

**PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT (To Prospectus dated December 19, 2016)**

**1,647,691 Shares**

**Common Stock**

**Genius Brands International, Inc.**

We are offering 1,647,691 shares of our common stock, par value \$0.001 per share (the “Common Stock”). In a concurrent private placement, we are also selling to purchasers of shares of our Common Stock in this offering, warrants to purchase 1,647,691 shares of our Common Stock (the “Warrants”). The Warrants and the shares of our Common Stock issuable upon the exercise of the Warrants are not being registered under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, (the “Securities Act”), are not being offered pursuant to this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus and are being offered pursuant to the exemption provided in Section 4(a)(2) under the Securities Act and Rule 506(b) promulgated thereunder.

Our Common Stock is listed on the Nasdaq Capital Market under the symbol “GNUS.” The last reported sale price of our Common Stock on October 3, 2017 was \$3.44 per share.

You should read this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement carefully before you invest.

**See “Risk Factors” on page S-10 of this prospectus supplement to read about factors you should consider before buying shares of our Common Stock.**

**Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or determined if this prospectus supplement is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.**

As of October 3, 2017, the aggregate market value of our outstanding common stock held by non-affiliates was approximately \$19.3 million, based on 5,938,103 shares of outstanding common stock, of which 4,679,123 shares were held by non-affiliates, and a per share price of \$4.12 per share, which was the last reported sale price of our common stock on The Nasdaq Capital Market on September 29, 2017. We have sold no shares of our common stock pursuant to General Instruction I.B.6. of Form S-3 during the prior 12 calendar month period that ends on and includes the date of this prospectus supplement.

We have retained Chardan Capital Markets, LLC to act as our exclusive placement agent in connection with this offering. The placement agent has agreed to use its reasonable best efforts to place the securities offered by this prospectus supplement. We have agreed to pay the placement agent the fee set forth in the table below.

	<b>Per Share</b>	<b>Total</b>
Public offering price	\$ 3.90	\$ 6,425,995
Placement agent fees <sup>(1)</sup>	\$ 0.35	\$ 578,340
Proceeds, before expenses, to us	\$ 3.55	\$ 5,847,655

(1) In addition, we have agreed to reimburse the placement agent’s actual out-of-pocket expenses up to \$ 35,000. See “Plan of Distribution”.

We expect that delivery of the shares of our Common Stock being offered pursuant to this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus will be made to purchasers through the facilities of The Depository Trust Company on or about October 5, 2017.

**CHARDAN CAPITAL MARKETS, LLC**

The date of this prospectus supplement is October 3, 2017.

---

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

### Prospectus Supplement

	<u>Page</u>
<a href="#">ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT</a>	S-1
<a href="#">WHERE YOU CAN FIND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION</a>	S-1
<a href="#">INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN INFORMATION BY REFERENCE</a>	S-1
<a href="#">SPECIAL NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS</a>	S-2
<a href="#">PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT SUMMARY</a>	S-3
<a href="#">THE OFFERING</a>	S-9
<a href="#">RISK FACTORS</a>	S-10
<a href="#">USE OF PROCEEDS</a>	S-17
<a href="#">DIVIDEND POLICY</a>	S-18
<a href="#">DILUTION</a>	S-19
<a href="#">DESCRIPTION OF CAPITAL STOCK</a>	S-20
<a href="#">PRIVATE PLACEMENT TRANSACTION</a>	S-25
<a href="#">PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION</a>	S-26
<a href="#">LEGAL MATTERS</a>	S-27
<a href="#">EXPERTS</a>	S-27

### Prospectus

	<u>Page</u>
<a href="#">ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS</a>	ii
<a href="#">PROSPECTUS SUMMARY</a>	1
<a href="#">RISK FACTORS</a>	4
<a href="#">CAUTIONARY NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS</a>	9
<a href="#">RATIO OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES</a>	10
<a href="#">USE OF PROCEEDS</a>	11
<a href="#">PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION</a>	12
<a href="#">DESCRIPTION OF CAPITAL STOCK</a>	14
<a href="#">DESCRIPTION OF DEBT SECURITIES</a>	18
<a href="#">DESCRIPTION OF WARRANTS</a>	21
<a href="#">DESCRIPTION OF RIGHTS</a>	23
<a href="#">DESCRIPTION OF PURCHASE CONTRACTS</a>	24
<a href="#">DESCRIPTION OF UNITS</a>	25
<a href="#">LEGAL MATTERS</a>	26
<a href="#">EXPERTS</a>	26
<a href="#">WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION</a>	26
<a href="#">INCORPORATION OF INFORMATION BY REFERENCE</a>	26

## ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT

This document consists of two parts. The first part is this prospectus supplement, which describes the specific terms of the offering and other matters relating to us. The second part is the accompanying prospectus, which provides more general information about the securities we may offer from time to time, some of which may not apply to this offering of Common Stock. This prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus are part of a registration statement that we filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”) using the SEC’s shelf registration rules. You should read both this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, together with the documents incorporated by reference and the additional information described under the heading “Where You Can Find More Information” in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus before making an investment decision.

To the extent there is a conflict between the information contained in this prospectus supplement, on the one hand, and the information contained in the accompanying prospectus, on the other hand, the information contained in this prospectus supplement shall control. If any statement in this prospectus supplement conflicts with any statement in a document that has been incorporated herein by reference, then you should consider only the statement in the more recent document. You should assume that the information contained in this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference is accurate only as of their respective dates.

We have not, and the placement agent has not, authorized any person to provide you with any information or to make any representation other than as contained in this prospectus supplement or in the accompanying prospectus and the information incorporated by reference herein and therein. We and the placement agent do not take any responsibility for, and can provide no assurance as to the reliability of, any information that others may provide you. The information appearing or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus is accurate only as of the date of this prospectus supplement or the date of the document in which incorporated information appears unless otherwise noted in such documents. Our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects may have changed since those dates.

The distribution of this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus and the offering of the Common Stock in certain jurisdictions may be restricted by law. We are not, and the placement agent is not, making an offer of the Common Stock in any jurisdiction where the offer is not permitted. Persons who come into possession of this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus should inform themselves about and observe any such restrictions. This prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus do not constitute, and may not be used in connection with, an offer or solicitation by anyone in any jurisdiction in which such offer or solicitation is not authorized or in which the person making such offer or solicitation is not qualified to do so or to any person to whom it is unlawful to make such offer or solicitation.

## WHERE YOU CAN FIND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

We file annual, quarterly and other periodic reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC. You can read our SEC filings over the Internet at the SEC’s website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov). You may also read and copy any document we file with the SEC at its public reference facilities at 100 F Street NE, Washington, D.C. 20549. You may also obtain copies of these documents at prescribed rates by writing to the Public Reference Section of the SEC at 100 F Street NE, Washington, D.C. 20549. Please call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 for further information on the operation of the public reference facilities.

Our Internet address is [www.gnusbrands.com](http://www.gnusbrands.com). There we make available free of charge, on or through the investor relations section of our website, annual reports on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, current reports on Form 8-K and amendments to those reports filed pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Exchange Act as soon as reasonably practicable after we electronically file such material with the SEC. The information found on our website is not part of this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus.

## INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN INFORMATION BY REFERENCE

We are “incorporating by reference” specific documents that we file with the SEC, which means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to those documents that are considered part of this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. Information that we file subsequently with the SEC will automatically update and supersede this information. We incorporate by reference the documents listed below, and any documents that we file with the SEC under Section 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act, after the date of this prospectus supplement until the termination of the offering of all of the securities registered pursuant to the registration statement of which the accompanying prospectus is a part (excluding any portions of such documents that have been “furnished” but not “filed” for purposes of the Exchange Act):

1. Annual Report on Form 10-K and Form 10-K/A for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016 filed on March 31, 2017 and April 28, 2017, respectively.
2. Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2017, filed on May 15, 2017.

3. Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended June 30, 2017, filed on August 14, 2017.
4. Current Reports on Form 8-K filed on January 20, 2017, February 13, 2017 and July 25, 2017.
5. Definitive Proxy Statement on Schedule 14A for our Annual Meeting of Stockholders filed on June 12, 2017.
6. The description of our Common Stock contained in our Form 8-A filed on November 18, 2016.

You may request, and we will provide you with, a copy of these filings, at no cost, by calling us at (310) 273-4222 or by writing to us at the following address:

Genius Brands International, Inc.  
301 N. Canon Drive, Suite 305  
Beverly Hills, CA 90210  
Attn: Gregory Payne

Any statement contained herein or in a document incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference herein shall be deemed to be modified or superseded for purposes of this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus to the extent that a statement contained herein or therein, in any other subsequently filed document that also is or is deemed to be incorporated by reference herein and in any accompanying prospectus supplement, modifies or supersedes such statement. Any statement so modified or superseded shall not be deemed, except as so modified and superseded, to constitute a part of this prospectus supplement.

Any statement made in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus concerning the contents of any contract, agreement or other document is only a summary of the actual contract, agreement or other document. If we have filed or incorporated by reference any contract, agreement or other document as an exhibit to the registration statement, you should read the exhibit for a more complete understanding of the document or matter involved. Each statement regarding a contract, agreement or other document is qualified by reference to the actual document.

#### **SPECIAL NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS**

This prospectus and any accompanying prospectus supplements contain or incorporate by reference forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act, and Section 21E of the Exchange Act. Forward-looking statements are projections in respect of future events or our future financial performance. In some cases, you can identify forward-looking statements by terminology such as “may,” “should,” “would,” “intend,” “expect,” “plan,” “anticipate,” “believe,” “estimate,” “predict,” “potential” or “continue” or the negative of these terms or other comparable terminology and include, but are not limited to, statements regarding: our products; our business plan; the enforceability of our intellectual property rights; projections of market prices and costs; supply and demand for our products; future capital expenditures; our collaboration arrangements; relationships with retailers, and other business partners; ability to add new customer accounts; and future borrowings under our credit agreements. The material assumptions supporting these forward-looking statements include, among other things: our ability to obtain any necessary financing on acceptable terms; timing and amount of capital expenditures; the enforcement of our intellectual property rights; our ability to launch new products; retention of skilled personnel; continuation of current tax and regulatory regimes; current exchange rates and interest rates; and general economic and financial market conditions. Management believes that these forward-looking statements are reasonable as and when made. However, caution should be taken not to place undue reliance on any such forward-looking statements because such statements speak only as of the date when made. We undertake no obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, except as required by law. In addition, forward-looking statements are subject to certain risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from our historical experience and our present expectations or projections. These risks and uncertainties include: (1) a downturn in global economic conditions; (2) any adverse occurrence with respect to the development or marketing of our products; (3) any adverse occurrence with respect to any of our licensing or intellectual property agreements; (4) our ability to successfully launch new content and programming; (5) our ability to successfully collaborate with major partners; (6) product and content development or other initiatives by our competitors; (7) potential negative financial impact from claims, lawsuits and other legal proceedings or challenges; (8) our ability to enforce our intellectual property rights; (9) our ability to hire and retain senior management and key employees; and (10) other factors beyond our control. Additional risks also include those described herein and in our filings with the SEC.

You should read this prospectus and the documents that we have filed as exhibits to this prospectus completely and with the understanding that our actual future results may be materially different from what we expect. We do not assume any obligation to update any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, except as required by applicable law.

This prospectus includes statistical and other industry and market data that we obtained from industry publications and research, surveys and studies conducted by third parties. Industry publications and third-party research, surveys and studies generally indicate that their information has been obtained from sources believed to be reliable, although they do not guarantee the accuracy or completeness of such information.

## PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT SUMMARY

### Business Overview

Genius Brands International, Inc. (“we”, “us”, “our”, or the “Company”) is a leading global media company developing, producing, marketing and licensing branded children’s entertainment properties and consumer products for media distribution and retail channels. Led by award-winning creators and producers, Genius Brands distributes its content worldwide in all formats, as well as a broad range of consumer products based on its characters. In the children's media sector, its portfolio of “content with a purpose” includes new preschool properties Rainbow Rangers for Nick Jr. and Llama Llama for Netflix; tween music-driven, YouTube brand SpacePOP; award-winning toddler brand Baby Genius; adventure comedy series Thomas Edison's Secret Lab, and Warren Buffett's Secret Millionaires Club, created with and starring iconic investor Warren Buffett. The Company is also co-producing an all-new adult animated series, Stan Lee's Cosmic Crusaders, with Stan Lee's Pow! Entertainment and The Hollywood Reporter. Genius Brands’ Kid Genius Cartoon Channel is currently available in approximately 60 million households via Comcast and OTT platforms and Kid Genius Cartoons Plus!, which is now available to Amazon Prime subscribers.

In addition, the Company acts as licensing agent for certain brands, leveraging its existing licensing infrastructure to expand these brands into new product categories, new retailers, and new territories. These include *Llama Llama* and Celescence Technologies.

The Company commenced operations in January 2006, assuming all the rights and obligations of its then Chief Executive Officer, under an Asset Purchase Agreement between the Company and Genius Products, Inc., in which the Company obtained all rights, copyrights, and trademarks to the brands “Baby Genius,” “Kid Genius,” “123 Favorite Music” and “Wee Worship,” and all then existing productions under those titles. In October 2011, the Company (i) changed its domicile to Nevada from California, and (ii) changed its name to Genius Brands International, Inc. from Pacific Entertainment Corporation (the “Reincorporation”). In connection with the Reincorporation, the Company changed its trading symbol from “PENT” to “GNUS”.

On November 15, 2013, the Company entered into an Agreement and Plan of Reorganization (the “Merger Agreement”) with A Squared Entertainment LLC, a Delaware limited liability company (“A Squared”), A Squared Holdings LLC, a California limited liability company and sole member of A Squared (the “Parent Member”) and A2E Acquisition LLC, its newly formed, wholly-owned Delaware subsidiary (“Acquisition Sub”). Upon closing of the transactions contemplated under the Merger Agreement (the “Merger”), which occurred concurrently with entering into the Merger Agreement, the Acquisition Sub merged with and into A Squared, and A Squared, as the surviving entity, became a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company. As a result of the Merger, the Company acquired the business and operations of A Squared.

### Recent Developments

#### *Warrant Exercise*

On February 9, 2017, we entered into a private transaction (the “Private Transaction”) pursuant to a Warrant Exercise Agreement (the “Agreement”) with certain holders of our existing warrants (the “Original Warrants”). The Original Warrants were originally issued on November 3, 2015, to purchase an aggregate of 1,443,362 shares of our common stock, par value \$0.001 per share (the “Common Stock”), at an exercise price of \$3.30 per share and were to expire on November 3, 2020.

Pursuant to the Agreement, the holders of the Original Warrants and we agreed that such Original Warrant holders would exercise their Original Warrants in full and we would issue to each such holder new warrants, with the new warrants being identical to the Original Warrants except that the termination date of such new warrants is February 10, 2022 (the “Reload Warrants”). In addition, depending on the number of Original Warrants exercised by all holders of the Original Warrants, we also agreed to issue to the holders another new warrant, identical to the Original Warrant except that the exercise price of such warrant is \$5.30 and such warrant is not exercisable until August 10, 2017 (the “Market Price Warrants” and together with the Reload Warrants, the “New Warrants”).

We received gross proceeds of \$3,866,573 from the exercise of the Original Warrants and issued Reload Warrants to purchase an aggregate of 799,991 shares of our Common Stock and Market Price Warrants to purchase an aggregate of 371,699 shares of our Common Stock.

Chardan Capital Markets LLC acted as financial advisor on the Private Transaction in consideration for which it received \$363,617 and was issued New Warrants for 115,000 shares of Common Stock.

#### *Reverse Stock Split and Listing on Nasdaq*

On November 4, 2016, we effected a reverse stock split on a one-to-three basis. The reverse stock split became effective on November 9, 2016. The reverse stock split was implemented to facilitate our successful uplisting on the NASDAQ Capital Market. Unless otherwise noted, all share and per share data give effect to such reverse stock split of our Common Stock.

#### *Distribution Agreement with Sony Pictures Home Entertainment Inc.*

On February 18, 2016, we entered into a distribution agreement (“Distribution Agreement”) with Sony Pictures Home Entertainment Inc. (“Sony”), pursuant to which we agreed to grant Sony certain rights for the marketing and distribution of our animated feature-length motion pictures and animated television series in the United States and Canada, and potentially additional countries. In consideration for such rights, and subject to certain conditions, Sony has paid us an advance in the amount of \$2.0 million, against future royalties.

On January 10, 2017, we entered into an amendment of our home entertainment distribution agreement with Sony pursuant to which, among other things, Sony agreed to pay \$1,489,583 which was owed and payable by us to Sony’s sister company Sony DADC US Inc. (“DADC”) for certain disk manufacturing and replication services. In connection with such transaction, we issued Sony 301,231 shares of our Common Stock at \$4.945 per share, Sony’s exclusive territory for exercising its home entertainment distribution rights under the Distribution Agreement was extended from the United States and Canada to worldwide, and the amount of advances subject to recoupment by Sony out of royalty payments that would otherwise be due to us under the Distribution Agreement was increased by the amount of the payment to DADC. Future cash flow from the distributed products under the Distribution Agreement, if any, will be impacted by the additional recoupment obligation. In connection with the above issuance of our shares, we entered into a subscription agreement with Sony, effective as of January 17, 2017.

### **Our Products**

#### **Original Content**

We own and produce original content that is meant to entertain and enrich toddlers to tweens as well as families. It is generally a three-year cycle from the inception of an idea, through production of the content and development and distribution of a range of consumer products to retail, creating an inevitable lag time between the creation of the intellectual property to the realization of economic benefit of those assets. Our goal is to maintain a robust and diverse portfolio of brands, appealing to various interests and ages, featuring evergreen topics with global appeal. Our portfolio of intellectual property can be licensed, re-licensed, and exploited for years to come, with revenue derived from multiple sources and territories. Our portfolio of original content includes:

#### **Content in Production**

*Llama Llama*: We are currently in production on fifteen half-hour animated episodes to premiere on Netflix this year. *Llama Llama*’s creators include Oscar-winning director Rob Minkoff (*The Lion King*), director Saul Blinkoff (*Doc McStuffins*), showrunner Joe Purdy, art director Ruben Aquino (*Frozen*) and Emmy-winning producers Jane Startz and Andy Heyward. Based on the *NY Times* #1 best-selling children’s books of the same name, the animated series centers on young *Llama Llama*’s first steps in growing up and facing childhood milestones. Each episode will be structured around a childhood milestone coupled with a life lesson learned by *Llama Llama* and his friends, told with a sense of humor, vitality, and understanding. The global licensing program was unveiled in June 2016 at the Licensing Expo held in Las Vegas.

*Rainbow Rangers*: From Shane Morris, the writer of *Frozen*, and Rob Minkoff, the director of *The Lion King*, *Rainbow Rangers* is an animated series about the adventures of seven heroic pixies from Kaleidoscopia, a fantastic land on the other side of the rainbow. The Rangers serve as Earth’s guardians and first-responders. When danger arrives, these seven pixie girls ride a rainbow across the sky and land wherever they are needed most in the small human city of Hopewell Junction. We have partnered with Mattel Inc.’s Fisher Price Toys as the master toy partner for the new series, and Viacom’s Nick Jr. has licensed the series for broadcast in the US. International broadcast agreements are currently being negotiated in numerous territories.

