

## **Statement from Nihonmachi Little Friends**

Nihonmachi Little Friends stands with the #BlackLivesMatter movement. We cannot tolerate the systemic racism and inequalities imposed on the lives of Black Americans in our society. We are pained by the recent tragic racial injustices. These horrible acts continue to illustrate that our society is still far from racial equity.

Nihonmachi Little Friends as an educational organization plays a vital role in building a just, equitable, peaceful and joyous world for ourselves and for future generations. Weaving in our own roots, standing for equity has always been at the heart of NLF's identity for the last 45 years. We believe in serving a welcoming community where everyone's civil rights as human beings are protected and respected. We believe in creating a vibrant learning environment where each child can fully thrive. We stand for love and hope: for all children, families, and our community.

Nihonmachi Little Friends will continue to live our mission of embracing the beauty of diverse humanity and to stand true to our five core values: *Omoiyari* (Thoughtfulness), *Nintai* (Resilience), *Kansha* (Gratefulness), *Souzousei* (Creativity) and *Gakumon* (Deep Learning). Strongly upholding these values, we will continue our efforts with our children to be compassionate and respectful citizens and reflective, critical thinkers who can stand against any form of social injustices.

Thank you for your continuous partnership with us.

***“JUSTICE IS WHAT LOVE LOOKS LIKE IN PUBLIC” by Dr. Cornel West***

In solidarity,  
Nihonmachi Little Friends

### **Resources in discussing race with children:**

<https://www.cnn.com/2020/06/06/app-news-section/cnn-sesame-street-race-town-hall-app-june-6-2020-app/index.html>

<https://www.nationalgeographic.com/family/in-the-news/talking-about-race/>

<https://www.todayparent.com/family/parenting/how-to-talk-to-kids-about-racism-an-age-by-age-guide/>

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/06/02/parenting/kids-books-racism-protest.html>

<https://childmind.org/article/racism-and-violence-how-to-help-kids-handle-the-news/>