magazine's List of "Fastest Growing Private Companies" three years in a row, placed 12<sup>th</sup> in Box Office Magazine's Giants of the Industry in 2018 with key films grossing as high as #4 in North America. Honoring its commitment to Opening Hearts and Minds, One Story at a Time™, SMG's legacy programs include Special Needs Screenings, Chefs for Children program and annual Opening Hearts & Minds Award, which strive to help families and acknowledge local heroes. This year, SMG created a unique loyalty program, SMG Access™ which, as loyal guests earn rewards, allows them to join SMG in offering movies and meals for underserved community members. For additional information, visit [studiomoviegrill.com](http://studiomoviegrill.com).

#### **ABOUT BAZANED**

[BazanED](#) is a free resource for the education community providing standards-based curriculum materials, teacher professional development, and student experiential learning to K-12 and college educators throughout the U.S. We collaborate with entertainment, cultural, scientific, and financial organizations to provide educators with engaging, grade-appropriate content to supplement and support classroom instruction and enhance student learning.

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