*Stan Lee's Cosmic Crusaders*: *Stan Lee's Cosmic Crusaders* is a co-production between us, Stan Lee's POW! Entertainment, and *The Hollywood Reporter* of an adult-themed animated series whose launch coincided with "Stan Lee's 75 Years in Business" salute in *The Hollywood Reporter's* Comic-Con issue. *Stan Lee's Cosmic Crusaders* is based on a concept by Stan Lee and written by *Deadpool* co-creator Fabian Nicieza. With 52 eleven-minute episodes greenlit for production, the first four episodes premiered exclusively on THR.com with one episode that aired during Comic-Con International 2016. *Stan Lee's Cosmic Crusaders* is the first series to launch on THR.com and will be promoted through *The Hollywood Reporter's* YouTube channel, Facebook, Twitter and Instagram pages.

#### Already Released Content

*SpacePop*: *SpacePop* is music and fashion driven animated property that has garnered over 17 million views and over 63,000 subscribers since its launch in May 2016. With 108 three-minute webisodes produced, *SpacePop* had a best-in-class production team which included Steve Banks (head writer and story editor of *Sponge Bob Square Pants*) as content writer; Han Lee (*Pink Fizz*, *Bobby Jack*) for original character designs; multiple Grammy Award-winning producer and music veteran Ron Fair (Fergie, Mary J. Blige, Black Eyed Peas, Pussycat Dolls, Christina Aguilera and more), singer-songwriter Stefanie Fair (founding member of RCA's girl group Wild Orchid with Fergie) for the original *SpacePop* theme music; and veteran music producer and composer John Loeffler (Kidz Bop, Pokemon) for original songs. *SpacePop* products ranging from apparel and accessories, to beauty, cosmetics, candy, books and music.

*Thomas Edison's Secret Lab*: *Thomas Edison's Secret Lab* is a STEM-based comedy adventure series by Emmy-nominated writer Steve Banks (*SpongeBob Square Pants*), multi-Emmy Award-winning writer Jeffrey Scott (*Dragon Tales*), and Emmy Award-winning producer Mark Young (*All Dogs Go To Heaven 2*). The series includes 52 eleven-minute episodes as well as 52 original music videos produced by Grammy Award-winning producer Ron Fair. The animated series follows the adventures of Angie, a 12-year-old prodigy who, along with her young science club, discovers Thomas Edison's secret lab.

*Warren Buffett's Secret Millionaire's Club*: With 26 thirty-minute episodes and 26 four-minute webisodes, this animated series features Warren Buffett who acts as a mentor to a group of kids who have international adventures in business. *Secret Millionaire's Club* empowers kids by helping them learn about the business of life and the importance of developing healthy life habits at an early age.

*Baby Genius*: For more than ten years, *Baby Genius* has earned worldwide recognition for creating award-winning products for toddlers. Its catalogue of 500 songs, 125 music videos, and toys feature classic nursery rhymes, learning songs, classical music, holiday favorites and more.

#### Licensed Content

Augmenting our original content, we act as an agent for established brands which attempts to maximize our existing infrastructure while creating incremental sources of revenue for us without additional overhead. These brands include *Llama Llama* and Celescence Technologies, a microencapsulation technology that releases fragrance and is used to scent products.

#### **Kid Genius Cartoon Channel**

In April 2015, we partnered with Comcast to launch the new Kid Genius Cartoon Channel on Xfinity on Demand. With Xfinity, Kid Genius Cartoon Channel is currently in over 22 million homes. In November 2016, we partnered with a leading kids' app distributor adding Over-The-Top ("OTT") distribution expanding the channel onto platforms such as Roku, Apple TV, Amazon Fire and Google thus reaching an additional 40 million homes. Our plans are to continue this roll-out into 2017 adding additional reach with the goal of being in over 80 million homes. Kid Genius Cartoon Channel combines the powerful value of owning a channel in its own right with the ability to promote our brands and products. In September 2017, we announced that we had partnered with Amazon Prime to launch Kid Genius Cartoon Channel Plus, a subscription video on demand channel available to the approximately 80 million subscribers to Amazon Prime for \$3.99 per month.

## **Distribution**

### Content

Today's global marketplace and the manner in which content is consumed has evolved to a point where we believe there is only one viable strategy, ubiquity. Kids today expect to be able to watch what they want whenever they want and wherever they want. They, the kids, are their own programmers and therefore as content creators we now must offer direct access on multiple fronts. This includes digital distribution as well as linear broadcast. We, through our partnership with Comcast's Xfinity platform, launched the all-digital on demand network Kid Genius Cartoon Channel Originally debuting in approximately 22 million households via Comcast, the reach of the Kid Genius Cartoon Channel and therefore all of the Genius Brands content expanded in November 2016 to approximately 40 million households through a distribution deal that brought Kid Genius Cartoon Channel into homes via AppleTV, Roku, Samsung TV, and Amazon Fire. In these homes, Genius Brands programs are always available to kids when they want it. Genius Brands also distributes its content via leading digital providers such as Netflix and Amazon giving additional instant availability to consumers of its shows. In September 2017, we announced that we had partnered with Amazon Prime to launch Kid Genius Cartoon Channel Plus, a subscription video on demand channel available to the approximately 80 million subscribers to Amazon Prime for \$3.99 per month.

We also have strong ties to and actively solicit placement for our content from the largest linear broadcasters such as Nickelodeon, The Disney Channel, Cartoon Network, Sprout, and PBS. Finally, we are a preferred partner of YouTube having successfully launched an original series with YouTube in May 2016 and making YouTube a focal point of the distribution of some of our shows. We replicate this model of ubiquity around the world defining content distribution strategies by market that blends the best of linear, VOD, and digital distribution.

Finally, we expanded our long term strategic partnership with Sony Pictures Home Entertainment from domestic to a global partnership in January 2017.

### Consumer Products

A primary source of our revenue is our licensing and merchandising activities from our underlying intellectual property content. We work directly licensing properties to a variety of manufacturers, wholesalers, and retailers. We currently have across all brands in excess of 50 licensees and hundreds of licensed products in the market. Products bearing our marks can be found in a wide variety of retail distribution outlets reaching consumers in over 10,000 retail doors. Our licensees sell to best in class retailers including Wal Mart, Target, Toys R Us, Claire's, Kohl's, Best Buy, Hudson News, Barnes & Noble, Amazon.com and many more. We often negotiate dedicated retail space on a direct basis with retailers that will include branded signage to give our brands prominence and clear communication with the consumer. License agreements that we enter into often include financial guarantees and commitments from the manufacturers guaranteeing a minimum stream of revenue for us. As licensed merchandise is sold at retail, these advances and/or minimum guarantees are paid out, and we then earn additional revenue.

## **Marketing**

We believe that generating awareness and consumer interest in our brands requires a dedicated 360-degree approach to marketing which we regularly deploy. Beyond the content creation and achieving distribution, consumers must become engaged with the content in all aspects of their lives. Successful marketing campaigns for our brands have included utilizing influencers (individuals with a strong, existing social media presence who drive awareness of our brands to their followers) and influencer marketing, participating in fast casual restaurant promotions, on-pack promotions with leading consumer packaged goods companies, and national live events at theme parks with companies like Six Flags. We also deploy digital and print advertising to support the brands. Finally, we work with a leading PR agency to promote our efforts to both consumer and trade. We regularly initiate grass roots marketing campaigns and strategic partnerships with brands that align and offer value to us. For the year 2016, our marketing efforts led to over 60 million impressions on behalf of our brands.

## **Competition**

We compete against other creators of children's content including Disney, Nickelodeon, Cartoon Network, and Sesame Street as well as other small and large creators. In the crowded children's entertainment space, we compete with these other creators for both content distribution across linear, VOD, and digital platforms as well as retail shelf space for our licensed products. To compete, we are focused on our strategic positioning of "content with a purpose" which we believe is a point of differentiation embraced by the industry, as well as parents and educators. Additionally, the Kid Genius Cartoon Channel and Kid Genius Cartoon Channel Plus enables us to increase the awareness of our brands through an owned platform.



## **Customers and Licensees**

Our business is not reliant on one or a few major customers. As of December 31, 2016, we had partnered with over 50 consumer products licensees going to market with over 500 stock keeping units (“SKU”). As of the same date, we licensed our content to over 20 broadcasters in nearly 90 territories globally as well as a number of VOD and online platforms that have a global reach. This broad cross-section of customers includes companies such as Comcast, Netflix, Sony, YouTube, Mattel, Toys R US, Target, Kohls, Claire’s, Penguin Publishing, Manhattan Toys, Roku, Apple TV, Amazon, Google, Bertelsmann Music Group, Discovery International, and others both domestically and internationally. In 2016, approximately 19% of our revenue was attributable to the recognition of revenues earned from one customer that paid advances in 2013 and 2014 for the administration of certain music publishing right on our behalf.

## **Government Regulation**

The FCC requires broadcast networks to air a required number of hours of Educational and Informational content (E/I). We are subject to online distribution regulations, namely the FTC’s Children’s Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA) which regulates the collection of information of children younger than 13 years old.

We are currently subject to regulations applicable to businesses generally, including numerous federal and state laws that impose disclosure and other requirements upon the origination, servicing, enforcement and advertising of credit accounts, and limitations on the maximum amount of finance charges that may be charged by a credit provider. Although credit to some of our customers is provided by third parties without recourse to us based upon a customer’s failure to pay, any restrictive change in the regulation of credit, including the imposition of, or changes in, interest rate ceilings, could adversely affect the cost or availability of credit to our customers and, consequently, our results of operations or financial condition.

Licensed toy products are subject to regulation under the Consumer Product Safety Act and regulations issued thereunder. These laws authorize the Consumer Product Safety Commission (the “CPSC”) to protect the public from products which present a substantial risk of injury. The CPSC can require the manufacturer of defective products to repurchase or recall such products. The CPSC may also impose fines or penalties on manufacturers or retailers. Similar laws exist in some states and other countries in which we plan to market our products. Although we do not manufacture and may not directly distribute toy products, a recall of any of the products may adversely affect our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects.

We also maintain websites which include our corporate website located at [www.gnusbrands.com](http://www.gnusbrands.com), as well as [www.spacepopgirls.com](http://www.spacepopgirls.com), [www.kidgeniustv.com](http://www.kidgeniustv.com), [www.babygenius.com](http://www.babygenius.com), [www.smckids.com](http://www.smckids.com), [www.slam7.com](http://www.slam7.com), and [www.edisonsecretlab.com](http://www.edisonsecretlab.com). These websites are subject to laws and regulations directly applicable to Internet communications and commerce, which is a currently developing area of the law. The United States has enacted Internet laws related to children’s privacy, copyrights and taxation. However, laws governing the Internet remain largely unsettled. The growth of the market for Internet commerce may result in more stringent consumer protection laws, both in the United States and abroad, that place additional burdens on companies conducting business over the Internet. We cannot predict with certainty what impact such laws will have on our business in the future. In order to comply with new or existing laws regulating Internet commerce, we may need to modify the manner in which we conduct our website business, which may result in additional expense.

Because our products are manufactured by third parties and licensees, we are not significantly impacted by federal, state and local environmental laws and do not have significant costs associated with compliance with such laws and regulations.

## **Employees**

As of October 1, 2017 we had 18 full-time equivalent employees and an additional seven temporary or contracted part-time or full-time equivalents in certain functions, such as legal, accounting and production management. We employ on an outsourced, as-needed basis, contractors in the fields of investor relations, public relations and production.

## **Intellectual Property**

As of December 31, 2016, we own the following properties and related trademarks: *Secret Millionaires Club*, *Thomas Edison’s Secret Lab*, “Baby Genius”, “Kid Genius”, “Wee Worship”, “A Squared,” “Kaflooney,” and “Ready, Play, Learn” as well as several other names and trademarks on characters that had been developed for our content and brands. Additionally, we have trademark applications pending for *Rainbow Rangers* and *SpacePop*.

As of December 31, 2016, we hold 12 registered trademarks in multiple classes in the United States as well as additional trademarks in the United States that are associated with our other brands. We also have a number of registered and pending trademarks in Europe and other countries in which our products are sold.

As of December 31, 2016, we also held 96 motion picture, 13 sound recording and one literary work copyrights related to our video, music and written work products.

We have a two-third ownership interest in Stan Lee Comics, LLC which owns the publishing brand *Stan Lee Comics* and all properties produced therein. Stan Lee Comics, LLC is a joint venture with Stan Lee's POW! Entertainment. Stan Lee Comics, LLC is the owner of the *Stan Lee's Mighty 7* property.

We have 50/50 ownership agreements with the following partners and their related brands: Martha Stewart's *Martha & Friends*; and Gisele Bündchen's *Gisele & the Green Team*.

In addition to the wholly-owned or partially-owned properties listed above, we have agreements with certain intellectual property owners to represent their content as a licensing agent. We act as a licensing agent for the following established brands: *Llama Llama* and Celescence Technologies.

### **Company Information**

We were incorporated in California on January 3, 2006 and reincorporated in Nevada in October 2011. We commenced operations in January 2006, assuming all of the rights and obligations of our then Chief Executive Officer, under an Asset Purchase Agreement between the Company and Genius Products, Inc., in which we obtained all rights, copyrights, and trademarks to the brands "Baby Genius," "Kid Genius," "123 Favorite Music" and "Wee Worship," and all then existing productions under those titles. In October 2011, we (i) changed our domicile to Nevada from California, and (ii) changed our name to Genius Brands International, Inc. from Pacific Entertainment Corporation (the "Reincorporation"). In connection with the Reincorporation, we changed our trading symbol from "PENT" to "GNUS."

On November 15, 2013, we entered into an Agreement and Plan of Reorganization (the "Merger Agreement") with A Squared Entertainment LLC, a Delaware limited liability company ("A Squared"), A Squared Holdings LLC, a California limited liability company and the sole member of A Squared (the "Parent Member"), and A2E Acquisition LLC, its newly formed, wholly-owned Delaware subsidiary ("Acquisition Sub"). Upon closing of the transactions contemplated under the Merger Agreement (the "Merger"), which occurred concurrently with entering into the Merger Agreement, the Acquisition Sub merged with and into A Squared, and A Squared, as the surviving entity, became our wholly-owned subsidiary. As a result of the Merger, we acquired the business and operations of A Squared.

Our principal executive offices are located at 301 North Canon Drive, Suite 305, Beverly Hills, California 90210. Our telephone number is 310-273-4222. We maintain an Internet website at [www.gnusbrands.com](http://www.gnusbrands.com). The information contained on, connected to or that can be accessed via our website is not part of this prospectus. We have included our website address in this prospectus as an inactive textual reference only and not as an active hyperlink.

### **Summary of Risk Factors**

Our business is subject to a number of risks and uncertainties that you should understand before making an investment decision. As of June 30, 2017, we had an accumulated deficit of \$39,210,540. Additional risks are discussed more fully in the section entitled "Risk Factors" following this prospectus summary. These risks include, but are not limited to, the following:

- We have a history of net losses and our future profitability is uncertain.
- We may be required to raise additional funds to finance our operations; we may not be able to do so when necessary, and/or the terms of any financings may not be advantageous to us.
- If we lose key personnel or are unable to attract and retain necessary talent, we may be unable to continue to grow and develop our business profitably.
- Third parties may claim that we infringe their intellectual property, and we could suffer significant litigation or licensing expense as a result.
- Raising additional funds may cause dilution to our existing stockholders, restrict our operations or require us to relinquish rights to our technologies.
- Trading volume in our stock is low and an active trading market for our common stock may not be available on a consistent basis to provide stockholders with adequate liquidity. Our stock price may be extremely volatile, and our stockholders could lose a significant part of their investment.
- Concentration of ownership among our existing officers, directors and principal stockholders may prevent other stockholders from influencing significant corporate decisions and depress our stock price.

## THE OFFERING

Common stock offered	1,647,691 shares.
Common stock to be outstanding after this offering	7,585,794 shares.
Use of proceeds	We expect to receive net proceeds of approximately \$5,750,000 from this offering after deducting the placement agent fees and estimated offering expenses payable by us. We intend to use the net proceeds from this offering for general corporate purposes, including working capital, and repayment of existing corporate obligations. See "Use of Proceeds".
Nasdaq Capital Market symbol	GNUS
Risk factors	Investing in our securities involves a high degree of risk. See "Risk Factors" on page S-10 of this prospectus supplement to read about factors you should consider carefully before buying shares of our Common Stock.
Concurrent private placement	In a concurrent private placement, we are selling to the purchasers of shares of our Common Stock in this offering, Warrants to purchase 1,647,691 shares of our Common Stock. The Warrants will be immediately exercisable at an exercise price of \$3.90 per share and will expire on the fifth anniversary of the date that the Warrants are issued. The Warrants and the shares of our Common Stock issuable upon the exercise of the Warrants, are not being offered pursuant to this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus and are being offered pursuant to the exemption provided in Section 4(a)(2) under the Securities Act and Rule 506(b) promulgated thereunder. See "Private Placement Transaction."

The number of shares of Common Stock that will be outstanding after this offering is based on 5,938,103 shares outstanding as of October 1, 2017, and also excludes:

- 1,201,667 shares of Common Stock issuable upon conversion of 3,605 shares of Series A Convertible Preferred Stock at a conversion price of \$3.00;
- 1,303,215 shares of Common Stock issuable upon exercise of outstanding stock options to purchase our Common Stock at a weighted average exercise price of \$8.14 per share;
- 363,452 shares of Common Stock reserved for future issuance under our 2015 Incentive Plan and 2015 Amended Incentive Plan;
- 1,766,698 shares of Common Stock issuable upon the exercise of outstanding warrants at a weighted average exercise price of \$4.03; and
- 1,647,691 shares of Common Stock issuable upon the exercise of the Warrants to be issued in the concurrent private placement. See "Private Placement Transaction."

## RISK FACTORS

*You should carefully consider the risks and uncertainties set forth below, together with all of the other information set forth in this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus and in the documents incorporated by reference herein. If any of these risks actually occur, our business, financial condition, results of operations and future prospects could be materially and adversely affected.*

### **RISKS RELATING TO OUR BUSINESS**

#### **We have incurred net losses since inception.**

We have a history of operating losses and incurred net losses in each fiscal quarter since our inception. For the three months ended June 30, 2017, we generated net revenues of \$196,132 and incurred a net loss of \$1,251,543, while for the three months ended June 30, 2016, we generated net revenue of \$176,332 and incurred a net loss of \$1,182,952. For the six months ended June 30, 2017, we generated net revenues of \$394,221 and incurred a net loss of \$2,567,779, while for the six months ended June 30, 2016, we generated net revenue of \$528,225 and incurred a net loss of \$2,832,669. These losses, among other things, have had an adverse effect on our results of operations, financial condition, stockholders' equity, net current assets and working capital.

We will need to generate additional revenue to achieve profitability. We are beginning to generate revenues derived from our existing properties, properties in production, new brands being introduced into the marketplace, and incremental revenue derived from the licensing business we manage on behalf of our clients. However, the ability to sustain these revenues and generate significant additional revenues or achieve profitability will depend upon numerous factors some of which are outside of our control.

#### **We will need additional financing to continue our operations. If we are unable to obtain additional financing on acceptable terms, we will need to curtail or cease our development plans and operations.**

As of June 30, 2017, we had approximately \$3,986,528 of available cash, cash equivalents, and restricted cash. Additional funds may be required to fund operations which could be raised through the issuance of equity securities and/or debt financing. There being no assurance that any type of financing on terms acceptable to us will be available or otherwise occur. Debt financing must be repaid regardless of whether we generate revenues or cash flows from operations and may be secured by substantially all of our assets. Any equity financing or debt financing that requires the issuance of warrants or other equity securities to the lender would cause the percentage ownership by our current stockholders to be diluted, which dilution may be substantial. Also, any additional equity securities issued may have rights, preferences or privileges senior to those of existing stockholders. Any equity financing at a price below the then current conversion price of our Series A Convertible Preferred Stock will result in an adjustment to the conversion ratio, applicable to such securities, resulting in the issuance of additional shares of our Common Stock upon the conversion of our Series A Convertible Preferred Stock, which would further dilute our other stockholders.

