



**Genius Brands International, Inc.**

**37,400,000 Shares of Common Stock  
Warrants to Purchase up to 40,018,000 Shares of Common Stock  
Up to 40,018,000 Shares of Common Stock Underlying the Warrants**

We are offering 37,400,000 shares of our common stock, par value \$0.001 and warrants to purchase up to 37,400,000 shares of our common stock. The securities will be sold in fixed combinations, each consisting of one share of common stock and a warrant to purchase up to one share of common stock. The warrants will have an initial exercise price of \$1.55 per share and will be exercisable for a period of five years commencing on the date of issuance. The shares of common stock and the warrants will be issued separately but can only be purchased together in this offering. Each fixed combination will be sold at a price of \$1.55. We are also offering the shares of common stock that are issuable from time to time upon exercise of the warrants offered hereby. In addition, we are offering warrants to purchase up to 2,618,000 shares of our common stock issuable to the placement agent or its designees as described herein and the shares of common stock that are issuable from time to time upon exercise of the placement agent warrants. The warrants offered hereby are not listed on any securities exchange and we do not expect to list the warrants. Without an active trading market, the liquidity of the warrants will be limited.

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 27, 2020 was \$1.42.

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-4 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.

We have retained The Special Equities Group, a division of Bradley Woods & Co. Ltd., 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 fees set forth in the table below.

	Per Fixed Combination of One Share and a Warrant to Purchase One Share		Total
Public offering price	\$	1.55	\$ 57,970,000.00
Placement agent cash fees (1)	\$	0.1085	\$ 4,057,900.00
Proceeds, before expenses, to us	\$	1.4415	\$ 53,912,100.00

(1) In addition to the cash fees listed above, we have agreed to issue to the placement agent or its designees, warrants to purchase 2,618,000 shares of our common stock. See "Plan of Distribution" for more information regarding the placement agent's compensation.

We expect the delivery of the shares of common stock and warrants being offered pursuant to this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus to be made on or about October 30, 2020.

*Placement Agent*

**The Special Equities Group,  
a division of Bradley Woods & Co, Ltd.**

Prospectus supplement dated October 28, 2020

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<b>Page</b>
<a href="#">ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT</a>	S-i
<a href="#">WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION</a>	S-ii
<a href="#">INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN INFORMATION BY REFERENCE</a>	S-iii
<a href="#">SPECIAL NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS</a>	S-iv
<a href="#">SUMMARY</a>	S-1
<a href="#">RISK FACTORS</a>	S-4
<a href="#">USE OF PROCEEDS</a>	S-7
<a href="#">DIVIDEND POLICY</a>	S-8
<a href="#">DILUTION</a>	S-9
<a href="#">DESCRIPTION OF SECURITIES OFFERED HEREBY</a>	S-10
<a href="#">PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION</a>	S-11
<a href="#">LEGAL MATTERS</a>	S-13
<a href="#">EXPERTS</a>	S-13

### Prospectus

<a href="#">About This Prospectus</a>	ii
<a href="#">Prospectus Summary</a>	1
<a href="#">Risk Factors</a>	3
<a href="#">Special Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements</a>	3
<a href="#">Use of Proceeds</a>	5
<a href="#">Plan of Distribution</a>	5
<a href="#">Description of Capital Stock</a>	7
<a href="#">Description of Debt Securities</a>	10
<a href="#">Description of Warrants</a>	12
<a href="#">Description of Rights</a>	14
<a href="#">Description of Units</a>	15
<a href="#">Legal Matters</a>	16
<a href="#">Experts</a>	16
<a href="#">Where You Can Find More Information</a>	16
<a href="#">Incorporation of Certain Documents By Reference</a>	16

### 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 and warrants. 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 and warrants in certain jurisdictions may be restricted by law. We are not, and the placement agent is not, making an offer of the common stock and warrants 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 MORE 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).

