

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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McKinley Park News Joins LION News Publishing Association

CHICAGO – The *McKinley Park News*, a micro-local online news and events publication serving the McKinley Park neighborhood of Chicago, has joined LION Publishers, a nationwide association dedicated to supporting publishers of local, independent, online news.

With hundreds of members in LION Publishers, the *McKinley Park News* joins a group that includes other Chicago-based news outlets such as *Block Club Chicago*, *City Bureau* and the *Chicago Reporter*, as well as independent news outlets coast to coast.

“Associations like LION recognize the potential within local news markets, especially for independent media outlets like the *McKinley Park News*,” said Publisher Justin Kerr. “We’re looking forward to leveraging the many resources that LION offers toward building a thriving local news business, as well as connecting with experts and comrades in the industry to share best practices and news innovation.”

LION provides services and support to commercial, independent, online news outlets that serve a local or specific audience. After growing as a grassroots network of news publishers starting in 2012, LION received significant funding from the Knight Foundation to build a full-time staff and support a big expansion of the services that LION offers its members.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, LION has been working with its members to continue support and education via virtual programming, enable mutual aid collaboration, and channel funding and support opportunities.

“As a solo news publisher, the support programs that LION presents stand right alongside the chance to connect with like-minded journalists and publishers for camaraderie, inspiration and encouragement,” Kerr said. “We are so pleased to be accepted as a member of LION.”

ABOUT THE MCKINLEY PARK NEWS

The *McKinley Park News* is a micro-local online publication covering the McKinley Park Community Area and Central Manufacturing District of Chicago from its website at <https://mckinleypark.news>. Its features include original news reporting, a comprehensive calendar of neighborhood events and an interactive membership and subscription system. Online as a neighborhood resource since 2012, the *McKinley Park News* launched its commercial operations in 2019 as a publication of Local News LLC.

ABOUT LION

It is the mission of Local Independent Online News Publishers to foster the viability and excellence of locally focused independent online news organizations and cultivate their connections to their

communities through education and action. It was founded in 2012 when a small group of like-minded publishers gathered in Chicago, and has since grown to nearly 350 members in 47 states. To learn more, visit lionpublishers.com

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