#### **If we are not able to obtain sufficient capital, we may then be forced to limit the scope of our operations.**

We expect that as our business continues to grow we will need additional working capital. If adequate additional debt and/or equity financing is not available on reasonable terms or at all, we may not be able to continue to expand our business, and we will have to modify our business plans accordingly. These factors could have a material adverse effect on our future operating results and our financial condition.

If we reach a point where we are unable to raise needed additional funds to continue as a going concern, we could be forced to cease our activities and dissolve our company. In such an event, we will need to satisfy various creditors and other claimants, severance, lease termination and other dissolution-related obligations.

#### **Our revenues and results of operations may fluctuate from period to period**

Cash flow and projections for any entertainment company producing original content can be expected to fluctuate until the animated content and ancillary consumer products are in the market and could fluctuate thereafter even when the content and products are in the marketplace. There is significant lead time in developing and producing animated content before that content is in the marketplace. Unanticipated delays in entertainment production can delay the release of the content into the marketplace. Structured retail windows that dictate when new products can be introduced at retail are also out of our control. While we believe that we have mitigated this in part by creating a slate of properties at various stages of development or production as well as representing certain established brands which contribute immediately to cash flow, any delays in the production and release of our content and products or any changes in the preferences of our customers could result in lower than anticipated cash flows.

As with our cash flows, our revenues and results of operations depend significantly upon the appeal of our content to our customers, the timing of releases of our products and the commercial success of our products, none of which can be predicted with certainty. Accordingly, our revenues and results of operations may fluctuate from period to period. The results of one period may not be indicative of the results of any future period. Any quarterly fluctuations that we report in the future may not match the expectations of market analysts and investors. This could cause the price of our Common Stock to fluctuate.

Production cost will be amortized according to the individual film forecasting methodology. If estimated remaining revenue is not sufficient to recover the unamortized production costs, the unamortized production costs will be written down to fair value. In any given quarter, if we lower our previous forecast with respect to total anticipated revenue, we would be required to adjust amortization of related production costs. These adjustments would adversely impact our business, operating results and financial condition.

**Changes in the United States, global or regional economic conditions could adversely affect the profitability of our business.**

A decrease in economic activity in the United States or in other regions of the world in which we do business could adversely affect demand for our products, thus reducing our revenue and earnings. A decline in economic conditions could reduce demand for and sales of our products. In addition, an increase in price levels generally, or in price levels in a particular sector, could result in a shift in consumer demand away from the animated content and consumer products we offer, which could also decrease our revenues, increase our costs, or both.

**Inaccurately anticipating changes and trends in popular culture, media and movies, fashion, or technology can negatively affect our sales.**

While trends in the toddler to tween sector change quickly, we respond to trends and developments by modifying, refreshing, extending, and expanding our product offerings on an on-going basis. However, we operate in extremely competitive industries where the ultimate appeal and popularity of content and products targeted to this sector can be difficult to predict. We believe our focus on “content with a purpose” serves an underrepresented area of the toddler to tween market; however, if the interest of our audience trends away from our current properties toward other offerings based on current media, movies, animated content or characters, and if we fail to accurately anticipate trends in popular culture, movies, media, fashion, or technology, our products may not be accepted by children, parents, or families and our revenues, profitability, and results of operations may be adversely affected.

**We face competition from a variety of retailers that sell similar merchandise and have better resources than we do.**

The industries in which we operate are competitive, and our results of operations are sensitive to, and may be adversely affected by, competitive pricing, promotional pressures, additional competitor offerings and other factors, many of which are beyond our control. Indirectly through our licensing arrangements, we compete for retailers as well as other outlets for the sale and promotion of our licensed merchandise. Our primary competition comes from competitors such as The Walt Disney Company, Nickelodeon Studios, and the Cartoon Network.

We have sought a competitive advantage by providing “content with a purpose” which are both entertaining and enriching for children and offer differentiated value that parents seek in making purchasing decisions for their children. While we do not believe that this value proposition is specifically offered by our competitors, our competitors have greater financial resources and more developed marketing channels than we do which could impact our ability, through our licensees, to secure shelf space thereby decreasing our revenues or affecting our profitability and results of operations.

**The production of our animated content is accomplished through third-party production and animation studios around the world, and any failure of these third-parties could negatively impact our business.**

As part of our business model to manage cash flows, we have partnered with a number of third-party production and animation studios around the world for the production of our new content in which these partners fund the production of the content in exchange for a portion of revenues generated in certain territories. We are reliant on our partners to produce and deliver the content on a timely basis meeting the predetermined specifications for that product. The delivery of inferior content could result in additional expenditures by us to correct any problems to ensure marketability. Further, delays in the delivery of the finished content to us could result in our failure to deliver the product to broadcasters to which it has been pre-licensed. While we believe we have mitigated this risk by aligning the economic interests of our partners with ours and managing the production process remotely on a daily basis, any failures or delays from our production partners could negatively affect our profitability.

**If we fail to honor our obligations under the terms of our third-party supplier or loan agreements, our business may be adversely affected.**

In early 2014, we entered into an exclusive 3-year arrangement with DADC which gave DADC the right to fulfill our DVD and CD duplication requirements for our product. In consideration for these exclusive rights, we received an initial marketing support payment of \$750,000 with an additional \$750,000 paid in February 2015. DADC was to recoup the marketing support payment through a premium on the physical media unit costs. We were obligated to repay a pro-rata portion of the marketing support payment if we did not order a minimum number of DVD/CD units during the term.

On February 18, 2016, we entered into a Distribution Agreement with Sony pursuant to which we agreed to grant Sony certain rights for the marketing and distribution of our animated feature-length motion pictures and animated television series in the United States and Canada, and potentially additional countries. In consideration for such rights, and subject to certain conditions, Sony paid us an advance in the amount of \$2.0 million, against future royalties.

On January 10, 2017, we entered into an amendment of our home entertainment Distribution Agreement with Sony pursuant to which, among other things, Sony agreed to pay \$1,489,583 which was owed and payable by us to DADC for certain disk manufacturing and replication services, thereby terminating the agreement with DADC. The aggregate recoupable advance paid to us by Sony is \$3,489,583.

In connection with such transaction, we issued Sony 301,231 shares of our Common Stock at \$4.945 per share, Sony's exclusive territory for exercising its home entertainment distribution rights under the distribution agreement was extended from the United States and Canada to worldwide. Future cash flow from the distributed products under the distribution agreement, if any, will be impacted by the additional recoupment obligation. In connection with the above issuance of our shares, we entered into a subscription agreement with Sony, effective as of January 17, 2017.

On August 8, 2016, Llama Productions LLC, our wholly-owned subsidiary, closed a \$5,275,000 multiple draw-down, non-recourse, secured, non-revolving credit facility (the "Facility") with Bank Leumi USA to produce our animated series *Llama Llama* (the "Series"). The Series is configured as fifteen half-hour episodes comprised of thirty 11-minute programs to be delivered to Netflix in fall 2017. The Facility is secured by the license fees we will receive from Netflix for the delivery of the Series as well as our copyright in the Series. The Facility has a term of 40 months and has an interest rate of one, three, or six-month LIBOR plus 3.25%. We are obligated to repay the Facility and intend to do so from the receipt of the license fees to be received from Netflix commencing on the final delivery and acceptance of Series by Netflix. We have secured a completion bond through Film Finances Inc. to insure our obligations under the terms of the License Agreement with Netflix. A material default in the terms of the License Agreement with Netflix or a failure to deliver the Series in accordance with the terms of the License Agreement could result in a default in the terms of the Facility and liability, among other remedies, for the repayment of the Facility and/or the completion bond. As a condition of the loan agreement with Bank Leumi, we deposited \$1,000,000 into a cash account to be used solely for the production of the Series. If we fail to comply with our obligations under the foregoing loan agreement, our business may be adversely affected.

**Failure to successfully market or advertise our products could have an adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.**

Our products are marketed worldwide through a diverse spectrum of advertising and promotional programs. Our ability to sell products is dependent in part upon the success of these programs. If we or our licensees do not successfully market our products or if media or other advertising or promotional costs increase, these factors could have an adverse effect on our business, financial condition, and results of operations.

**The failure of others to promote our products may adversely affect our business.**

The availability of retailer programs relating to product placement, co-op advertising and market development funds, and our ability and willingness to pay for such programs, are important with respect to promoting our properties. In addition, although we may have agreements for the advertising and promotion of our products through our licensees, we will not be in direct control of those marketing efforts and those efforts may not be done in a manner that will maximize sales of our products and may have a material adverse effect on our business and operations.

**We may not be able to keep pace with technological advances.**

The entertainment industry in general, and the music and motion picture industries in particular, continue to undergo significant changes, primarily due to technological developments. Because of the rapid growth of technology, shifting consumer tastes and the popularity and availability of other forms of entertainment, it is impossible to predict the overall effect these factors could have on potential revenue from, and profitability of, distributing entertainment programming. As it is also impossible to predict the overall effect these factors could have on our ability to compete effectively in a changing market, if we are not able to keep pace with these technological advances, our revenues, profitability and results from operations may be materially adversely affected.

**Failure in our information technology and storage systems could significantly disrupt the operation of our business.**

Our ability to execute our business plan and maintain operations depends on the continued and uninterrupted performance of our information technology (“IT”) systems. IT systems are vulnerable to risks and damages from a variety of sources, including telecommunications or network failures, malicious human acts and natural disasters. Moreover, despite network security and back-up measures, some of our and our vendors’ servers are potentially vulnerable to physical or electronic break-ins, including cyber-attacks, computer viruses and similar disruptive problems. These events could lead to the unauthorized access, disclosure and use of non-public information. The techniques used by criminal elements to attack computer systems are sophisticated, change frequently and may originate from less regulated and remote areas of the world. As a result, we may not be able to address these techniques proactively or implement adequate preventative measures. If our computer systems are compromised, we could be subject to fines, damages, litigation and enforcement actions, and we could lose trade secrets, the occurrence of which could harm our business. Despite precautionary measures to prevent unanticipated problems that could affect our IT systems, sustained or repeated system failures that interrupt our ability to generate and maintain data could adversely affect our ability to operate our business.

**Loss of key personnel may adversely affect our business.**

Our success greatly depends on the performance of our executive management team, including Andy Heyward, our Chief Executive Officer, Gregory B. Payne, our Chief Operating Officer and Rebecca D. Hershinger, our Chief Financial Officer. The loss of the services of any member of our core executive management team or other key persons could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition.

**Our management team currently owns a substantial interest in our voting stock.**

As of October 1, 2017, our management team and Board of Directors beneficially own or control (including conversions, options or warrants exercisable or convertible within 60 days) a combined 1,838,159, or 28.2%, of our shares currently outstanding (including conversions, options or warrants exercisable or convertible within 60 days). Sales of significant amounts of shares held by our directors and executive officers, or the prospect of these sales, could adversely affect the market price of our Common Stock. Additionally, management has the ability to control any proposals submitted to shareholders, including corporate actions and board changes which may not be in accordance with the votes of other shareholders.

**Litigation may harm our business or otherwise distract management.**

Substantial, complex or extended litigation could cause us to incur large expenditures and could distract management. For example, lawsuits by licensors, consumers, employees or stockholders could be very costly and disrupt business. While disputes from time to time are not uncommon, we may not be able to resolve such disputes on terms favorable to us.

**Our vendors and licensees may be subject to various laws and government regulations, violation of which could subject these parties to sanctions which could lead to increased costs or the interruption of normal business operations that could negatively impact our financial condition and results of operations.**

Our vendors and licensees may operate in a highly regulated environment in the US and international markets. Federal, state and local governmental entities and foreign governments may regulate aspects of their businesses, including the production or distribution of our content or products. These regulations may include accounting standards, taxation requirements (including changes in applicable income tax rates, new tax laws and revised tax law interpretations), product safety and other safety standards, trade restrictions, regulations regarding financial matters, environmental regulations, advertising directed toward children, product content, and other administrative and regulatory restrictions. While we believe our vendors and licensees take all the steps necessary to comply with these laws and regulations, there can be no assurance that they are compliant or will be in compliance in the future. Failure to comply could result in monetary liabilities and other sanctions which could increase our costs or decrease our revenue resulting in a negative impact on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

**Protecting and defending against intellectual property claims may have a material adverse effect on our business.**

Our ability to compete in the animated content and entertainment industry depends, in part, upon successful protection of our proprietary and intellectual property. We protect our property rights to our productions through available copyright and trademark laws and licensing and distribution arrangements with reputable companies in specific territories and media for limited durations. Despite these precautions, existing copyright and trademark laws afford only limited, or no, practical protection in some jurisdictions. It may be possible for unauthorized third parties to copy and distribute our productions or portions of our productions. In addition, although we own most of the music and intellectual property included in our products, there are some titles which the music or other elements are in the public domain and for which it is difficult or even impossible to determine whether anyone has obtained ownership or royalty rights. It is an inherent risk in our industry that people may make such claims with respect to any title already included in our products, whether or not such claims can be substantiated. If litigation is necessary in the future to enforce our intellectual property rights, to protect our trade secrets, to determine the validity and scope of the proprietary rights of others or to defend against claims of infringement or invalidity. Any such litigation could result in substantial costs and the resulting diversion of resources could have an adverse effect on our business, operating results or financial condition.

**RISKS RELATING TO OUR COMMON STOCK**

**Our stock price may be subject to substantial volatility, and stockholders may lose all or a substantial part of their investment.**

Our Common Stock currently trades on the NASDAQ Capital Market. There is limited public float, and trading volume historically has been low and sporadic. As a result, the market price for our Common Stock may not necessarily be a reliable indicator of our fair market value. The price at which our Common Stock trades may fluctuate as a result of a number of factors, including the number of shares available for sale in the market, quarterly variations in our operating results, actual or anticipated announcements of new releases by us or competitors, the gain or loss of significant customers, changes in the estimates of our operating performance, market conditions in our industry and the economy as a whole.

**If we fail to maintain effective internal controls over financial reporting, the price of our Common Stock may be adversely affected.**

Our internal control over financial reporting may have weaknesses and conditions that could require correction or remediation, the disclosure of which may have an adverse impact on the price of our Common Stock. We are required to establish and maintain appropriate internal controls over financial reporting. Failure to establish those controls, or any failure of those controls once established, could adversely affect our public disclosures regarding our business, prospects, financial condition or results of operations.

Rules adopted by the SEC pursuant to Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 require an annual assessment of internal controls over financial reporting, and for certain issuers an attestation of this assessment by the issuer's independent registered public accounting firm. The standards that must be met for management to assess the internal controls over financial reporting as effective are evolving and complex, and require significant documentation, testing, and possible remediation to meet the detailed standards. We expect to incur significant expenses and to devote resources to Section 404 compliance on an ongoing basis. It is difficult for us to predict how long it will take or costly it will be to complete the assessment of the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting for each year and to remediate any deficiencies in our internal control over financial reporting. As a result, we may not be able to complete the assessment and remediation process on a timely basis. In addition, management's assessment of internal controls over financial reporting may identify weaknesses and conditions that need to be addressed in our internal controls over financial reporting or other matters that may raise concerns for investors. Any actual or perceived weaknesses and conditions that need to be addressed in our internal control over financial reporting or disclosure of management's assessment of our internal controls over financial reporting may have an adverse impact on the price of our Common Stock.

**We are authorized to issue "blank check" preferred stock without stockholder approval, which could adversely impact the rights of holders of our Common Stock.**

Our Articles of Incorporation authorize us to issue up to 10,000,000 shares of blank check preferred stock. Any additional preferred stock that we issue in the future may rank ahead of our Common Stock in terms of dividend priority or liquidation premiums and may have greater voting rights than our Common Stock. In addition, such preferred stock may contain provisions allowing those shares to be converted into shares of Common Stock, which could dilute the value of Common Stock to current stockholders and could adversely affect the market price, if any, of our Common Stock. In addition, the preferred stock could be utilized, under certain circumstances, as a method of discouraging, delaying or preventing a change in control of our company. Although we have no present intention to issue any additional shares of authorized preferred stock, there can be no assurance that we will not do so in the future.



**We do not expect to pay dividends in the future and any return on investment may be limited to the value of our Common Stock.**

We do not currently anticipate paying cash dividends in the foreseeable future. The payment of dividends on our Common Stock will depend on earnings, financial condition and other business and economic factors affecting it at such time as our Board of Directors may consider relevant. Our current intention is to apply net earnings, if any, in the foreseeable future to increasing our capital base and development and marketing efforts. There can be no assurance that we will ever have sufficient earnings to declare and pay dividends to the holders of our Common Stock, and in any event, a decision to declare and pay dividends is at the sole discretion of our Board of Directors. If we do not pay dividends, our Common Stock may be less valuable because the return on investment will only occur if its stock price appreciates.

**Our outstanding Series A Convertible Preferred Stock contains anti-dilution provisions that, if triggered, could cause substantial dilution to our then-existing Common Stock holders which could adversely affect our stock price.**

Our outstanding Series A Convertible Preferred Stock contains anti-dilution provisions to benefit the holders thereof. As a result, if we, in the future, issue Common Stock or grant any rights to purchase our Common Stock or other securities convertible into our Common Stock for a per share price less than the then existing conversion price of the Series A Convertible Preferred Stock, an adjustment to the then current conversion price would occur. This reduction in the conversion price could result in substantial dilution to our then-existing common stockholders as well as give rise to a beneficial conversion feature reported on our statement of operations. Either or both of which could adversely affect the price of our Common Stock.

**Offers or availability for sale of a substantial number of shares of our Common Stock may cause the price of our Common Stock to decline.**

If our stockholders sell substantial amounts of our Common Stock in the public market upon the expiration of any statutory holding period under Rule 144, or shares issued upon the exercise of outstanding options or warrants, it could create a circumstance commonly referred to as an “overhang” and, in anticipation of which, the market price of our Common Stock could fall. The existence of an overhang, whether or not sales have occurred or are occurring, also could make more difficult our ability to raise additional financing through the sale of equity or equity-related securities in the future at a time and price that we deem reasonable or appropriate.

In general, under Rule 144, a non-affiliated person who has held restricted shares of our Common Stock for a period of six months may sell into the market all of their shares, subject to us being current in our periodic reports filed with the Commission.

As of October 1, 2017, approximately 3,557,216 shares of Common Stock of the 5,938,103 shares of Common Stock issued and outstanding are free trading. Additionally, as of October 1, 2017, there are 1,201,667 shares of Common Stock underlying the Series A Convertible Preferred Stock that could be sold pursuant to Rule 144. As of the same date, there are 1,553,359 shares of Common Stock underlying outstanding warrants that could be sold pursuant to Rule 144 to the extent permitted by any applicable vesting requirements. Lastly, as of October 1, 2017, there are 1,303,215 shares of Common Stock underlying outstanding options granted and 363,452 shares reserved for issuance under our Genius Brands International, Inc. Amended 2015 Incentive Plan, all of which are unregistered but will become eligible for sale in the public market to the extent permitted by any applicable vesting requirements and Rule 144 under the Securities Act.