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 Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (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](#) for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2019 filed on March 30, 2020.
2. Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the quarters ended [March 31, 2020](#) and [June 30, 2020](#) filed on May 18, 2020 and August 14, 2020;
3. Current Reports on Form 8-K (other than information furnished rather than filed) filed on [January 16, 2020](#), [January 23, 2020](#), [March 5, 2020](#), [March 11, 2020](#), [March 20, 2020](#), [March 23, 2020](#), [May 7, 2020](#), [May 8, 2020](#), [May 15, 2020](#), [May 18, 2020](#), [May 28, 2020](#), [May 29, 2020](#), [June 18, 2020](#), [June 23, 2020](#), [July 27, 2020](#), [September 2, 2020](#), [September 8, 2020](#), and [October 8, 2020](#).
4. Definitive Proxy Statement on [Schedule 14A](#) for our Annual Meeting of Stockholders filed on April 14, 2020 as supplemented by the [DEFA14A](#) filed on May 12, 2020.
5. The description of our common stock contained in [Exhibit 4.13 in our Form 10-K](#) filed on March 30, 2020.

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.  
190 N. Canon, Suite 401  
Beverly Hills, CA 90210  
Attn: Michael Jaffa

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 supplement and the accompanying prospectus, including the documents incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference herein and therein, contain forward-looking statements regarding our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects. Words such as “expects,” “anticipates,” “intends,” “plans,” “believes,” “seeks,” “estimates” and similar expressions or variations thereof are intended to identify forward-looking statements, but are not deemed to represent an all-inclusive means of identifying forward-looking statements as denoted in this prospectus supplement. Additionally, statements concerning future matters are forward-looking statements. These statements include, among other things, statements regarding:

- our ability to generate revenue or achieve profitability;
- our ability to obtain additional financing on acceptable terms, if at all;
- fluctuations in the results of our operations from period to period;
- general economic and financial conditions;
- our ability to anticipate changes in popular culture, media and movies, fashion and technology;
- competitive pressure from other distributors of content and within the retail market;
- our reliance on and relationships with third-party production and animation studios;
- our ability to market and advertise our products;
- our ability to execute on our plans to create new products and content, including at a quality level and within the time frame consistent with plans or commitments to do so;
- our reliance on third-parties to promote our products, including to gain audience acceptance of our products;
- our ability to keep pace with technological advances;
- performance of our information technology and storage systems;
- a disruption or breach of our internal computer systems;
- our ability to retain key personnel;
- the impact of federal, state or local regulations on us or our vendors and licensees;
- our ability to protect and defend against litigation, including intellectual property claims;

- our financial liquidity, particularly during the current phase of new-product development, which requires substantial capital but results in little-to-no revenue and no profit in the short term;
- the volatility of our stock price;
- the marketability of our stock;
- our broad discretion to invest or spend the proceeds of our financings in ways with which our stockholders may not agree and may have limited ability to influence; and
- other risks and uncertainties, including those listed in the section on “Risk Factors.”

Although forward-looking statements in this prospectus supplement reflect the good faith judgment of our management, such statements can only be based on facts and factors currently known by us. Consequently, forward-looking statements are inherently subject to risks and uncertainties and actual results and outcomes may differ materially from the results and outcomes discussed in or anticipated by the forward-looking statements. Factors that could cause or contribute to such differences in results and outcomes include, without limitation, those specifically addressed under the heading “Risks Factors” below, as well as those discussed elsewhere in this prospectus supplement. Readers are urged not to place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements, which speak only as of the date of this prospectus supplement. We file reports with the SEC and our electronic filings with the SEC (including our Annual Reports on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q and current reports on Form 8-K, and any amendments to these reports) are available free of charge on the SEC’s website at <http://www.sec.gov>.

We undertake no obligation to revise or update any forward-looking statements in order to reflect any event or circumstance that may arise after the date of this prospectus supplement, except as required by law. Readers are urged to carefully review and consider the various disclosures made throughout the entirety of this prospectus supplement, which are designed to advise interested parties of the risks and factors that may affect our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects.