**Concentration of ownership among our existing officers, directors and principal stockholders may prevent other stockholders from influencing significant corporate decisions and depress our stock price.**

Based on the number of shares outstanding as of October 1, 2017, our officers, directors and stockholders who hold at least 5% of our stock beneficially own a combined total of approximately 58.7% of our outstanding common stock, including shares of common stock subject to preferred shares, stock options, and warrants that are currently convertible or exercisable or will be convertible or exercisable within 60 days after October 1, 2017. If these officers, directors, and principal stockholders or a group of our principal stockholders act together, they will be able to exert a significant degree of influence over our management and affairs and control matters requiring stockholder approval, including the election of directors and approval of mergers, business combinations or other significant transactions. The interests of one or more of these stockholders may not always coincide with our interests or the interests of other stockholders. For instance, officers, directors, and principal stockholders, acting together, could cause us to enter into transactions or agreements that we would not otherwise consider. Similarly, this concentration of ownership may have the effect of delaying or preventing a change in control of our company otherwise favored by our other stockholders.

**Our management team will have immediate and broad discretion over the use of the net proceeds from this offering and we may use the net proceeds in ways with which you disagree.**

The net proceeds from this offering will be immediately available to our management to use at their discretion. We currently intend to use the net proceeds as discussed under “Use of Proceeds” in this prospectus supplement. We have not allocated specific amounts of the net proceeds from this offering for any other purposes. Accordingly, our management will have significant discretion and flexibility in applying the net proceeds of this offering. You will be relying on the judgment of our management with regard to the use of these net proceeds, and you will not have the opportunity, as part of your investment decision, to assess whether the proceeds are being used appropriately. It is possible that the net proceeds will be invested in a way that does not result in a favorable, or any, return for us or our stockholders. The failure of our management to use such funds effectively could have a material adverse effect on our business, prospects, financial condition, and results of operation.

## USE OF PROCEEDS

We expect to receive net proceeds of approximately \$5,750,000 from this offering, after deducting the placement agent fee and estimated offering expenses payable by us.

We intend to use the net proceeds from this offering for general corporate purposes, including working capital and repayment of existing corporate obligations.

## **DIVIDEND POLICY**

We have never declared or paid any cash dividends on our capital stock and do not expect to pay any cash dividends for the foreseeable future. We intend to use future earnings, if any, in the operation and expansion of our business. Any future determination relating to our dividend policy will be made at the discretion of our board of directors, based on our financial condition, results of operations, contractual restrictions, capital requirements, business properties, restrictions imposed by applicable law and other factors our board of directors may deem relevant.

## DILUTION

As of June 30, 2017, our net tangible book value was approximately \$1.0 million, or \$0.17 per share of our Common Stock. Net tangible book value per share represents the amount of our total tangible assets less our total liabilities, divided by the total number of shares of our Common Stock outstanding as of June 30, 2017.

After giving effect to the sale of 1,647,691 shares of our Common Stock in this offering at an offering price of \$3.90 per share, and after deducting estimated offering fees and expenses payable by us, our net tangible book value as of June 30, 2017 would have been approximately \$0.90 per share of Common Stock. This represents an immediate increase in net tangible book value of \$0.73 per share to our existing stockholders and an immediate dilution in net tangible book value of \$3.00 per share to investors participating in this offering. The following table illustrates this dilution per share of Common Stock to investors participating in this offering:

Public offering price per share		\$	3.90
Net tangible book value per share as of June 30, 2017	\$	0.17	
Increase in net tangible book value per share attributable to new investors in this offering	\$	0.73	
Adjusted net tangible book value per share after giving effect to the offering		\$	0.90
Dilution per share to new investors in this offering		\$	3.00

The foregoing illustration does not reflect the potential dilution from the exercise of outstanding options or warrants to purchase shares of our common stock or reflect the dilution that would result from the exercise of the Warrants sold in the concurrent private placement transaction, as described below under "Private Placement Transaction."

## DESCRIPTION OF CAPITAL STOCK

### General

The following description of our common stock and preferred stock, together with the additional information we include in any applicable prospectus supplement or in any free writing prospectuses we have authorized for use in connection with a specific offering, summarizes some of the terms and provisions of the shares of our common stock and preferred stock that we may offer under this prospectus. These summary descriptions of our common stock and preferred stock are not meant to be complete descriptions of each security. For the complete terms of our common stock and preferred stock, please refer to our articles of incorporation, as may be amended from time to time, any certificates of designation for our preferred stock that may be authorized from time to time, and our bylaws, as amended from time to time. The Nevada Revised Statutes may also affect the terms of these securities. While the terms we have summarized below will apply generally to any future common stock or preferred stock that we may offer under this prospectus, we will describe the specific terms of any series of these securities in more detail in the applicable prospectus supplement. The applicable prospectus supplement for a particular offering of our common stock or preferred stock may specify different or additional terms.

Our authorized capital stock consists of 243,333,334 shares of capital stock, of which 233,333,334 are shares of common stock, par value \$0.001 per share, and 10,000,000 are shares of preferred stock, par value \$0.001.

### Capital Stock Issued and Outstanding

As of October 1, 2017, we have issued and outstanding:

- 5,938,103 shares of common stock; and
- 3,605 shares of Series A Convertible Preferred Stock which are convertible into 1,201,667 shares of common stock.

### Common Stock

The holders of our common stock are entitled to one vote per share. In addition, the holders of our common stock will be entitled to receive ratably such dividends, if any, as may be declared by our Board of Directors out of legally available funds; however, the current policy of our Board of Directors is to retain earnings, if any, for operations and growth. Upon liquidation, dissolution or winding-up, the holders of our common stock will be entitled to share ratably in all assets that are legally available for distribution. The holders of our common stock will have no preemptive, subscription, redemption or conversion rights. The rights, preferences and privileges of holders of our common stock will be subject to, and may be adversely affected by, the rights of the holders of any series of preferred stock, which may be designated solely by action of our board of directors and issued in the future.

### Preferred Stock

Our Board of Directors is authorized, subject to any limitations prescribed by law, without further vote or action by our stockholders, to issue from time to time shares of preferred stock in one or more series. Each series of preferred stock will have such number of shares, designations, preferences, voting powers, qualifications and special or relative rights or privileges as shall be determined by our Board of Directors, which may include, among others, dividend rights, voting rights, liquidation preferences, conversion rights and preemptive rights.

### *Series A Convertible Preferred Stock*

We have designated six thousand (6,000) shares of preferred stock as Series A Convertible Preferred Stock. Each share of Series A Preferred Stock is convertible into shares of our common stock based on a conversion calculation equal to the Base Amount divided by the conversion price. The Base Amount is defined as the sum of (i) the aggregate stated value of the Series A Preferred Stock to be converted and (ii) all unpaid dividends thereon. The stated value of each share of the Series A Preferred Stock is \$1,000 and the initial conversion price is \$6.00 per share, subject to adjustment in the event of stock splits, dividends and recapitalizations. Additionally, in the event we issue shares of our common stock or common stock equivalents at a per share price that is lower than the conversion price then in effect, the conversion price shall be adjusted to such lower price, subject to certain exceptions. Accordingly, in connection with the closing of the October 2015 Private Placement, the conversion price of the Series A Preferred Stock was reduced to \$3.00. We are prohibited from effecting a conversion of the Series A Preferred Stock to the extent that as a result of such conversion, the holder would beneficially own more than 9.99% in the aggregate of the issued and outstanding shares of our common stock, calculated immediately after giving effect to the issuance of shares of common stock upon conversion of the Series A Preferred Stock. The shares of Series A Preferred Stock possess no voting rights.

### **Options**

On September 18, 2015, the Company adopted the Genius Brands International, Inc. 2015 Incentive Plan (the "2015 Plan"). The 2015 Plan was approved by our stockholders in September 2015. The 2015 Plan, as approved by the stockholders, authorized the issuance up to an aggregate of 150,000 shares of common stock. On December 14, 2015, the Board of Directors voted to amend the 2015 Plan to increase the total number of shares that can be issued under the 2015 Plan by 1,293,334 from 150,000 shares to 1,443,334 shares. The increase in shares available for issuance under the 2015 Plan was approved by stockholders on February 3, 2016. On May 18, 2017, the Board of Directors voted to amend the 2015 Plan to increase the total number of shares that can be issued under the 2015 Plan from 1,443,334 shares to 1,666,667 shares. The increase in shares available for issuance under the 2015 Plan was approved by stockholders on July 25, 2017.

As of October 1, 2017, there are 1,303,215 options outstanding under the 2015 Plan.

### **Warrants**

In connection with the sale of the Company's Series A Convertible Preferred Stock in May 2014, Chardan Capital Markets LLC ("Chardan") acted as sole placement agent in consideration for which it received a cash fee of \$535,000 and a warrant to purchase up to 100,002 shares of the Company's Common Stock. These warrants are exercisable immediately, have an exercise price of \$6.00 per share, and have a five-year term.

In connection with the 2015 Private Placement, the Company issued to accredited investors the Original Warrants to purchase up to an aggregate of 1,443,362 shares of Common Stock for a purchase price of \$3.00 per share. The Original Warrants are exercisable into shares of Common Stock for a period of five (5) years from issuance at an initial exercise price of \$3.30 per share, subject to adjustment in the event of stock splits, dividends and recapitalizations. The Original Warrants are exercisable immediately. The Company is prohibited from effecting an exercise of the warrants to the extent that as a result of such exercise, the holder would beneficially own more than 4.99% (subject to increase up to 9.99% upon 61 days' notice) in the aggregate of the issued and outstanding shares of Common Stock, calculated immediately after giving effect to the issuance of shares of Common Stock upon exercise of the warrant.

In connection with the 2015 Private Placement, Chardan acted as sole placement agent in consideration for which it received a cash fee of \$300,000 and a warrant to purchase up to 141,668 shares of the Company's Common Stock. These warrants are exercisable immediately, have an exercise price of \$3.60 per share, and have a five-year term.

On February 9, 2017, the Company entered into the Private Transaction pursuant to the Agreement with certain holders of the Original Warrants. Pursuant to the Agreement, the holders of the Original Warrants and the Company agreed that such Original Warrant holders would exercise their Original Warrants in full, and the Company would issue to each such holder new warrants, with the new warrants being identical to the Original Warrants except that the termination date of such new warrants is February 10, 2022 (the "Reload Warrants"). In addition, depending on the number of Original Warrants exercised by all holders of the Original Warrants, the Company also agreed to issue to the holders another new warrant, identical to the Original Warrant except that the exercise price of such warrant is \$5.30 and such warrant is not exercisable until August 10, 2017 (the "Market Price Warrants" and together with the Reload Warrants, the "New Warrants").

The Company received gross proceeds of \$3,866,573 from the exercise of the Original Warrants and issued Reload Warrants to purchase an aggregate of 799,991 shares of the Company's Common Stock and Market Price Warrants to purchase an aggregate of 371,699 shares of the Company's Common Stock. In association with the Private Transaction, the Company recorded \$1,402,174, representing the difference in the fair market value of the Original Warrants and the New Warrants, as an adjustment to additional paid-in capital.

As of October 1, 2017, the Company has warrants outstanding to purchase up to 1,766,698 shares of common stock.

#### **Nevada Anti-Takeover Law and Certain Charter and Bylaw Provisions**

Some features of the Nevada Revised Statutes, which are further described below, may have the effect of deterring third parties from making takeover bids for control of our company or may be used to hinder or delay a takeover bid. This would decrease the chance that our stockholders would realize a premium over market price for their shares of common stock as a result of a takeover bid.

#### ***Acquisition of Controlling Interest***

The Nevada Revised Statutes contain provisions governing acquisition of a controlling interest of a Nevada corporation. These provisions provide generally that any person or entity that acquires a certain percentage of the outstanding voting shares of a Nevada corporation may be denied voting rights with respect to the acquired shares, unless the holders of a majority of the voting power of the corporation, excluding shares as to which any of such acquiring person or entity, an officer or a director of the corporation, or an employee of the corporation exercises voting rights, elect to restore such voting rights in whole or in part. These provisions apply whenever a person or entity acquires shares that, but for the operation of these provisions, would bring voting power of such person or entity in the election of directors within any of the following three ranges:

- 20% or more but less than 33 1/3%;
- 33 1/3% or more but less than or equal to 50%; or
- more than 50%.

The stockholders or board of directors of a corporation may elect to exempt the stock of the corporation from these provisions through adoption of a provision to that effect in the articles of incorporation or bylaws of the corporation. Our articles of incorporation and bylaws do not exempt our common stock from these provisions.

These provisions are applicable only to a Nevada corporation, which:

- has 200 or more stockholders of record, at least 100 of whom have addresses in Nevada appearing on the stock ledger of the corporation; and
- does business in Nevada directly or through an affiliated corporation.

On November 20, 2013, we amended our bylaws to provide that the provisions of NRS 78.378 and 78.3793 ("Acquisition of a Controlling Interest") shall not apply to the Company or to any acquisition of a controlling interest in the Company by any existing or future stockholder.

#### ***Combination with Interested Stockholder***

The Nevada Revised Statutes contain provisions governing combination of a Nevada corporation that has 200 or more stockholders of record with an interested stockholder. As of October 3, 2017, we had 249 stockholders of record, not including persons or entities that hold our stock in nominee or "street" name through various brokerage firms. Therefore, these provisions apply to us as of such date.



A corporation affected by these provisions may not engage in a combination within two years after the interested stockholder first became an interested stockholder, unless either (i) the combination or transaction by which the interested stockholder first became an interested stockholder is approved by the board of directors before the interested stockholder first became an interested stockholder, or (ii) the combination is approved by the board of directors and by the affirmative vote of the corporation's stockholders representing at least 60% of the outstanding voting power of the corporation not beneficially owned by the interested stockholder or the interested stockholder's affiliates. Generally, if approval is not obtained, then after the expiration of the two-year period, the business combination may be consummated with the approval of the board of directors of the combination or transaction by which the interested stockholder first became an interested stockholder before the person became an interested stockholder, or a majority of the voting power held by disinterested stockholders, or if the consideration to be received per share by disinterested stockholders is at least equal to the highest of:

- the highest price per share paid by the interested stockholder within the two years immediately preceding the date of the announcement of the combination or within two years immediately before, or in the transaction in which he, she or it became an interested stockholder, whichever is higher;
- the market value per share on the date of announcement of the combination or the date the person became an interested stockholder, whichever is higher; or
- if higher for the holders of preferred stock, the highest liquidation value of the preferred stock, if any.

Generally, these provisions define an interested stockholder as a person who is the beneficial owner, directly or indirectly, of 10% or more of the voting power of the outstanding voting shares of a corporation. Generally, these provisions define combination to include any merger or consolidation with an interested stockholder, or any sale, lease, exchange, mortgage, pledge, transfer or other disposition, in one transaction or a series of transactions, with an interested stockholder of assets of the corporation having:

- an aggregate market value equal to 5% or more of the aggregate market value of the assets of the corporation;
- an aggregate market value equal to 5% or more of the aggregate market value of all outstanding shares of the corporation; or
- representing 10% or more of the earning power or net income of the corporation.

#### ***Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws***

Pursuant to our Articles of Incorporation, the existence of authorized but unissued common stock and undesignated preferred stock may enable our board of directors to make more difficult or to discourage an attempt to obtain control of our Company by means of a merger, tender offer, proxy contest or otherwise, and thereby to protect the continuity of management. If, in the due exercise of its fiduciary obligations, the board of directors were to determine that a takeover proposal was not in our best interest, such shares could be issued by the board of directors without stockholder approval in one or more transactions that might prevent or render more difficult or costly the completion of the takeover transaction by diluting the voting or other rights of the proposed acquirer or insurgent stockholder group, by putting a substantial voting block in institutional or other hands that might undertake to support the position of the incumbent board of directors, by effecting an acquisition that might complicate or preclude the takeover, or otherwise.

In addition, our Articles of Incorporation grants our board of directors broad power to establish the rights and preferences of authorized and unissued shares of preferred stock. The issuance of shares of preferred stock could decrease the amount of earnings and assets available for distribution to holders of shares of common stock. The issuance also may adversely affect the rights and powers, including voting rights, of those holders and may have the effect of delaying, deterring or preventing a change in control of our Company.

#### **Registration Rights**

We entered into a registration rights agreement with the Company's Series A Convertible Preferred Stock investors, dated May 14, 2014, (the "May 2014 Registration Rights Agreement"). The May 2014 Registration Rights Agreement provides these investors the right to demand that their shares be covered by a registration statement that we are otherwise filing.

We entered into a registration rights agreement the October 2015 Private Placement investors, dated October 29, 2015, (the “October 2015 Registration Rights Agreement”). The October 2015 Registration Rights Agreement provides these Investors the right to demand that their shares be covered by a registration statement that we are otherwise filing.

**Transfer Agent and Registrar**

The transfer agent and registrar for our common stock is VStock Transfer LLC, 18 Lafayette Place, Woodmere, NY 11598.

**NASDAQ Global Market Listing**

Our common stock has been publicly traded on the NASDAQ Capital Market under the symbol “GNUS” since November 21, 2016.

## PRIVATE PLACEMENT TRANSACTION

In a concurrent private placement (the “Private Placement Transaction”), we are selling to purchasers of our Common Stock in this offering, warrants (the “Warrants”) to purchase 1,647,691 shares of our Common Stock.

The Warrants and the shares of our Common Stock issuable upon the exercise of the Warrants are not being registered under the Securities Act, are not being offered pursuant to this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus and are being offered pursuant to the exemption provided in Section 4(a)(2) under the Securities Act and Rule 506(b) promulgated thereunder. Accordingly, purchasers of the Warrants, may only sell shares of Common Stock issued upon exercise of the Warrants being sold to them in the concurrent private placement, pursuant to an effective registration statement under the Securities Act covering the resale of those shares, an exemption under Rule 144 under the Securities Act or another applicable exemption under the Securities Act.

Each Warrant will be immediately exercisable (the “Initial Exercise Date”) at an exercise price of \$3.90 per share, subject to adjustment, and will remain exercisable for five years from the Initial Exercise Date, but not thereafter. A holder of Warrants will not have the right to exercise any portion of its warrants if the holder, together with its affiliates, would beneficially own in excess of 4.99% of the number of shares of our Common Stock outstanding immediately after giving effect to such exercise (the “Beneficial Ownership Limitation”); provided, however, that upon notice to the Company, the holder may increase or decrease the Beneficial Ownership Limitation, provided that in no event shall the Beneficial Ownership Limitation exceed 9.99% and any increase in the Beneficial Ownership Limitation will not be effective until 61 days following notice of such increase from the holder to us. In addition, the holders of the Warrants will have the right to participate in any rights offering or distribution of assets (such as a spinoff) together with the holders of our Common Stock on an as-exercised basis.

The exercise price and number of the shares of our Common Stock issuable upon the exercise of the Warrants will be subject to adjustment for stock splits, reverse splits, and similar capital transactions, as described in the Warrants. The Warrants will be exercisable on a “cashless” basis in certain circumstances.

## PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

Chardan Capital Markets, LLC, which we refer to herein as the placement agent, has agreed to act as our exclusive placement agent in connection with this offering subject to the terms and conditions of the engagement letter, dated October 2, 2017. The placement agent is not purchasing or selling any of the shares of our Common Stock offered by this prospectus supplement, nor is it required to arrange the purchase or sale of any specific number or dollar amount of shares of our Common Stock, but has agreed to use its reasonable best efforts to arrange for the sale of all of the shares of our Common Stock offered hereby. We will enter into a securities purchase agreement directly with investors in connection with this offering and we may not sell the entire amount of shares of our Common Stock offered pursuant to this prospectus supplement. We will make offers only to a limited number of qualified institutional buyers and accredited investors. The placement agent is also acting as placement agent for the Private Placement Transaction. The placement agent may retain sub-agents and selected dealers in connection with this offering.

We have agreed to indemnify the placement agent against specified liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act, and to contribute to payments the placement agent may be required to make in respect thereof.

### Fees and Expenses

We have agreed to pay the placement agent a placement agent's fee equal to 9% of the aggregate purchase price of the shares of our Common Stock sold in this offering. The following table shows the per share and total cash placement agent's fees we will pay to the placement agent in connection with the sale of the shares of our Common Stock offered pursuant to this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, assuming the purchase of all of the shares offered hereby.

	<u>Per Share</u>	<u>Total</u>
Public offering price	\$ 3.90	\$ 6,425,995
Placement agent fees	\$ 0.35	\$ 578,340
Proceeds, before expenses, to us	\$ 3.55	\$ 5,847,655

In addition, we have agreed to reimburse the placement agent's actual out-of-pocket expenses up to \$35,000. We estimate that the total expenses of the offering payable by us, excluding the placement agent fees, will be approximately \$75,000.

We have also agreed to pay the placement agent a fee equal to the compensation in this offering if any investor which the placement agent contacted, or introduced to the Company, in connection with this offering provides us with capital in a public or private offering or financing transaction at any time within the twelve month period following termination of our engagement of the placement agent.

The placement agent may be deemed to be an underwriter within the meaning of Section 2(a)(11) of the Securities Act, and any commissions received by it and any profit realized on the resale of the shares sold by it while acting as principal might be deemed to be underwriting discounts or commissions under the Securities Act. As an underwriter, the placement agent would be required to comply with the requirements of the Securities Act and the Exchange Act, including, without limitation, Rule 415(a)(4) under the Securities Act and Rule 10b-5 and Regulation M under the Exchange Act. These rules and regulations may limit the timing of purchases and sales of shares by the placement agent acting as principal. Under these rules and regulations, the placement agent:

- may not engage in any stabilization activity in connection with our securities; and
- may not bid for or purchase any of our securities or attempt to induce any person to purchase any of our securities, other than as permitted under the Exchange Act, until it has completed its participation in the distribution.

### Discretionary Accounts

The placement agent does not intend to confirm sales of the securities offered hereby to any accounts over which it has discretionary authority.

### Listing

Our shares of common stock are listed on the Nasdaq Capital Market under the symbol GNUS.

### Other Relationships

The placement agent and its affiliates have engaged in, and may in the future engage in, investment banking and other commercial dealings in the ordinary course of business with us or our affiliates. They have received, or may in the future receive, customary fees and commissions for these transactions. We have not paid the placement agent any compensation in the 180 days prior to the date of this prospectus supplement, and we have no current arrangements or expectation to pay the placement agent any compensation (other than in connection with this offering and the concurrent private placement) within the next 90 days.

## LEGAL MATTERS

Certain legal matters relating to the issuance of the securities offered by this prospectus supplement will be passed upon for us by Mintz, Levin, Cohn, Ferris, Glovsky and Popeo, P.C., New York, New York. Ellenoff Grossman & Schole LLP has acted as counsel for the placement agent.

## EXPERTS

The consolidated financial statements of Genius Brands International, Inc. as of December 31, 2016, and for the year then ended, incorporated in this Prospectus by reference from the Genius Brands International, Inc.'s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2016 have been audited by Squar Milner LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, as stated in their report thereon, incorporated herein by reference, and have been incorporated in this Prospectus and Registration Statement in reliance upon such report and upon authority of such firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

The consolidated financial statements of Genius Brands International, Inc. as of December 31, 2015, and for the year then ended, incorporated in this Prospectus by reference from the Genius Brands International, Inc.'s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2015 have been audited by Haynie and Company, an independent registered public accounting firm, as stated in their report thereon, incorporated herein by reference, and have been incorporated in this Prospectus and Registration Statement in reliance upon such report and upon authority of such firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
<a href="#"><u>ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS</u></a>	ii
<a href="#"><u>PROSPECTUS SUMMARY</u></a>	1
<a href="#"><u>RISK FACTORS</u></a>	4
<a href="#"><u>CAUTIONARY NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS</u></a>	9
<a href="#"><u>RATIO OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES</u></a>	10
<a href="#"><u>USE OF PROCEEDS</u></a>	11
<a href="#"><u>PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION</u></a>	12
<a href="#"><u>DESCRIPTION OF CAPITAL STOCK</u></a>	14
<a href="#"><u>DESCRIPTION OF DEBT SECURITIES</u></a>	18
<a href="#"><u>DESCRIPTION OF WARRANTS</u></a>	21
<a href="#"><u>DESCRIPTION OF RIGHTS</u></a>	23
<a href="#"><u>DESCRIPTION OF PURCHASE CONTRACTS</u></a>	24
<a href="#"><u>DESCRIPTION OF UNITS</u></a>	25
<a href="#"><u>LEGAL MATTERS</u></a>	26
<a href="#"><u>EXPERTS</u></a>	26
<a href="#"><u>WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION</u></a>	26
<a href="#"><u>INCORPORATION OF INFORMATION BY REFERENCE</u></a>	26

## ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS

This prospectus is part of a registration statement that we filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, or SEC, utilizing a “shelf” registration process. Under this shelf registration process, we may offer shares of our common stock, preferred stock, various series of debt securities and/or warrants, rights or purchase contracts to purchase any of such securities, either individually or in units, in one or more offerings, with a total value of up to \$35,000,000. This prospectus provides you with a general description of the securities we may offer. Each time we offer a type or series of securities under this prospectus, we will provide a prospectus supplement that will contain specific information about the terms of that offering. We are subject to the provisions of General Instruction I.B.6. of the General Instructions to Form S-3, which provide that as long as the aggregate market value of our outstanding voting and non-voting common equity held by non-affiliates of our company is less than \$75 million, then the aggregate market value of securities sold by us or on our behalf on Form S-3, during the period of 12 calendar months immediately prior to, and including, the sale, is no more than one-third of the aggregate market value of the voting and non-voting common equity held by non-affiliates of our company.

This prospectus does not contain all of the information included in the registration statement. For a more complete understanding of the offering of the securities, you should refer to the registration statement, including its exhibits. The prospectus supplement may also add, update or change information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus. However, no prospectus supplement will offer a security that is not registered and described in this prospectus at the time of its effectiveness. This prospectus, together with the applicable prospectus supplements and the documents incorporated by reference into this prospectus, includes all material information relating to the offering of securities under this prospectus. You should carefully read this prospectus, the applicable prospectus supplement, the information and documents incorporated herein by reference and the additional information under the heading “Where You Can Find More Information” before making an investment decision.

You should rely only on the information we have provided or incorporated by reference in this prospectus or any prospectus supplement. We have not authorized anyone to provide you with information different from that contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus. No dealer, salesperson or other person is authorized to give any information or to represent anything not contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus. You must not rely on any unauthorized information or representation. This prospectus is an offer to sell only the securities offered hereby, but only under circumstances and in jurisdictions where it is lawful to do so. You should assume that the information in this prospectus or any prospectus supplement is accurate only as of the date on the front of the document and that any information we have incorporated herein by reference is accurate only as of the date of the document incorporated by reference, regardless of the time of delivery of this prospectus or any sale of a security.

We further note that the representations, warranties and covenants made by us in any agreement that is filed as an exhibit to any document that is incorporated by reference in the accompanying prospectus were made solely for the benefit of the parties to such agreement, including, in some cases, for the purpose of allocating risk among the parties to such agreements, and should not be deemed to be a representation, warranty or covenant to you. Moreover, such representations, warranties or covenants were accurate only as of the date when made. Accordingly, such representations, warranties and covenants should not be relied on as accurately representing the current state of our affairs.

This prospectus may not be used to consummate sales of our securities, unless it is accompanied by a prospectus supplement. To the extent there are inconsistencies between any prospectus supplement, this prospectus and any documents incorporated by reference, the document with the most recent date will control.

We were incorporated in California on January 3, 2006 and reincorporated in Nevada in October 2011. Our principal executive offices are located at 301 North Canon Drive, Suite 305, Beverly Hills, CA 90210. Our telephone number is 310-273-4222. We maintain an Internet website at [www.gnusbrands.com](http://www.gnusbrands.com). The information contained on, connected to or that can be accessed via our website is not part of this prospectus. We have included our website address in this prospectus as an inactive textual reference only and not as an active hyperlink.

Unless the context otherwise requires, “Genius Brands,” “the Company,” “we,” “us,” “our” and similar terms refer to Genius Brands International, Inc.

## PROSPECTUS SUMMARY

*The following is a summary of what we believe to be the most important aspects of our business and the offering of our securities under this prospectus. We urge you to read this entire prospectus, including the more detailed consolidated financial statements, notes to the consolidated financial statements and other information incorporated by reference from our other filings with the SEC or included in any applicable prospectus supplement. Investing in our securities involves risks. Therefore, carefully consider the risk factors set forth in any prospectus supplements and in our most recent annual and quarterly filings with the SEC, as well as other information in this prospectus and any prospectus supplements and the documents incorporated by reference herein or therein, before purchasing our securities. Each of the risk factors could adversely affect our business, operating results and financial condition, as well as adversely affect the value of an investment in our securities.*

### Overview

Genius Brands International, Inc. is a global content and brand management company that creates and licenses multimedia content. Led by industry veterans, we distribute our content in all formats as well as a broad range of consumer products based on its characters. In the children's media sector, our portfolio features "content with a purpose" for toddlers to tweens, which provides enrichment as well as entertainment, including tween music-driven brand *SpacePop*; preschool property debuting on Netflix *Llama Llama*; award-winning *Baby Genius*, re-launched with new entertainment and over 40 new products; adventure comedy *Thomas Edison's Secret Lab*®, available on Netflix, public broadcast stations and our *Kid Genius* channel on Comcast's Xfinity on Demand; Warren Buffett's *Secret Millionaires Club*, created with and starring iconic investor Warren Buffett. We are also co-producing an all-new adult-themed animated series, *Stan Lee's Cosmic Crusaders*, with Stan Lee's Pow! Entertainment and The Hollywood Reporter.

In addition, we act as licensing agent for certain brands, leveraging our existing licensing infrastructure to expand these brands into new product categories, new retailers, and new territories. These include *Llama Llama*; *From Frank*, a humor greeting card and product line; and *Celescence Technologies*, the world's leading microencapsulation company.

### Our Products

#### Original Content

The Company owns and produces original content that is meant to entertain and enrich toddlers to tweens. It is generally a three-year cycle from the inception of an idea, through production of the content and development and distribution of a range of consumer products to retail, creating an inevitable lag time between the creation of the intellectual property to the realization of economic benefit of those assets. The goal is to maintain a robust and diverse portfolio of brands, appealing to various interests and ages, featuring evergreen topics with global appeal. The Company's portfolio of intellectual property can be licensed, re-licensed, and exploited for years to come, with revenue derived from multiple sources and territories.

Our portfolio of original content includes:

#### Content in Production

*Llama Llama*: We are currently in production on fifteen half-hour animated episodes to premiere on Netflix in 2017. *Llama*'s creators include Oscar-winning director Rob Minkoff (*The Lion King*), director Saul Blinkoff (*Doc McStuffins*), showrunner Joe Purdy, art director Ruben Aquino (*Frozen*) and Emmy-winning producers Jane Startz and Andrew Heyward. Based on the NY Times #1 best-selling children's books, the animated series centers on young *Llama Llama*'s first steps in growing up and facing childhood milestones. Each episode will be structured around a childhood milestone coupled with a life lesson learned by *Llama Llama* and his friends, told with a sense of humor, vitality, and understanding. The global licensing program was unveiled in June 2016 at the Licensing Expo.

*SpacePop*: *SpacePop* is music and fashion driven animated property that has garnered over 10 million views and over 31,000 subscribers since its launch. With 108 three-minute webisodes greenlit for production, *SpacePop* has a best-in-class development and production team on board including Steve Banks (head writer and story editor of *Sponge Bob Square Pants*) as content writer; Han Lee (*Pink Fizz*, *Bobby Jack*) for original character designs; multiple Grammy Award-winning producer and music veteran Ron Fair (*Fergie*, *Mary J. Blige*, *Black Eyed Peas*, *Pussycat Dolls*, *Christina Aguilera* and more), singer-songwriter Stefanie Fair (founding member of RCA's girl group *Wild Orchid* with *Fergie*) for the original *SpacePop* theme music; and veteran music producer and composer John Loeffler (*Kidz Bop*, *Pokemon*) for original songs. Current promotional partners include with Six Flags, Dippin' Dots, and Campified. We have collaborated with licensing partners throughout North America, including Taste Beauty (beauty and bath products), Bare Tree Media (emoticons), Canal Toys (craft and activity kits), Yowie Group, Ltd. (confections), Jaya Apparel (apparel), and Sony Pictures Home Entertainment (home entertainment). Additionally, *SpacePop* products ranging from apparel and accessories, to beauty, cosmetics, candy, books, and music became available at select *Claire's* and *Kohl's* in October. We will add a program at a third national retailer starting in December 2016 with a dedicated feature space merchandising over 20 *SpacePop* items from our various licensees creating the ultimate *SpacePop* destination in time for the December 2016 holiday season.



*Stan Lee's Cosmic Crusaders: Stan Lee's Cosmic Crusaders* is a co-production between us, Stan Lee's POW! Entertainment, and The Hollywood Reporter of an adult-themed animated series whose launch coincided with "Stan Lee's 75 Years in Business" salute in The Hollywood Reporter's Comic-Con issue. *Cosmic Crusaders* is based on a concept by Stan Lee and written by *Deadpool* co-creator Fabian Nicieza. With 52 eleven-minute episodes greenlit for production, the first four episodes premiered exclusively on THR.com with one episode that aired during Comic-Con International 2016. *Stan Lee's Cosmic Crusaders* is the first series to launch on THR.com and will be promoted through THR's YouTube channel, Facebook, Twitter and Instagram pages. The global consumer products program was introduced at Licensing Expo 2016 with national retailer Hot Topic secured as anchor retail partner.

#### Content in Development

*Rainbow Rangers*: From Shane Morris, the writer of *Frozen*, and Rob Minkoff, the director of *The Lion King*, *Rainbow Rangers* is an animated series about the adventures of seven heroic pixies from Kaleidoscopia, a fantastic land on the other side of the rainbow. The Rangers serve as Earth's guardians and first-responders. When danger arrives, these seven pixie girls ride a rainbow across the sky and land wherever they are needed most in the small human city of Hopewell Junction.

#### Already Released Content

*Thomas Edison's Secret Lab*: *Thomas Edison's Secret Lab* is a STEM-based comedy adventure series by Emmy-nominated writer Steve Banks (*SpongeBob Square Pants*), multi-Emmy Award-winning writer Jeffrey Scott (*Dragon Tales*), and Emmy Award-winning producer Mark Young (*All Dogs Go To Heaven 2*). The series includes 52 eleven-minute episodes as well as 52 original music videos produced by Grammy Award-winning producer Ron Fair. The animated series follows the adventures of Angie, a 12-year-old prodigy who, along with her young science club, discovers Thomas Edison's secret lab!

Warren Buffet's *Secret Millionaire's Club*: With 26 thirty-minute episodes and 26 four-minute webisodes, this animated series features Warren Buffett acts as a mentor to a group of kids who have international adventures in business. *Secret Millionaire's Club* empowers kids by helping them learn about the business of life and the importance of developing healthy life habits at an early age.

*Baby Genius*: For more than ten years, *Baby Genius* has earned worldwide recognition for creating award-winning products for toddlers. Its catalogue of 500 songs, 125 music videos, and toys feature classic nursery rhymes, learning songs, classical music, holiday favorites and more

#### Licensing Agent

Augmenting our original content, we act as an agent for established brands which maximizes the existing infrastructure while creating incremental sources of revenue for us without additional overhead. These brands include *From Frank*, a popular line of greeting cards and *Celessence*, microencapsulation technology releases fragrance and is used to scent products.

#### **Kid Genius Cartoon Channel**

In April 2015, we partnered with Comcast to launch the new Kid Genius Cartoon Channel on Xfinity on Demand. With Xfinity, Kid Genius is currently in over 22 million homes. In November 2016, we partnered with a leading kids app distributor adding Over-The-Top ("OTT") distribution expanding onto platforms such as Roku, Apple TV, Amazon and Google and adding an additional 20 million homes. Our plans are to continue this roll-out into 2017 adding additional reach with the goal of being in over 80 million homes. Kid Genius Cartoon Channel combines the powerful value of owning a channel in its own right with the ability to promote our brands and products.

#### **Company Information**

We were incorporated in California on January 3, 2006 and reincorporated in Nevada in October 2011. Our principal executive offices are located at 301 North Canon Drive, Suite 305, Beverly Hills, CA 90210. Our telephone number is 310-273-4222. We maintain an Internet website at [www.gnusbrands.com](http://www.gnusbrands.com). The information contained on, connected to or that can be accessed via our website is not part of this prospectus. We have included our website address in this prospectus as an inactive textual reference only and not as an active hyperlink.

## Offerings under This Prospectus

Under this prospectus, we may offer shares of our common stock, preferred stock, various series of debt securities and/or warrants, rights or purchase contracts to purchase any of such securities, either individually or in units, with a total value of up to \$35,000,000 from time to time at prices and on terms to be determined by market conditions at the time of the offering. This prospectus provides you with a general description of the securities we may offer. Each time we offer a type or series of securities under this prospectus, we will provide a prospectus supplement that will describe the specific amounts, prices and other important terms of the securities, including, to the extent applicable:

The prospectus supplement also may add, update or change information contained in this prospectus or in documents we have incorporated by reference into this prospectus. However, no prospectus supplement will fundamentally change the terms that are set forth in this prospectus or offer a security that is not registered and described in this prospectus at the time of its effectiveness.

We may sell the securities directly to investors or to or through agents, underwriters or dealers. We, and our agents or underwriters, reserve the right to accept or reject all or part of any proposed purchase of securities. If we offer securities through agents or underwriters, we will include in the applicable prospectus supplement:

- the names of those agents or underwriters;
- applicable fees, discounts and commissions to be paid to them;
- details regarding over-allotment options, if any; and
- the net proceeds to us.

**This prospectus may not be used to consummate a sale of any securities unless it is accompanied by a prospectus supplement.**

## RISK FACTORS

Investing in our common stock involves a high degree of risk. Before making an investment decision, you should carefully consider the risks and uncertainties set forth below and in the “Risk Factors” section of our most recent Annual Report on Form 10-K and Form 10K/A, as revised or supplemented by our Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q filed with the SEC since the filing of our most recent Annual Report on Form 10-K and Form 10K/A, each of which is incorporated by reference into this prospectus, and you should also carefully consider any other information we include or incorporate by reference in this prospectus or include in any applicable prospectus supplement, including our financial statements and the related notes thereto. The risks and uncertainties described in this prospectus, in our filings with the SEC and incorporated by reference into this prospectus, are not the only ones we face. Additional risks and uncertainties not presently known to us, or that we currently believe are not material, also may become important factors that affect us and impair our business operations. The occurrence of any of the events or developments discussed in the risk factors described in our filings with the SEC could have a material and adverse impact on our business, results of operations, financial condition and cash flows, and in such case, our future prospects would likely be materially and adversely affected. If any of such events or developments were to happen, you could lose part or all of your investment. Further, our actual results could differ materially and adversely from those anticipated in our forward-looking statements as a result of certain factors.