IN ADDITION TO THE ABOVE RISKS, BUSINESSES ARE OFTEN SUBJECT TO RISKS NOT FORESEEN OR FULLY APPRECIATED BY MANAGEMENT. IN REVIEWING THIS PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT AND THE DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE IN THIS PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT, POTENTIAL INVESTORS SHOULD KEEP IN MIND THAT THERE MAY BE OTHER POSSIBLE RISKS THAT COULD BE IMPORTANT.

## SUMMARY

### Business Overview

Genius Brands International, Inc. (“we,” “us,” “our,” or the “Company”) is a global content and brand management company that creates and licenses multimedia content. Led by experienced industry personnel, we distribute our content in all formats as well as a broad range of consumer products based on our 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. New intellectual property titles include the preschool property *Rainbow Rangers*, which debuted in November 2018 on Nickelodeon and which was renewed for a second season, and preschool property *Llama Llama*, which debuted on Netflix in January 2018 and was renewed by Netflix for a second season. Our library titles include the award winning *Baby Genius*, adventure comedy *Thomas Edison’s Secret Lab*® and *Warren Buffett’s Secret Millionaires Club*, created with and starring iconic investor Warren Buffett, which is distributed across our Kartoan Channel! on Comcast’s Xfinity on Demand, AppleTV, Roku, Amazon Fire, YouTube, Amazon Prime, Cox, Dish, Sling and Zumo as well as Connected TV. We are also developing an all-new animated series, *Stan Lee’s Superhero Kindergarten* with Stan Lee’s Pow! Entertainment, Oak Productions and Alibaba. Arnold Schwarzenegger lends his voice as the lead and is also an Executive Producer on the series. The show will be broadcast in the United States on Amazon Prime and the Company’s wholly owned distribution outlet, Kartoan Channel!

In addition, we act as licensing agent for Penguin Young Readers, a division of Penguin Random House LLC who owns or controls the underlying rights to *Llama Llama*, leveraging our existing licensing infrastructure to expand this brand into new product categories, new retailers, and new territories.

### Recent Developments

#### *Shaq’s Garage*

On October 26, 2020, the Company announced that it had entered into an agreement with ABG Entertainment and Shaquille O’Neal to co-executive produce an all-new animated comedy and action-adventure series for kids, *Shaq’s Garage*, starring Shaquille O’Neal. The Company expects the show to premiere in early 2022 on the Kartoan Channel!

#### *Background of this Offering*

As we have previously disclosed, a significant part of our current business strategy is to take advantage of the unusual opportunities to acquire valuable program and distribution assets that currently exist in the entertainment space. We are in dialogue with several counterparties regarding acquisition opportunities, and the additional cash that we are adding to our balance sheet will facilitate those acquisitions if they come to pass.

#### *Litigation Update*

As previously disclosed, the Company and its Chief Executive Officer Andy Heyward are named as defendants in a putative securities class action lawsuit filed in August 2020 in the U.S. District Court for the Central District of California and styled *Salvador Verdin v. Genius Brands International, Inc., et al.* Case No. 2:20-cv-07457-DSF (PJWx). Plaintiff alleges generally that defendants made false or misleading statements regarding the Company’s business and business prospects during an alleged class period that runs from March 17 through July 5, 2020. Subsequently, a second putative class action asserting substantially similar claims against the same defendants was filed in the same court. On October 19, 2020, applications were filed with the court by multiple persons and law firms seeking appointment as lead plaintiff and lead plaintiff’s counsel in the matter, as contemplated by procedures specified in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act. The applicants also sought formal consolidation of the two suits. The motions were noticed for hearing on November 16, 2020, after which the court is expected to appoint lead plaintiff and plaintiff’s counsel. Pending that appointment, the Company anticipates little if any substantive activity in the litigation.