### RISKS RELATING TO OUR BUSINESS

#### **We have incurred net losses since inception.**

The Company has a history of operating losses and incurred net losses in each fiscal quarter since its inception. For the nine months ended September 30, 2016 and 2015, the Company generated net revenues of \$648,711 and \$710,999, respectively, and incurred net losses of 4,363,567 and \$2,421,938, respectively. For the year ended December 31, 2015, the Company generated net revenues of \$907,983 and incurred a net loss of \$3,483,122, while for the previous year, the Company generated net revenue of \$925,788 and incurred a net loss of \$3,728,599. These losses, among other things, have had an adverse effect on our results of operations, financial condition, stockholders’ equity, net current assets and working capital.

The Company will need to generate additional revenue to achieve profitability. The Company has already achieved significant cost savings and is beginning to generate revenues derived from its existing properties, properties in production, new brands being introduced into the marketplace, and incremental revenue derived from the licensing business it manages on behalf of its clients. However, the ability to sustain these revenues and generate significant additional revenues or achieve profitability will depend upon numerous factors some of which are outside of the Company’s control.

#### **We will need additional financing to continue our operations. If we are unable to obtain additional financing on acceptable terms, we will need to curtail or cease our development plans and operations.**

As of September 30, 2016, we had approximately \$3,642,667 of available cash and cash equivalents. We are currently reviewing our current operating plans, and we will require additional capital. Additional funds may be raised through the issuance of equity securities and/or debt financing, there being no assurance that any type of financing on terms acceptable to us will be available or otherwise occur. Debt financing must be repaid regardless of whether we generate revenues or cash flows from operations and may be secured by substantially all of our assets. Any equity financing or debt financing that requires the issuance of warrants or other equity securities to the lender would cause the percentage ownership by our current stockholders to be diluted, which dilution may be substantial. Also, any additional equity securities issued may have rights, preferences or privileges senior to those of existing stockholders. Any equity financing at a price below the then current conversion price of our Series A Convertible Preferred Stock will result in an adjustment to the conversion ratio, applicable to such securities, resulting in the issuance of additional shares of our common stock upon the conversion of our Series A Convertible Preferred Stock, which would further dilute our other stockholders.

#### **If we are not able to obtain sufficient capital, we may then be forced to limit the scope of our operations.**

We expect that as our business continues to grow we will need additional working capital. If adequate additional debt and/or equity financing is not available on reasonable terms or at all, we may not be able to continue to expand our business, and we will have to modify our business plans accordingly. These factors could have a material adverse effect on our future operating results and our financial condition.

If we reach a point where we are unable to raise needed additional funds to continue as a going concern, we could be forced to cease our activities and dissolve the Company. In such an event, we will need to satisfy various creditors and other claimants, severance, lease termination and other dissolution-related obligations.

**Our revenues and results of operations may fluctuate from period to period**

Cash flow and projections for any entertainment company producing original content can be expected to fluctuate until the animated content and ancillary consumer products are in the market and could fluctuate thereafter even when the content and products are in the marketplace. There is significant lead time in developing and producing animated content before that content is in the marketplace. Unanticipated delays in entertainment production can delay the release of the content into the marketplace. Structured retail windows that dictate when new products can be introduced at retail are also out of the Company's control. While the Company believes it has mitigated this in part by creating a slate of properties at various stages of development or production as well as representing certain established brands which contribute immediately to cash flow, any delays in the production and release of our content and products or any changes in the preferences of our customers could result in lower than anticipated cash flows.

As with our cash flows, our revenues and results of operations depend significantly upon the appeal of our content to our customers, the timing of releases of our products and the commercial success of our products, none of which can be predicted with certainty. Accordingly, our revenues and results of operations may fluctuate from period to period. The results of one period may not be indicative of the results of any future period. Any quarterly fluctuations that we report in the future may not match the expectations of market analysts and investors. This could cause the price of our common stock to fluctuate.

Production cost will be amortized according to the individual film forecasting methodology. If estimated remaining revenue is not sufficient to recover the unamortized production costs, the unamortized production costs will be written down to fair value. In any given quarter, if we lower our previous forecast with respect to total anticipated revenue, we would be required to adjust amortization of related production costs. These adjustments would adversely impact our business, operating results and financial condition.

**Changes in the United States, global or regional economic conditions could adversely affect the profitability of our business.**

A decrease in economic activity in the United States or in other regions of the world in which we do business could adversely affect demand for our products, thus reducing our revenue and earnings. A decline in economic conditions could reduce demand for and sales of our products. In addition, an increase in price levels generally, or in price levels in a particular sector, could result in a shift in consumer demand away from the animated content and consumer products we offer, which could also decrease our revenues, increase our costs, or both.

**Inaccurately anticipating changes and trends in popular culture, media and movies, fashion, or technology can negatively affect our sales.**

While trends in the toddler to tween sector change quickly, we respond to trends and developments by modifying, refreshing, extending, and expanding our product offerings on an on-going basis. However, we operate in extremely competitive industries where the ultimate appeal and popularity of content and products targeted to this sector can be difficult to predict. We believe our focus on "content and products with a purpose" serves an underrepresented area of the toddler to tween market; however, if the interest of our audience trends away from our current properties toward other offerings based on current media, movies, animated content or characters, and if we fail to accurately anticipate trends in popular culture, movies, media, fashion, or technology, our products may not be accepted by children, parents, or families and our revenues, profitability, and results of operations may be adversely affected.

**We face competition from a variety of retailers that sell similar merchandise and have better resources than we do.**

The industries in which we operate are competitive, and our results of operations are sensitive to, and may be adversely affected by, competitive pricing, promotional pressures, additional competitor offerings and other factors, many of which are beyond our control. Indirectly through our licensing arrangements, we compete for retailers as well as other outlets for the sale and promotion of our licensed merchandise. Our primary competition comes from competitors such as The Walt Disney Company, Nickelodeon Studios, and the Cartoon Network.

The Company has sought a competitive advantage by providing “content and products with a purpose” which are both entertaining and enriching for children and offer differentiated value that parents seek in making purchasing decisions for their children. While we do not believe that this value proposition is specifically offered by our competitors, our competitors have greater financial resources and more developed marketing channels than we do which could impact the Company’s ability, through its licensees, to secure shelf space thereby decreasing our revenues or affecting our profitability and results of operations.

**The production of our animated content is accomplished through third-party production and animation studios around the world, and any failure of these third-parties could negatively impact our business.**

As part of our business model to manage cash flows, we have partnered with a number of third-party production and animation studios around the world for the production of our new content in which these partners fund the production of the content in exchange for a portion of revenues generated in certain territories. We are reliant on our partners to produce and deliver the content on a timely basis meeting the predetermined specifications for that product. The delivery of inferior content could result in additional expenditures by us to correct any problems to ensure marketability. Further, delays in the delivery of the finished content to us could result in the Company failing to deliver the product to broadcasters to which it has been pre-licensed. While we believe we have mitigated this risk by aligning the economic interests of our partners with ours and managing the production process remotely on a daily basis, any failures or delays from our production partners could negatively affect our profitability.

**If we fail to honor our obligations under the terms of our third party supplier or loan agreements, our business may be adversely affected.**

In early 2014, the Company entered into an exclusive 3-year arrangement with Sony DADC US Inc. which gives Sony the right to fulfill the Company’s DVD and CD duplication requirements for its product. In consideration for these exclusive rights the Company received an initial marketing support payment of \$750,000 with an additional \$750,000 paid in February 2015. Sony will recoup the marketing support payment through a premium on the physical media unit costs. The Company is obligated to repay a pro-rata portion of the marketing support payment if the Company does not order a minimum number of DVD/CD units during the term and to do so may require it to divert funds from operations which may have a material adverse effect on its business.

On August 8, 2016, Llama Productions LLC, our wholly-owned subsidiary, closed a \$5,275,000 multiple draw-down, non-recourse, secured, non-revolving credit facility (the “Facility”) with Bank Leumi USA to produce our animated series *Llama Llama* (the “Series”). The Series is configured as fifteen half-hour episodes comprised of thirty 11 minute programs to be delivered to Netflix in fall 2017. The Facility is secured by the license fees we will receive from Netflix for the delivery of the Series as well as our copyright in the Series. The Facility has a term of 40 months and has an interest rate of one, three, or six month LIBOR plus 3.25%. The Company is obligated to repay the Facility and intends to do so from the receipt of the license fees to be received from Netflix commencing on the final delivery and acceptance of Series by Netflix. The Company has secured a completion bond through Film Finances Inc. to insure its obligations under the terms of the License Agreement with Netflix. A material default in the terms of the License Agreement with Netflix or a failure to deliver the Series in accordance with the terms of the License Agreement could result in a default in the terms of the Facility and liability, among other remedies, for the repayment of the Facility and/or the completion bond. As a condition of the loan agreement with Bank Leumi, the Company deposited \$1,000,000 into a cash account to be used solely for the production of the Series.

**Failure to successfully market or advertise our products could have an adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.**

Our products are marketed worldwide through a diverse spectrum of advertising and promotional programs. Our ability to sell products is dependent in part upon the success of these programs. If we or our licensees do not successfully market our products or if media or other advertising or promotional costs increase, these factors could have an adverse effect on our business, financial condition, and results of operations.

**The failure of others to promote our products may adversely affect our business.**

The availability of retailer programs relating to product placement, co-op advertising and market development funds, and our ability and willingness to pay for such programs, are important with respect to promoting our properties. In addition, although we may have agreements for the advertising and promotion of our products through our licensees, we will not be in direct control of those marketing efforts and those efforts may not be done in a manner that will maximize sales of our products and may have a material adverse effect on our business and operations.

**We may not be able to keep pace with technological advances.**

The entertainment industry in general, and the music and motion picture industries in particular, continue to undergo significant changes, primarily due to technological developments. Because of the rapid growth of technology, shifting consumer tastes and the popularity and availability of other forms of entertainment, it is impossible to predict the overall effect these factors could have on potential revenue from, and profitability of, distributing entertainment programming. As it is also impossible to predict the overall effect these factors could have on our ability to compete effectively in a changing market, if we are not able to keep pace with these technological advances, our revenues, profitability and results from operations may be materially adversely affected.

**Loss of key personnel may adversely affect our business.**

Our success greatly depends on the performance of our executive management team, including Andrew Heyward, our Chief Executive Officer and Stone Newman, our President of Global Consumer Products, Worldwide Content Sales & Marketing. The loss of the services of any member of our core executive management team or other key persons could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition.

**Our management team currently owns a substantial interest in our voting stock.**

As of November 23, 2016, our management team and Board of Directors own or control a combined 1,815,658, or 39.9%, of the 3,990,649 shares currently outstanding. Sales of significant amounts of shares held by our directors and executive officers, or the prospect of these sales, could adversely affect the market price of our common stock. Additionally, management has the ability to control any proposals submitted to shareholders, including corporate actions and board changes which may not be in accordance with the votes of other shareholders.

**Litigation may harm our business or otherwise distract management.**

Substantial, complex or extended litigation could cause us to incur large expenditures and could distract management. For example, lawsuits by licensors, consumers, employees or stockholders could be very costly and disrupt business. While disputes from time to time are not uncommon, we may not be able to resolve such disputes on terms favorable to us.

**Our vendors and licensees may be subject to various laws and government regulations, violation of which could subject these parties to sanctions which could lead to increased costs or the interruption of normal business operations that could negatively impact our financial condition and results of operations.**

Our vendors and licensees may operate in a highly regulated environment in the US and international markets. Federal, state and local governmental entities and foreign governments may regulate aspects of their businesses, including the production or distribution of our content or products. These regulations may include accounting standards, taxation requirements (including changes in applicable income tax rates, new tax laws and revised tax law interpretations), product safety and other safety standards, trade restrictions, regulations regarding financial matters, environmental regulations, advertising directed toward children, product content, and other administrative and regulatory restrictions. While we believe our vendors and licensees take all the steps necessary to comply with these laws and regulations, there can be no assurance that they are compliant or will be in compliance in the future. Failure to comply could result in monetary liabilities and other sanctions which could increase our costs or decrease our revenue resulting in a negative impact on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

**Protecting and defending against intellectual property claims may have a material adverse effect on our business.**

Our ability to compete in the animated content and entertainment industry depends, in part, upon successful protection of our proprietary and intellectual property. We protect our property rights to our productions through available copyright and trademark laws and licensing and distribution arrangements with reputable companies in specific territories and media for limited durations. Despite these precautions, existing copyright and trademark laws afford only limited, or no, practical protection in some jurisdictions. It may be possible for unauthorized third parties to copy and distribute our productions or portions of our productions. In addition, although we own most of the music and intellectual property included in our products, there are some titles which the music or other elements are in the public domain and for which it is difficult or even impossible to determine whether anyone has obtained ownership or royalty rights. It is an inherent risk in our industry that people may make such claims with respect to any title already included in our products, whether or not such claims can be substantiated. If litigation is necessary in the future to enforce our intellectual property rights, to protect our trade secrets, to determine the validity and scope of the proprietary rights of others or to defend against claims of infringement or invalidity. Any such litigation could result in substantial costs and the resulting diversion of resources could have an adverse effect on our business, operating results or financial condition.

## **RISKS RELATING TO OUR COMMON STOCK**

### **Our stock price may be subject to substantial volatility, and stockholders may lose all or a substantial part of their investment.**

Our common stock currently trades on the Nasdaq Capital Market. There is limited public float, and trading volume historically has been low and sporadic. As a result, the market price for our common stock may not necessarily be a reliable indicator of our fair market value. The price at which our common stock trades may fluctuate as a result of a number of factors, including the number of shares available for sale in the market, quarterly variations in our operating results, actual or anticipated announcements of new releases by us or competitors, the gain or loss of significant customers, changes in the estimates of our operating performance, fluctuations in the fair value of our common stock warrant liability and market conditions in our industry and the economy as a whole.

### **If we fail to maintain effective internal controls over financial reporting, the price of our common stock may be adversely affected.**

Our internal control over financial reporting may have weaknesses and conditions that could require correction or remediation, the disclosure of which may have an adverse impact on the price of our common stock. We are required to establish and maintain appropriate internal controls over financial reporting. Failure to establish those controls, or any failure of those controls once established, could adversely affect our public disclosures regarding our business, prospects, financial condition or results of operations.

Rules adopted by the SEC pursuant to Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 require an annual assessment of internal controls over financial reporting, and for certain issuers an attestation of this assessment by the issuer's independent registered public accounting firm. The standards that must be met for management to assess the internal controls over financial reporting as effective are evolving and complex, and require significant documentation, testing, and possible remediation to meet the detailed standards. We expect to incur significant expenses and to devote resources to Section 404 compliance on an ongoing basis. It is difficult for us to predict how long it will take or costly it will be to complete the assessment of the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting for each year and to remediate any deficiencies in our internal control over financial reporting. As a result, we may not be able to complete the assessment and remediation process on a timely basis. In addition, management's assessment of internal controls over financial reporting may identify weaknesses and conditions that need to be addressed in our internal controls over financial reporting or other matters that may raise concerns for investors. Any actual or perceived weaknesses and conditions that need to be addressed in our internal control over financial reporting or disclosure of management's assessment of our internal controls over financial reporting may have an adverse impact on the price of our common stock.

### **We are authorized to issue "blank check" preferred stock without stockholder approval, which could adversely impact the rights of holders of our common stock.**

Our Articles of Incorporation authorize our Company to issue up to 10,000,000 shares of blank check preferred stock. Any additional preferred stock that we issue in the future may rank ahead of our common stock in terms of dividend priority or liquidation premiums and may have greater voting rights than our common stock. In addition, such preferred stock may contain provisions allowing those shares to be converted into shares of common stock, which could dilute the value of common stock to current stockholders and could adversely affect the market price, if any, of our common stock. In addition, the preferred stock could be utilized, under certain circumstances, as a method of discouraging, delaying or preventing a change in control of the Company. Although we have no present intention to issue any additional shares of authorized preferred stock, there can be no assurance that we will not do so in the future.

### **We do not expect to pay dividends in the future and any return on investment may be limited to the value of our common stock.**

We do not currently anticipate paying cash dividends in the foreseeable future. The payment of dividends on our common stock will depend on earnings, financial condition and other business and economic factors affecting it at such time as our Board of Directors may consider relevant. Our current intention is to apply net earnings, if any, in the foreseeable future to increasing our capital base and development and marketing efforts. There can be no assurance that we will ever have sufficient earnings to declare and pay dividends to the holders of our common stock, and in any event, a decision to declare and pay dividends is at the sole discretion of our Board of Directors. If we do not pay dividends, our common stock may be less valuable because the return on investment will only occur if its stock price appreciates.

### **Our outstanding Series A Convertible Preferred shares contain anti-dilution provisions that, if triggered, could cause substantial dilution to our then-existing common stock holders which could adversely affect our stock price.**

Our outstanding Series A Convertible Preferred shares contain anti-dilution provisions to benefit the holders thereof. As a result, if we, in the future, issue common stock or grant any rights to purchase our common stock or other securities convertible into our common stock for a per share price less than the then existing conversion price of the Series A Convertible Preferred shares, an adjustment to the then current conversion price would occur. This reduction in the conversion price could result in substantial dilution to our then-existing common stockholders as well as give rise to a beneficial conversion feature reported on our statement of operations. Either or both of which could adversely affect the price of our common stock.

## CAUTIONARY NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This prospectus and any accompanying prospectus supplements contain or incorporate by reference forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act, and Section 21E of the Exchange Act. Forward-looking statements are projections in respect of future events or our future financial performance. In some cases, you can identify forward-looking statements by terminology such as “may,” “should,” “would,” “intend,” “expect,” “plan,” “anticipate,” “believe,” “estimate,” “predict,” “potential” or “continue” or the negative of these terms or other comparable terminology and include, but are not limited to, statements regarding: our products; our business plan; the enforceability of our intellectual property rights; projections of market prices and costs; supply and demand for our products; future capital expenditures; our collaboration arrangements; relationships with retailers, and other business partners; ability to add new customer accounts; and future borrowings under our credit agreements. The material assumptions supporting these forward-looking statements include, among other things: our ability to obtain any necessary financing on acceptable terms; timing and amount of capital expenditures; the enforcement of our intellectual property rights; our ability to launch new products; retention of skilled personnel; continuation of current tax and regulatory regimes; current exchange rates and interest rates; and general economic and financial market conditions. Management believes that these forward-looking statements are reasonable as and when made. However, caution should be taken not to place undue reliance on any such forward-looking statements because such statements speak only as of the date when made. We undertake no obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, except as required by law. In addition, forward-looking statements are subject to certain risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from our historical experience and our present expectations or projections. These risks and uncertainties include: (1) a downturn in global economic conditions; (2) any adverse occurrence with respect to the development or marketing of our products; (3) any adverse occurrence with respect to any of our licensing or intellectual property agreements; (4) our ability to successfully launch new content and programming; (5) our ability to successfully collaborate with major partners; (6) product and content development or other initiatives by our competitors; (7) potential negative financial impact from claims, lawsuits and other legal proceedings or challenges; (8) our ability to enforce our intellectual property rights; (9) our ability to hire and retain senior management and key employees; and (10) other factors beyond our control. Additional risks also include those described herein and in our filings with the SEC.

You should read this prospectus and the documents that we have filed as exhibits to this prospectus completely and with the understanding that our actual future results may be materially different from what we expect. We do not assume any obligation to update any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, except as required by applicable law.

This prospectus includes statistical and other industry and market data that we obtained from industry publications and research, surveys and studies conducted by third parties. Industry publications and third-party research, surveys and studies generally indicate that their information has been obtained from sources believed to be reliable, although they do not guarantee the accuracy or completeness of such information.



## **RATIO OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES**

Any time debt securities are offered pursuant to this prospectus, we will provide a table setting forth our ratio of earnings to fixed charges on a historical basis in the applicable prospectus supplement, if required.

## **USE OF PROCEEDS**

We cannot assure you that we will receive any proceeds in connection with securities which may be offered pursuant to this prospectus. Unless otherwise indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, we intend to use any net proceeds from the sale of securities under this prospectus for our operations and for other general corporate purposes, including, but not limited to, the development, production, and distribution of animated content and associated licensed merchandise, general working capital and possible future acquisitions. We have not determined the amounts we plan to spend on any of the areas listed above or the timing of these expenditures. As a result, our management will have broad discretion to allocate the net proceeds, if any, we receive in connection with securities offered pursuant to this prospectus for any purpose. Pending application of the net proceeds as described above, we may initially invest the net proceeds in short-term, investment-grade, interest-bearing securities or apply them to the reduction of short-term or long-term indebtedness.

## PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

### General Plan of Distribution

We may offer securities under this prospectus from time to time pursuant to underwritten public offerings, negotiated transactions, block trades or a combination of these methods. We may sell the securities (1) through underwriters or dealers, (2) through agents or (3) directly to one or more purchasers, or through a combination of such methods. We may distribute the securities from time to time in one or more transactions at:

- a fixed price or prices, which may be changed from time to time;
- market prices prevailing at the time of sale;
- prices related to the prevailing market prices; or
- negotiated prices.

We may directly solicit offers to purchase the securities being offered by this prospectus. We may also designate agents to solicit offers to purchase the securities from time to time. We will name in a prospectus supplement any underwriter or agent involved in the offer or sale of the securities.

If we utilize a dealer in the sale of the securities being offered by this prospectus, we will sell the securities to the dealer, as principal. The dealer may then resell the securities to the public at varying prices to be determined by the dealer at the time of resale.

If we utilize an underwriter in the sale of the securities being offered by this prospectus, we will execute an underwriting agreement with the underwriter at the time of sale, and we will provide the name of any underwriter in the prospectus supplement which the underwriter will use to make re-sales of the securities to the public. In connection with the sale of the securities, we, or the purchasers of the securities for whom the underwriter may act as agent, may compensate the underwriter in the form of underwriting discounts or commissions. The underwriter may sell the securities to or through dealers, and the underwriter may compensate those dealers in the form of discounts, concessions or commissions.

With respect to underwritten public offerings, negotiated transactions and block trades, we will provide in the applicable prospectus supplement information regarding any compensation we pay to underwriters, dealers or agents in connection with the offering of the securities, and any discounts, concessions or commissions allowed by underwriters to participating dealers. Underwriters, dealers and agents participating in the distribution of the securities may be deemed to be underwriters within the meaning of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Securities Act, and any discounts and commissions received by them and any profit realized by them on resale of the securities may be deemed to be underwriting discounts and commissions. We may enter into agreements to indemnify underwriters, dealers and agents against civil liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act, or to contribute to payments they may be required to make in respect thereof.

If so indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, we will authorize underwriters or other persons acting as our agents to solicit offers by certain institutions to purchase securities from us pursuant to delayed delivery contracts providing for payment and delivery on the date stated in the prospectus supplement. Each contract will be for an amount not less than, and the aggregate amount of securities sold pursuant to such contracts shall not be less nor more than, the respective amounts stated in the prospectus supplement. Institutions with whom the contracts, when authorized, may be made include commercial and savings banks, insurance companies, pension funds, investment companies, educational and charitable institutions and other institutions, but shall in all cases be subject to our approval. Delayed delivery contracts will not be subject to any conditions except that:

- the purchase by an institution of the securities covered under that contract shall not at the time of delivery be prohibited under the laws of the jurisdiction to which that institution is subject; and
- if the securities are also being sold to underwriters acting as principals for their own account, the underwriters shall have purchased such securities not sold for delayed delivery. The underwriters and other persons acting as our agents will not have any responsibility in respect of the validity or performance of delayed delivery contracts.

Shares of our common stock sold pursuant to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part will be authorized for quotation and trading on the NASDAQ Capital Market. The applicable prospectus supplement will contain information, where applicable, as to any other listing, if any, on the NASDAQ Capital Market or any securities market or other securities exchange of the securities covered by the prospectus supplement. We can make no assurance as to the liquidity of or the existence of trading markets for any of the securities.

In order to facilitate the offering of the securities, certain persons participating in the offering may engage in transactions that stabilize, maintain or otherwise affect the price of the securities. This may include over-allotments or short sales of the securities, which involve the sale by persons participating in the offering of more securities than we sold to them. In these circumstances, these persons would cover such over-allotments or short positions by making purchases in the open market or by exercising their over-allotment option. In addition, these persons may stabilize or maintain the price of the securities by bidding for or purchasing the applicable security in the open market or by imposing penalty bids, whereby selling concessions allowed to dealers participating in the offering may be reclaimed if the securities sold by them are repurchased in connection with stabilization transactions. The effect of these transactions may be to stabilize or maintain the market price of the securities at a level above that which might otherwise prevail in the open market. These transactions may be discontinued at any time.

In compliance with the guidelines of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc., or FINRA, the maximum consideration or discount to be received by any FINRA member or independent broker dealer may not exceed 8% of the aggregate amount of the securities offered pursuant to this prospectus and any applicable prospectus supplement.

The underwriters, dealers and agents may engage in other transactions with us, or perform other services for us, in the ordinary course of their business.

## DESCRIPTION OF CAPITAL STOCK

### General

The following description of our common stock and preferred stock, together with the additional information we include in any applicable prospectus supplement or in any free writing prospectuses we have authorized for use in connection with a specific offering, summarizes some of the terms and provisions of the shares of our common stock and preferred stock that we may offer under this prospectus. These summary descriptions of our common stock and preferred stock are not meant to be complete descriptions of each security. For the complete terms of our common stock and preferred stock, please refer to our articles of incorporation, as may be amended from time to time, any certificates of designation for our preferred stock that may be authorized from time to time, and our bylaws, as amended from time to time. The Nevada Revised Statutes may also affect the terms of these securities. While the terms we have summarized below will apply generally to any future common stock or preferred stock that we may offer under this prospectus, we will describe the specific terms of any series of these securities in more detail in the applicable prospectus supplement. The applicable prospectus supplement for a particular offering of our common stock or preferred stock may specify different or additional terms.

Our authorized capital stock consists of 243,333,334 shares of capital stock, of which 233,333,334 are shares of common stock, par value \$0.001 per share, and 10,000,000 are shares of preferred stock, par value \$0.001.

### Capital Stock Issued and Outstanding

As of November 23, 2016, we have issued and outstanding:

- 3,990,649 shares of common stock; and
- 4,955 shares of Series A Convertible Preferred Stock which are convertible into 1,651,667 shares of common stock.

### Common Stock

The holders of our common stock are entitled to one vote per share. In addition, the holders of our common stock will be entitled to receive ratably such dividends, if any, as may be declared by our Board of Directors out of legally available funds; however, the current policy of our Board of Directors is to retain earnings, if any, for operations and growth. Upon liquidation, dissolution or winding-up, the holders of our common stock will be entitled to share ratably in all assets that are legally available for distribution. The holders of our common stock will have no preemptive, subscription, redemption or conversion rights. The rights, preferences and privileges of holders of our common stock will be subject to, and may be adversely affected by, the rights of the holders of any series of preferred stock, which may be designated solely by action of our board of directors and issued in the future.

### Preferred Stock

Our Board of Directors is authorized, subject to any limitations prescribed by law, without further vote or action by our stockholders, to issue from time to time shares of preferred stock in one or more series. Each series of preferred stock will have such number of shares, designations, preferences, voting powers, qualifications and special or relative rights or privileges as shall be determined by our Board of Directors, which may include, among others, dividend rights, voting rights, liquidation preferences, conversion rights and preemptive rights.

#### *Series A Convertible Preferred Stock*

We have designated six thousand (6,000) shares of preferred stock as Series A Convertible Preferred Stock. Each share of Series A Preferred Stock is convertible into shares of our common stock based on a conversion calculation equal to the Base Amount divided by the conversion price. The Base Amount is defined as the sum of (i) the aggregate stated value of the Series A Preferred Stock to be converted and (ii) all unpaid dividends thereon. The stated value of each share of the Series A Preferred Stock is \$1,000 and the initial conversion price is \$6.00 per share, subject to adjustment in the event of stock splits, dividends and recapitalizations. Additionally, in the event we issue shares of our common stock or common stock equivalents at a per share price that is lower than the conversion price then in effect, the conversion price shall be adjusted to such lower price, subject to certain exceptions. Accordingly, in connection with the closing of the October 2015 Private Placement, the conversion price of the Series A Preferred Stock was reduced to \$3.00. We are prohibited from effecting a conversion of the Series A Preferred Stock to the extent that as a result of such conversion, the holder would beneficially own more than 9.99% in the aggregate of the issued and outstanding shares of our common stock, calculated immediately after giving effect to the issuance of shares of common stock upon conversion of the Series A Preferred Stock. The shares of Series A Preferred Stock possess no voting rights.

## Options

On December 29, 2008, we adopted the 2008 Stock Option Plan (the “Plan”), which provides for the issuance of qualified and non-qualified stock options to officers, directors, employees and other qualified persons. The Plan is administered by the Board of Directors of the Company or a committee appointed by the Board of Directors. The number of shares of the Company’s common stock initially reserved for issuance under the Plan was 36,667. On September 2, 2011, the stockholders holding a majority of the Company’s outstanding common stock adopted an amendment to the Company’s 2008 Stock Option Plan to increase the number of shares of common stock issuable under the plan to 166,667.

On September 18, 2015, the Company adopted the Genius Brands International, Inc. 2015 Incentive Plan (the “2015 Plan”). The 2015 Plan was approved by our stockholders in September 2015. The 2015 Plan as approved by the stockholders authorized the issuance up to an aggregate of 150,000 shares of common stock. On December 14, 2015, the Board of Directors voted to amend the 2015 Plan to increase the total number of shares that can be issued under the 2015 Plan by 1,293,334 from 150,000 shares to 1,443,334 shares. The increase in shares available for issuance under the 2015 Plan was approved by stockholders on February 3, 2016.

As of September 30, 2016, there are 1,378,524 options outstanding under the 2015 Incentive Plan, and no options outstanding under the 2008 Stock Option Plan.

## Nevada Anti-Takeover Law and Certain Charter and Bylaw Provisions

Some features of the Nevada Revised Statutes, which are further described below, may have the effect of deterring third parties from making takeover bids for control of our company or may be used to hinder or delay a takeover bid. This would decrease the chance that our stockholders would realize a premium over market price for their shares of common stock as a result of a takeover bid.

### *Acquisition of Controlling Interest*

The Nevada Revised Statutes contain provisions governing acquisition of a controlling interest of a Nevada corporation. These provisions provide generally that any person or entity that acquires a certain percentage of the outstanding voting shares of a Nevada corporation may be denied voting rights with respect to the acquired shares, unless the holders of a majority of the voting power of the corporation, excluding shares as to which any of such acquiring person or entity, an officer or a director of the corporation, or an employee of the corporation exercises voting rights, elect to restore such voting rights in whole or in part. These provisions apply whenever a person or entity acquires shares that, but for the operation of these provisions, would bring voting power of such person or entity in the election of directors within any of the following three ranges:

- 20% or more but less than 33 1/3%;
- 33 1/3% or more but less than or equal to 50%; or
- more than 50%.

The stockholders or board of directors of a corporation may elect to exempt the stock of the corporation from these provisions through adoption of a provision to that effect in the articles of incorporation or bylaws of the corporation. Our articles of incorporation and bylaws do not exempt our common stock from these provisions.

These provisions are applicable only to a Nevada corporation, which:

- has 200 or more stockholders of record, at least 100 of whom have addresses in Nevada appearing on the stock ledger of the corporation; and
- does business in Nevada directly or through an affiliated corporation.

On November 20, 2013, we amended our bylaws to provide that the provisions of NRS 78.378 and 78.3793 (“Acquisition of a Controlling Interest”) shall not apply to the Company or to any acquisition of a controlling interest in the Company by any existing or future stockholder.

### ***Combination with Interested Stockholder***

The Nevada Revised Statutes contain provisions governing combination of a Nevada corporation that has 200 or more stockholders of record with an interested stockholder. As of November 23, 2016, we had 232 stockholders of record, not including persons or entities that hold our stock in nominee or “street” name through various brokerage firms. Therefore, these provisions apply to us as of such date.

A corporation affected by these provisions may not engage in a combination within two years after the interested stockholder first became an interested stockholder, unless either (i) the combination or transaction by which the interested stockholder first became an interested stockholder is approved by the board of directors before the interested stockholder first became an interested stockholder, or (ii) the combination is approved by the board of directors and by the affirmative vote of the corporation’s stockholders representing at least 60% of the outstanding voting power of the corporation not beneficially owned by the interested stockholder or the interested stockholder’s affiliates. Generally, if approval is not obtained, then after the expiration of the two-year period, the business combination may be consummated with the approval of the board of directors of the combination or transaction by which the interested stockholder first became an interested stockholder before the person became an interested stockholder, or a majority of the voting power held by disinterested stockholders, or if the consideration to be received per share by disinterested stockholders is at least equal to the highest of:

- the highest price per share paid by the interested stockholder within the two years immediately preceding the date of the announcement of the combination or within two years immediately before, or in the transaction in which he, she or it became an interested stockholder, whichever is higher;
- the market value per share on the date of announcement of the combination or the date the person became an interested stockholder, whichever is higher; or
- if higher for the holders of preferred stock, the highest liquidation value of the preferred stock, if any.

Generally, these provisions define an interested stockholder as a person who is the beneficial owner, directly or indirectly, of 10% or more of the voting power of the outstanding voting shares of a corporation. Generally, these provisions define combination to include any merger or consolidation with an interested stockholder, or any sale, lease, exchange, mortgage, pledge, transfer or other disposition, in one transaction or a series of transactions, with an interested stockholder of assets of the corporation having:

- an aggregate market value equal to 5% or more of the aggregate market value of the assets of the corporation;
- an aggregate market value equal to 5% or more of the aggregate market value of all outstanding shares of the corporation; or
- representing 10% or more of the earning power or net income of the corporation.

### ***Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws***

Pursuant to our Articles of Incorporation, the existence of authorized but unissued common stock and undesignated preferred stock may enable our board of directors to make more difficult or to discourage an attempt to obtain control of our Company by means of a merger, tender offer, proxy contest or otherwise, and thereby to protect the continuity of management. If, in the due exercise of its fiduciary obligations, the board of directors were to determine that a takeover proposal was not in our best interest, such shares could be issued by the board of directors without stockholder approval in one or more transactions that might prevent or render more difficult or costly the completion of the takeover transaction by diluting the voting or other rights of the proposed acquirer or insurgent stockholder group, by putting a substantial voting block in institutional or other hands that might undertake to support the position of the incumbent board of directors, by effecting an acquisition that might complicate or preclude the takeover, or otherwise.

In addition, our Articles of Incorporation grants our board of directors broad power to establish the rights and preferences of authorized and unissued shares of preferred stock. The issuance of shares of preferred stock could decrease the amount of earnings and assets available for distribution to holders of shares of common stock. The issuance also may adversely affect the rights and powers, including voting rights, of those holders and may have the effect of delaying, deterring or preventing a change in control of our Company.

## **Registration Rights**

We entered into a registration rights agreement with the Company's 0% Series A Convertible Preferred Stock investors, dated May 14, 2014, (the "May 2014 Registration Rights Agreement"). The May 2014 Registration Rights Agreement provides these investors the right to demand that their shares be covered by a registration statement that we are otherwise filing.

We entered into a registration rights agreement the October 2015 Private Placement investors, dated October 29, 2015, (the "October 2015 Registration Rights Agreement"). The October 2015 Registration Rights Agreement provides these Investors the right to demand that their shares be covered by a registration statement that we are otherwise filing.

### ***Form S-3 Registration Rights***

In addition, at any time after we become eligible to file a registration statement on Form S-3, subject to specified limitations set forth in the May 2014 Registration Rights Agreement or October 2015 Registration Rights Agreement, the holders of such registration rights have the right to require us to cover the resale of all registrable securities as provided for in either registration rights agreement.

### **Transfer Agent and Registrar**

The transfer agent and registrar for our common stock is VStock Transfer LLC, 18 Lafayette Place, Woodmere, NY 11598.

### **NASDAQ Global Market Listing**

Our common stock has been publicly traded on the NASDAQ Global Market under the symbol "GNUS" since November 21, 2016.



## DESCRIPTION OF DEBT SECURITIES

The following description, together with the additional information we include in any applicable prospectus supplements, summarizes the material terms and provisions of the debt securities that we may offer under this prospectus. While the terms we have summarized below will apply generally to any future debt securities we may offer pursuant to this prospectus, we will describe the particular terms of any debt securities that we may offer in more detail in the applicable prospectus supplement. If we so indicate in a prospectus supplement, the terms of any debt securities offered under such prospectus supplement may differ from the terms we describe below, and to the extent the terms set forth in a prospectus supplement differ from the terms described below, the terms set forth in the prospectus supplement shall control.

We may sell from time to time, in one or more offerings under this prospectus, debt securities, which may be senior or subordinated. We will issue any such senior debt securities under a senior indenture that we will enter into with a trustee to be named in the senior indenture. We will issue any such subordinated debt securities under a subordinated indenture, which we will enter into with a trustee to be named in the subordinated indenture. We use the term “indentures” to refer to either the senior indenture or the subordinated indenture, as applicable. The indentures will be qualified under the Trust Indenture Act of 1939, as in effect on the date of the indenture. We use the term “debenture trustee” to refer to either the trustee under the senior indenture or the trustee under the subordinated indenture, as applicable.

The following summaries of material provisions of the senior debt securities, the subordinated debt securities and the indentures are subject to, and qualified in their entirety by reference to, all the provisions of the indenture applicable to a particular series of debt securities.

### General

Each indenture will provide that debt securities may be issued from time to time in one or more series and may be denominated and payable in foreign currencies or units based on or relating to foreign currencies. Neither indenture will limit the amount of debt securities that may be issued thereunder, and each indenture will provide that the specific terms of any series of debt securities shall be set forth in, or determined pursuant to, an authorizing resolution and/or a supplemental indenture, if any, relating to such series.

We will describe in each prospectus supplement the following terms relating to a series of debt securities:

- the title or designation;
- the aggregate principal amount and any limit on the amount that may be issued;
- the currency or units based on or relating to currencies in which debt securities of such series are denominated and the currency or units in which principal or interest or both will or may be payable;
- whether we will issue the series of debt securities in global form, the terms of any global securities and who the depository will be;
- the maturity date and the date or dates on which principal will be payable;
- the interest rate, which may be fixed or variable, or the method for determining the rate and the date interest will begin to accrue, the date or dates interest will be payable and the record dates for interest payment dates or the method for determining such dates;
- whether or not the debt securities will be secured or unsecured, and the terms of any secured debt;
- the terms of the subordination of any series of subordinated debt;
- the place or places where payments will be payable;
- our right, if any, to defer payment of interest and the maximum length of any such deferral period;

- the date, if any, after which, and the price at which, we may, at our option, redeem the series of debt securities pursuant to any optional redemption provisions;
- the date, if any, on which, and the price at which we are obligated, pursuant to any mandatory sinking fund provisions or otherwise, to redeem, or at the holder's option to purchase, the series of debt securities;
- whether the indenture will restrict our ability to pay dividends, or will require us to maintain any asset ratios or reserves;
- whether we will be restricted from incurring any additional indebtedness;
- a discussion on any material or special U.S. federal income tax considerations applicable to a series of debt securities;
- the denominations in which we will issue the series of debt securities, if other than denominations of \$1,000 and any integral multiple thereof; and
- any other specific terms, preferences, rights or limitations of, or restrictions on, the debt securities.