Related to the securities class action, the Company's directors have been named as defendants in a putative shareholder derivative lawsuit filed in September 2020 in the U.S. District Court for the Central District of California and styled *Eduardo Correa, etc., v. Andy Heyward, et al.*, Case No. 2:20-cv-08277-DSF (RAOx). The suit alleges generally that the defendant directors breached fiduciary duties owed to the Company by, among other things, causing the Company to issue the supposedly false and misleading statements that underlie the *Verdin* securities litigation and thereby purportedly exposing the Company to liability and damaging the Company in an unspecified amount. No recovery is sought from the Company. Instead, as a shareholder derivative action, the Company is named as Nominal Defendant; and plaintiff, an alleged stockholder of the Company, purports to sue on behalf and for the benefit of the Company. The parties to the *Correa* action have agreed, subject to court approval, to stay proceedings in the case pending the outcome of anticipated motions to dismiss the *Verdin* securities action.

In both proceedings, defendants have denied and continue to deny any wrongdoing and intend to defend the claims vigorously.

#### **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 us 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."

Our principal executive offices are located at 190 N. Canon Drive, Suite 401, 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.

### The Offering

Securities offered hereby	37,400,000 shares of common stock;  Warrants to purchase up to 37,400,000 shares of common stock; and  Up to 37,400,000 shares of common stock issuable upon exercise of the warrants.  In addition, we are offering warrants to purchase up to 2,618,000 shares of our common stock issuable to the placement agent or its designees and the shares of common stock that are issuable from time to time upon exercise of the placement agent warrants. See “Plan of Distribution.”
Description of warrants	Each purchaser will receive a warrant to purchase up to one share of common stock for each share of common stock it purchases in this offering. The warrants are exercisable for an initial exercise price of \$1.55 per share, subject to adjustment. The warrants are exercisable for a period of five years commencing on the date of the closing of the offering.
Common stock to be outstanding immediately following this offering(1)	257,429,900 shares.
Public offering price	\$1.55 per fixed combination.
Use of proceeds	We estimate that the net proceeds of this offering, excluding the proceeds from the exercise of any warrants, will be approximately \$53.8 million. We intend to use the net proceeds from the offering for certain accretive future acquisitions, and for our operations, including, but not limited to, the development, production, distribution and marketing of animated content, including the recently announced <i>Shaq’s Garage</i> , and associated licensed merchandise and general working capital.
Nasdaq Capital Market symbol	GNUS.
Risk factors	In evaluating an investment in the common stock and warrants, prospective investors should carefully consider, along with the other information included or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, the specific factors set forth under “Risk Factors.”

(1) The number of shares of common stock that will be outstanding after this offering is based on 220,029,900 shares of common stock outstanding as of October 27, 2020, and also excludes:

- 476,190 shares of common stock issuable upon conversion of 100 shares of Series A Convertible Preferred Stock;
- 1,917,866 shares of common stock issuable upon exercise of outstanding stock options to purchase our common stock at a weighted average exercise price of \$3.49 per share;
- 30,249,801 shares of common stock reserved for future issuance under our 2015 Amended Incentive Plan and 2020 Incentive Plan;
- 6,257,558 shares of common stock underlying outstanding warrants at a weighted average exercise price of \$1.49;
- 2,618,000 shares of common stock underlying the warrants issuable to the placement agent at the closing of this offering; and
- 37,400,000 shares of common stock issuable upon the exercise of the warrants offered hereby.