We may issue debt securities that provide for an amount less than their stated principal amount to be due and payable upon declaration of acceleration of their maturity pursuant to the terms of the indenture. We will provide you with information on the federal income tax considerations and other special considerations applicable to any of these debt securities in the applicable prospectus supplement.

### **Conversion or Exchange Rights**

We will set forth in the prospectus supplement the terms, if any, on which a series of debt securities may be convertible into or exchangeable for our common stock or our other securities. We will include provisions as to whether conversion or exchange is mandatory, at the option of the holder or at our option. We may include provisions pursuant to which the number of shares of our common stock or our other securities that the holders of the series of debt securities receive would be subject to adjustment.

### **Information Concerning the Debenture Trustee**

The debenture trustee, other than during the occurrence and continuance of an event of default under the applicable indenture, undertakes to perform only those duties as are specifically set forth in the applicable indenture. Upon an event of default under an indenture, the debenture trustee under such indenture must use the same degree of care as a prudent person would exercise or use in the conduct of his or her own affairs. Subject to this provision, the debenture trustee is under no obligation to exercise any of the powers given it by the indentures at the request of any holder of debt securities unless it is offered reasonable security and indemnity against the costs, expenses and liabilities that it might incur.

### **Payment and Paying Agents**

Unless we otherwise indicate in the applicable prospectus supplement, we will make payment of the interest on any debt securities on any interest payment date to the person in whose name the debt securities, or one or more predecessor securities, are registered at the close of business on the regular record date for the interest.

We will pay principal of and any premium and interest on the debt securities of a particular series at the office of the paying agents designated by us, except that unless we otherwise indicate in the applicable prospectus supplement, we will make interest payments by check which we will mail to the holder. Unless we otherwise indicate in a prospectus supplement, we will designate the corporate trust office of the debenture trustee in the City of New York as our sole paying agent for payments with respect to debt securities of each series. We will name in the applicable prospectus supplement any other paying agents that we initially designate for the debt securities of a particular series. We will maintain a paying agent in each place of payment for the debt securities of a particular series.

All money we pay to a paying agent or the debenture trustee for the payment of the principal of or any premium or interest on any debt securities which remains unclaimed at the end of two years after such principal, premium or interest has become due and payable will be repaid to us, and the holder of the security thereafter may look only to us for payment thereof.

**Governing Law**

The indentures and the debt securities will be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of New York, except to the extent that the Trust Indenture Act is applicable.

**Subordination of Subordinated Debt Securities**

Our obligations pursuant to any subordinated debt securities will be unsecured and will be subordinate and junior in priority of payment to certain of our other indebtedness to the extent described in a prospectus supplement. The subordinated indenture does not limit the amount of senior indebtedness we may incur. It also does not limit us from issuing any other secured or unsecured debt.

## DESCRIPTION OF WARRANTS

### General

We may issue warrants to our stockholders to purchase shares of our common stock. We may offer warrants separately or together with one or more debt securities, common stock, rights or purchase contracts, or any combination of those securities in the form of units, as described in the applicable prospectus supplement. Each series of warrants will be issued under a separate warrant agreement to be entered into between us and a bank or trust company, as warrant agent. The warrant agent will act solely as our agent in connection with the certificates relating to the rights of the series of certificates and will not assume any obligation or relationship of agency or trust for or with any holders of rights certificates or beneficial owners of rights. The following description sets forth certain general terms and provisions of the rights to which any prospectus supplement may relate. The particular terms of the warrant to which any prospectus supplement may relate and the extent, if any, to which the general provisions may apply to the rights so offered will be described in the applicable prospectus supplement. To the extent that any particular terms of the warrant, warrant agreement or warrant certificates described in a prospectus supplement differ from any of the terms described below, then the terms described below will be deemed to have been superseded by that prospectus supplement. We encourage you to read the applicable warrant agreement and warrant certificate for additional information before you decide whether to purchase any of our rights.

We will provide in a prospectus supplement the following terms of the warrants being issued:

- the specific designation and aggregate number of, and the price at which we will issue, the warrants;
- the currency or currency units in which the offering price, if any, and the exercise price are payable;
- the designation, amount and terms of the securities purchasable upon exercise of the warrants;
- if applicable, the exercise price for shares of our common stock and the number of shares of common stock to be received upon exercise of the warrants;
- if applicable, the exercise price for shares of our preferred stock, the number of shares of preferred stock to be received upon exercise, and a description of that series of our preferred stock;
- if applicable, the exercise price for our debt securities, the amount of debt securities to be received upon exercise, and a description of that series of debt securities;
- the date on which the right to exercise the warrants will begin and the date on which that right will expire or, if you may not continuously exercise the warrants throughout that period, the specific date or dates on which you may exercise the warrants;
- whether the warrants will be issued in fully registered form or bearer form, in definitive or global form or in any combination of these forms, although, in any case, the form of a warrant included in a unit will correspond to the form of the unit and of any security included in that unit;
- any applicable material U.S. federal income tax consequences;
- the identity of the warrant agent for the warrants and of any other depositaries, execution or paying agents, transfer agents, registrars or other agents;
- the proposed listing, if any, of the warrants or any securities purchasable upon exercise of the warrants on any securities exchange;
- if applicable, the date from and after which the warrants and the common stock, preferred stock and/or debt securities will be separately transferable;
- if applicable, the minimum or maximum amount of the warrants that may be exercised at any one time;
- information with respect to book-entry procedures, if any;

- the anti-dilution provisions of the warrants, if any;
- any redemption or call provisions;
- whether the warrants may be sold separately or with other securities as parts of units; and
- any additional terms of the warrants, including terms, procedures and limitations relating to the exchange and exercise of the warrants.

Each warrant will entitle the holder of rights to purchase for cash the principal amount of shares of common stock or other securities at the exercise price provided in the applicable prospectus supplement. Warrants may be exercised at any time up to the close of business on the expiration date for the rights provided in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Holders may exercise warrants as described in the applicable prospectus supplement. Upon receipt of payment and the warrant certificate properly completed and duly executed at the corporate trust office of the rights agent or any other office indicated in the prospectus supplement, we will, as soon as practicable, forward the shares of common stock or other securities, as applicable, purchasable upon exercise of the rights. If less than all of the warrants issued in any rights offering are exercised, we may offer any unsubscribed securities directly to persons other than stockholders, to or through agents, underwriters or dealers or through a combination of such methods, including pursuant to standby arrangements, as described in the applicable prospectus supplement.

**Warrant Agent**

The warrant agent for any warrants we offer will be set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement.

## DESCRIPTION OF RIGHTS

### General

We may issue rights to our stockholders to purchase shares of our common stock or the other securities described in this prospectus. We may offer rights separately or together with one or more additional rights, debt securities, common stock, warrants or purchase contracts, or any combination of those securities in the form of units, as described in the applicable prospectus supplement. Each series of rights will be issued under a separate rights agreement to be entered into between us and a bank or trust company, as rights agent. The rights agent will act solely as our agent in connection with the certificates relating to the rights of the series of certificates and will not assume any obligation or relationship of agency or trust for or with any holders of rights certificates or beneficial owners of rights. The following description sets forth certain general terms and provisions of the rights to which any prospectus supplement may relate. The particular terms of the rights to which any prospectus supplement may relate and the extent, if any, to which the general provisions may apply to the rights so offered will be described in the applicable prospectus supplement. To the extent that any particular terms of the rights, rights agreement or rights certificates described in a prospectus supplement differ from any of the terms described below, then the terms described below will be deemed to have been superseded by that prospectus supplement. We encourage you to read the applicable rights agreement and rights certificate for additional information before you decide whether to purchase any of our rights.

We will provide in a prospectus supplement the following terms of the rights being issued:

- the date of determining the stockholders entitled to the rights distribution;
- the aggregate number of shares of common stock or other securities purchasable upon exercise of the rights;
- the exercise price;
- the aggregate number of rights issued;
- whether the rights are transferrable and the date, if any, on and after which the rights may be separately transferred;
- the date on which the right to exercise the rights will commence, and the date on which the right to exercise the rights will expire;
- the method by which holders of rights will be entitled to exercise;
- the conditions to the completion of the offering, if any;
- the withdrawal, termination and cancellation rights, if any;
- whether there are any backstop or standby purchaser or purchasers and the terms of their commitment, if any;
- whether stockholders are entitled to oversubscription rights, if any;
- any applicable U.S. federal income tax considerations; and
- any other terms of the rights, including terms, procedures and limitations relating to the distribution, exchange and exercise of the rights, as applicable.

Each right will entitle the holder of rights to purchase for cash the principal amount of shares of common stock or other securities at the exercise price provided in the applicable prospectus supplement. Rights may be exercised at any time up to the close of business on the expiration date for the rights provided in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Holders may exercise rights as described in the applicable prospectus supplement. Upon receipt of payment and the rights certificate properly completed and duly executed at the corporate trust office of the rights agent or any other office indicated in the prospectus supplement, we will, as soon as practicable, forward the shares of common stock or other securities, as applicable, purchasable upon exercise of the rights. If less than all of the rights issued in any rights offering are exercised, we may offer any unsubscribed securities directly to persons other than stockholders, to or through agents, underwriters or dealers or through a combination of such methods, including pursuant to standby arrangements, as described in the applicable prospectus supplement.

### Rights Agent

The rights agent for any rights we offer will be set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement.

## DESCRIPTION OF PURCHASE CONTRACTS

We may issue purchase contracts, including contracts obligating holders to purchase from us, and for us to sell to holders, a specific or variable number of our debt securities, shares of common stock, warrants or rights, or securities of an entity unaffiliated with us, or any combination of the above, at a future date or dates. Alternatively, the purchase contracts may obligate us to purchase from holders, and obligate holders to sell to us, a specific or variable number of our debt securities, shares of common stock, warrants, rights or other property, or any combination of the above. The price of the securities or other property subject to the purchase contracts may be fixed at the time the purchase contracts are issued or may be determined by reference to a specific formula described in the purchase contracts. We may issue purchase contracts separately or as a part of units each consisting of a purchase contract and one or more of our other securities described in this prospectus or securities of third parties, including U.S. Treasury securities, securing the holder's obligations under the purchase contract. The purchase contracts may require us to make periodic payments to holders or vice versa and the payments may be unsecured or pre-funded on some basis. The purchase contracts may require holders to secure the holder's obligations in a manner specified in the applicable prospectus supplement.

The applicable prospectus supplement will describe the terms of any purchase contracts in respect of which this prospectus is being delivered, including, to the extent applicable, the following:

- whether the purchase contracts obligate the holder or us to purchase or sell, or both purchase and sell, the securities subject to purchase under the purchase contract, and the nature and amount of each of those securities, or the method of determining those amounts;
- whether the purchase contracts are to be prepaid;
- whether the purchase contracts are to be settled by delivery, or by reference or linkage to the value, performance or level of the securities subject to purchase under the purchase contract;
- any acceleration, cancellation, termination or other provisions relating to the settlement of the purchase contracts;
- any applicable U.S. federal income tax considerations; and
- whether the purchase contracts will be issued in fully registered or global form.

The preceding description sets forth certain general terms and provisions of the purchase contracts to which any prospectus supplement may relate. The particular terms of the purchase contracts to which any prospectus supplement may relate and the extent, if any, to which the general provisions may apply to the purchase contracts so offered will be described in the applicable prospectus supplement. To the extent that any particular terms of the purchase contracts described in a prospectus supplement differ from any of the terms described above, then the terms described above will be deemed to have been superseded by that prospectus supplement. We encourage you to read the applicable purchase contract for additional information before you decide whether to purchase any of our purchase contracts.

## DESCRIPTION OF UNITS

The following description, together with the additional information that we include in any applicable prospectus supplements summarizes the material terms and provisions of the units that we may offer under this prospectus. While the terms we have summarized below will apply generally to any units that we may offer under this prospectus, we will describe the particular terms of any series of units in more detail in the applicable prospectus supplement. The terms of any units offered under a prospectus supplement may differ from the terms described below.

We will incorporate by reference from reports that we file with the SEC, the form of unit agreement that describes the terms of the series of units we are offering, and any supplemental agreements, before the issuance of the related series of units. The following summaries of material terms and provisions of the units are subject to, and qualified in their entirety by reference to, all the provisions of the unit agreement and any supplemental agreements applicable to a particular series of units. We urge you to read the applicable prospectus supplements related to the particular series of units that we may offer under this prospectus, as well as any related free writing prospectuses and the complete unit agreement and any supplemental agreements that contain the terms of the units.

### General

We may issue units consisting of common stock, preferred stock, one or more debt securities, warrants, rights or purchase contracts for the purchase of common stock, preferred stock and/or debt securities in one or more series, in any combination. Each unit will be issued so that the holder of the unit is also the holder of each security included in the unit. Thus, the holder of a unit will have the rights and obligations of a holder of each security included in the unit. The unit agreement under which a unit is issued may provide that the securities included in the unit may not be held or transferred separately, at any time or at any time before a specified date.

We will describe in the applicable prospectus supplement the terms of the series of units being offered, including:

- the designation and terms of the units and of the securities comprising the units, including whether and under what circumstances those securities may be held or transferred separately;
- any provisions of the governing unit agreement that differ from those described below; and
- any provisions for the issuance, payment, settlement, transfer or exchange of the units or of the securities comprising the units.

The provisions described in this section, as well as those set forth in any prospectus supplement or as described under “Description of Capital Stock,” “Description of Debt Securities,” “Description of Warrants,” “Description of Rights” and “Description of Purchase Contracts” will apply to each unit, as applicable, and to any common stock, debt security, warrant, right or purchase contract included in each unit, as applicable.

### Unit Agent

The name and address of the unit agent for any units we offer will be set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement.

### Issuance in Series

We may issue units in such amounts and in such numerous distinct series as we determine.

### Enforceability of Rights by Holders of Units

Each unit agent will act solely as our agent under the applicable unit agreement and will not assume any obligation or relationship of agency or trust with any holder of any unit. A single bank or trust company may act as unit agent for more than one series of units. A unit agent will have no duty or responsibility in case of any default by us under the applicable unit agreement or unit, including any duty or responsibility to initiate any proceedings at law or otherwise, or to make any demand upon us. Any holder of a unit may, without the consent of the related unit agent or the holder of any other unit, enforce by appropriate legal action its rights as holder under any security included in the unit.



## LEGAL MATTERS

Mintz, Levin, Cohn, Ferris, Glovsky and Popeo, P.C., New York, New York, will pass upon the validity of the issuance of the securities to be offered by this prospectus.

## EXPERTS

The consolidated financial statements of Genius Brands International, Inc. as of and for the years ended December 31, 2014 have been audited by HJ Associates & Consultants, LLP (“HJ Associates”), independent registered public accounting firm as set forth in their report, and are included in reliance upon such report given on the authority of such firm as experts in accounting and auditing. The consolidated financial statements of Genius Brands International, Inc. as of and for the years ended December 31, 2015 have been audited by Haynie & Company P.C. (“Haynie”), independent registered public accounting firm as set forth in their report, and are included in reliance upon such report given on the authority of such firm as experts in accounting and auditing. Effective January 1, 2016, HJ Associates was acquired by Haynie.

## WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

We are subject to the reporting requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and file annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC. You may read and copy these reports, proxy statements and other information at the SEC’s public reference facilities at 100 F Street, N.E., Room 1580, Washington, D.C. 20549. You can request copies of these documents by writing to the SEC and paying a fee for the copying cost. Please call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 for more information about the operation of the public reference facilities. SEC filings are also available at the SEC’s web site at <http://www.sec.gov>.

This prospectus is only part of a registration statement on Form S-3 that we have filed with the SEC under the Securities Act and therefore omits certain information contained in the registration statement. We have also filed exhibits and schedules with the registration statement that are excluded from this prospectus, and you should refer to the applicable exhibit or schedule for a complete description of any statement referring to any contract or other document. You may inspect a copy of the registration statement, including the exhibits and schedules, without charge, at the public reference room or obtain a copy from the SEC upon payment of the fees prescribed by the SEC.

We also maintain a website at [www.gnusbrands.com](http://www.gnusbrands.com), through which you can access our SEC filings. The information set forth on, or accessible from, our website is not part of this prospectus.

## INCORPORATION OF INFORMATION BY REFERENCE

The SEC allows us to “incorporate by reference” information that we file with them. Incorporation by reference allows us to disclose important information to you by referring you to those other documents. The information incorporated by reference is an important part of this prospectus, and information that we file later with the SEC will automatically update and supersede this information. This prospectus omits certain information contained in the registration statement, as permitted by the SEC. You should refer to the registration statement and any prospectus supplement filed hereafter, including the exhibits, for further information about us and the securities we may offer pursuant to this prospectus. Statements in this prospectus regarding the provisions of certain documents filed with, or incorporated by reference in, the registration statement are not necessarily complete and each statement is qualified in all respects by that reference. Copies of all or any part of the registration statement, including the documents incorporated by reference or the exhibits, may be obtained upon payment of the prescribed rates at the offices of the SEC listed above in “Where You Can Find More Information.” The documents we are incorporating by reference are:

- our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2015, as filed on March 30, 2016, as amended by Amendment No. 1 on Form 10-K, as filed on September 29, 2016;
- Our Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2016, as filed on May 16, 2016, for the quarter ended June 30, 2016, as filed on August 15, 2016 and for the quarter ended September 30, 2016, as filed on November 14, 2016;
- our Current Reports on Form 8-K filed on January 20, 2016, February 3, 2016, February 22, 2016, April 18, 2016, April 20, 2016, August 12, 2016, August 31, 2016, November 8, 2016 and November 18, 2016;

- the description of our common stock contained in our Registration Statement on Form 8-A, filed on November 18, 2016;
- the description of our common stock contained in our Registration Statement on Form S-1, filed on June 16, 2014, pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Exchange Act (File No. 333-196813), as amended on July 16, 2014, and declared effective by the SEC on July 21, 2014, and any amendment or report filed with the SEC for purposes of updating such description; and
- all reports and other documents subsequently filed by us pursuant to Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 and 15(d) of the Exchange Act after the date of this prospectus and prior to the termination or completion of the offering of securities under this prospectus shall be deemed to be incorporated by reference in this prospectus and to be a part hereof from the date of filing such reports and other documents.

In addition, all reports and other documents filed by us pursuant to the Exchange Act after the date of the initial registration statement and prior to effectiveness of the registration statement shall be deemed to be incorporated by reference into this prospectus.

Any statement contained in this prospectus or in a document incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference into this prospectus will be deemed to be modified or superseded for purposes of this prospectus to the extent that a statement contained in this prospectus or any other subsequently filed document that is deemed to be incorporated by reference into this prospectus modifies or supersedes the statement. Any statement so modified or superseded will not be deemed, except as so modified or superseded, to constitute a part of this prospectus.

You may request, orally or in writing, a copy of any or all of the documents incorporated herein by reference. These documents will be provided to you at no cost, by contacting: Investor Relations, Genius Brands International, Inc., 301 N. Canon Drive, Suite 305, Beverly Hills, CA 90210, or call (301) 273-4222.

You should rely only on information contained in, or incorporated by reference into, this prospectus and any prospectus supplement. We have not authorized anyone to provide you with information different from that contained in this prospectus or incorporated by reference in this prospectus. We are not making offers to sell the securities in any jurisdiction in which such an offer or solicitation is not authorized or in which the person making such offer or solicitation is not qualified to do so or to anyone to whom it is unlawful to make such offer or solicitation.