## RISK FACTORS

*Investing in our securities involves a high degree of risk. You should carefully consider the risks and uncertainties described below and discussed under the section entitled "Risk Factors" contained in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2019, which is incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement, together with all of the other information contained in, or incorporated by reference, in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, before purchasing any of our securities. These risks and uncertainties are not the only ones facing us. Additional risks and uncertainties that we are unaware of, or that we currently deem immaterial, also may become important factors that affect us. If any of these risks actually occur, our business, financial condition, results of operations and future prospects could be materially and adversely affected. In that case, the trading price of our common stock could decline, and you may lose some or all of your investment.*

### **RISKS RELATING TO OUR COMMON STOCK AND THIS OFFERING**

#### **You will experience immediate and substantial dilution in the net tangible book value per share of the common stock you purchase.**

Since the price per share of our common stock being offered is higher than the net tangible book value per share of our common stock, existing shareholders will realize an increase in the net tangible book value of the common stock. As of June 30, 2020, our net tangible book value was approximately \$72 million, or \$0.33 per share. After giving effect to the sale of 37,400,000 shares in this offering at an offering price of \$1.55 per share, and after deducting estimated offering fees and expenses payable by us, our pro forma net tangible book value as of June 30, 2020 would have been approximately \$0.49 per share of common stock. This represents an immediate increase in net tangible book value of \$0.16 per share to our existing stockholders and an immediate decrease in the pro forma as adjusted net tangible book value of \$1.05 per share to investors participating in this offering. See "Dilution."

#### **There is no public market for the warrants.**

There is no established public trading market for the warrants being offered hereby, and we do not expect a market to develop. In addition, we do not intend to apply for listing the warrants on any securities exchange or for quotation. Without an active market, the liquidity of the warrants will be limited.

#### **Holders of our warrants will have no rights as shareholders until such holders exercise their warrants, except as set forth in the warrants.**

Until you acquire shares upon exercise of your warrants, you will have no rights as shareholders with respect to the shares underlying such warrants, except as set forth in the warrants. Upon exercise of your warrants, you will be entitled to exercise the rights of a shareholder only as to matters for which the record date occurs after the exercise date.

#### **We will have broad discretion in how we use the net proceeds of this offering. We may not use these proceeds effectively, which could affect our results of operations and cause our stock price to decline.**

We will have considerable discretion in the application of the net proceeds of this offering, including for any of the purposes described in the section entitled "Use of Proceeds." We intend to use the net proceeds from this offering 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 potential future acquisitions. As a result, investors will be relying upon management's judgment with only limited information about our specific intentions for the use of the net proceeds of this offering. We may use the net proceeds for purposes that do not yield a significant return or any return at all for our stockholders. In addition, pending their use, we may invest the net proceeds from this offering in a manner that does not produce income or that loses value.

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

The price at which our common stock trades has in the past, and may in the future, fluctuate substantially, both over time and even within a trading day, as a result of a number of factors, including the number of shares available for sale in the market, the share price, quarterly variations in our operating results, actual or anticipated announcements of new releases by us or competitors, progress or lack of progress in developing new programming or content, 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.

**An active trading market for our common stock may not be sustained.**

Although our common stock is listed on the Nasdaq Capital Market, the market for our shares has demonstrated varying levels of trading activity. Furthermore, the current level of trading may not be sustained in the future. The lack of an active market for our common stock may impair investors' ability to sell their shares at the time they wish to sell them or at a price that they consider reasonable, may reduce the fair market value of their shares and may impair our ability to raise capital to continue to fund operations by selling shares and may impair our ability to acquire additional intellectual property assets by using our shares as consideration.

**Our failure to meet the continued listing requirements of Nasdaq could result in a delisting of our common stock.**

If we fail to satisfy the continued listing requirements of Nasdaq, such as minimum financial and other continued listing requirements and standards, including those regarding minimum stockholders' equity, minimum share price, and certain corporate governance requirements, Nasdaq may take steps to delist our common stock. Such a delisting would likely have a negative effect on the price of our common stock and would impair your ability to sell or purchase our common stock when you wish to do so. In the event of a delisting, we would expect to take actions to restore our compliance with Nasdaq's listing requirements, but we can provide no assurance that any such action taken by us would allow our common stock to become listed again, stabilize the market price or improve the liquidity of our common stock, prevent our common stock from dropping below the Nasdaq minimum bid price requirement, or prevent future non-compliance with Nasdaq's listing requirements.

**If our common stock becomes subject to the penny stock rules, it may be more difficult to sell our common stock.**

The SEC has adopted rules that regulate broker-dealer practices in connection with transactions in penny stocks. Penny stocks are generally equity securities with a price of less than \$5.00 (other than securities registered on certain national securities exchanges or authorized for quotation on certain automated quotation systems, provided that current price and volume information with respect to transactions in such securities is provided by the exchange or system). The OTC Bulletin Board does not meet such requirements and if the price of our common stock is less than \$5.00 and our common stock is no longer listed on a national securities exchange such as Nasdaq, our stock may be deemed a penny stock. The penny stock rules require a broker-dealer, at least two business days prior to a transaction in a penny stock not otherwise exempt from those rules, to deliver to the customer a standardized risk disclosure document containing specified information and to obtain from the customer a signed and dated acknowledgment of receipt of that document. In addition, the penny stock rules require that prior to effecting any transaction in a penny stock not otherwise exempt from those rules, a broker-dealer must make a special written determination that the penny stock is a suitable investment for the purchaser and receive: (i) the purchaser's written acknowledgment of the receipt of a risk disclosure statement; (ii) a written agreement to transactions involving penny stocks; and (iii) a signed and dated copy of a written suitability statement. These disclosure requirements may have the effect of reducing the trading activity in the secondary market for our common stock, and therefore stockholders may have difficulty selling their shares.

**The Company is currently developing multiple new products; these product-development efforts require substantial capital, and there can be no assurance that these products once released will gain sufficient audience and market acceptance to yield meaningful, or any, returns for stockholders.**

We have been engaged in a major product to develop a new animated series titled *Stan Lee's Superhero Kindergarten*, and we have very recently announced a collaboration with Shaquille O'Neal to develop another series titled *Shaq's Garage*. We may announce plans to undertake other development projects in the future. These product-development efforts are require substantial capital investment up front, and products in development yield little to no revenue until the products are sufficiently developed and become publicly available. While we anticipate that these will be exciting additions to our product line, there can be no assurance that, once these products become part of our product offering, they will gain the audience and advertiser acceptance necessary to become profitable, whether viewed as individual products or as part of our overall product offering. In part as a result of these product-development efforts, we expect that we will have limited revenue and will not be profitable for the foreseeable future.

**We operate in the entertainment business, which is both highly competitive and subject to audience preferences that sometimes change rapidly, and we do not always control all aspects of product distribution; competition, changing product distribution, and changing audience preferences could have a material impact on our business and performance.**

Our business involves the creation, production, and distribution of entertainment, focused primarily on children. We operate in a highly competitive environment, made more complicated because audience tastes and preferences tend to change over times, and sometimes change rapidly. In the case of some of our products, we do not control all aspects of distribution, including for example scheduling of when such products are shown or how often, and these are also matters subject to change. There can be no assurance that our products, including those currently being developed, will achieve or retain audience acceptance to a degree necessary for the products to be profitable, and we cannot assure that other companies that distribute some of our product will continue to do so on terms that result in the products being profitable, either individually or in the aggregate.

**We may need additional capital in the future; however, such capital may not be available to us on reasonable terms, if at all, when or as we require additional funding. If we issue additional shares of our common stock or other securities that may be convertible into, or exercisable or exchangeable for, our common stock, our existing stockholders would experience further dilution.**

Although we may need additional capital in the future, we cannot be certain that it will be available to us on acceptable terms when required, or at all. Disruptions in the global equity and credit markets may limit our ability to access capital. To the extent that we raise additional funds by issuing equity securities, our stockholders would experience dilution, which may be significant and could cause the market price of our common stock to decline significantly. The agreements governing any future debt financing may restrict our operations or our ability to raise or expend capital. If we are unable to raise additional capital when required or on acceptable terms, we may have to significantly delay, scale back or discontinue certain operations. Any of these events could significantly harm our business and prospects and could cause our stock price to decline.

## USE OF PROCEEDS

We estimate that the net proceeds of this offering, excluding the proceeds from the exercise of any warrants, will be approximately \$53.8 million. We intend to use the net proceeds from the offering for certain accretive future acquisitions, and for our operations, including, but not limited to, the development, production, and distribution and marketing of animated content, including the recently announced *Shaq's Garage*, and associated licensed merchandise, general working capital and potential future acquisitions.

## **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, 2020, our net tangible book value was approximately \$72 million, or \$0.33 per share of our common stock. Net tangible book value per share represents the amount of our total tangible assets, divided by the 218,856,170 shares of our common stock outstanding as of June 30, 2020.

After giving effect to the sale of 37,400,000 shares of our common stock and accompanying warrants in this offering at an offering price of \$1.55 per fixed combination, and after deducting estimated offering fees and expenses payable by us, our pro forma net tangible book value as of June 30, 2020 would have been approximately \$0.49 per share of common stock. This represents an immediate increase in net tangible book value of \$0.16 per share to our existing stockholders and an immediate decrease in the pro forma net tangible book value of \$1.05 per share to investors participating in this offering. The following table illustrates this dilution per share of common stock to our existing shareholders:

Public offering price per fixed combination of securities	\$	1.55
Net tangible book value per share as of June 30, 2020	\$	0.33
Increase in net tangible book value per share attributable to this offering	\$	0.16
Pro forma net tangible book value per share as of June 30, 2020 after giving effect to this offering	\$	0.49
Dilution in net tangible book value per share to new investors	\$	1.06

The foregoing illustration does not reflect the potential dilution from the exercise of outstanding options or warrants to purchase shares of our common stock, including the warrants offered hereby. New investors that purchase common stock upon exercise of warrants may experience dilution, depending on our net tangible book value at the time of exercise.

## DESCRIPTION OF SECURITIES OFFERED HEREBY

In this offering, we are offering 37,400,000 shares of common stock and warrants to purchase an aggregate of up to 37,400,000 additional shares of common stock. The shares of common stock and warrants will be issued separately but can only be purchased together in this offering. This prospectus supplement also relates to the offering of shares of our common stock upon exercise, if any, of the warrants.

### Common Stock

The material terms and provisions of our common stock and each other class of our securities which qualifies or limits our common stock are described under the caption "Description of Capital Stock" starting on page 7 of the accompanying prospectus.

### Warrants

*Exercisability.* The warrants are exercisable immediately following the date of issuance, and at any time thereafter up to five years from the initial issuance date. The warrants will be exercisable, at the option of each holder, in whole or in part by delivering to us a duly executed exercise notice and by payment in full in immediately available funds for the number of shares of our common stock purchased upon such exercise. If at the time of exercise there is no effective registration statement registering, or the prospectus contained therein is not available for the issuance of the shares of our common stock underlying the warrants, then the warrants may also be exercised, in whole or in part, at such time by means of a cashless exercise, in which case the holder would receive upon such exercise the net number of shares of our common stock determined according to the formula set forth in the warrants.

*Exercise Limitation.* A holder will not have the right to exercise any portion of the warrant if the holder would beneficially own in excess of 4.99% (or, at the election of the holder, 9.99%) of the outstanding common stock immediately after exercise, except that upon notice from the holder to us, the holder may increase or decrease the beneficial ownership limitation up to 9.99% of the number of shares of our common stock outstanding immediately after giving effect to the exercise, as such percentage ownership is determined in accordance with the terms of the warrants, provided that any increase in such beneficial ownership limitation shall not be effective until 61 days following notice from the holder to us.

*Exercise Price.* The warrants have an exercise price of \$1.55 per share. The exercise price is subject to appropriate adjustment in the event of certain stock dividends and distributions, stock splits, stock combinations, reclassifications or similar events affecting shares of our common stock and also upon any distributions of assets, including cash, stock or other property to our stockholders.

*Transferability.* Subject to applicable laws, the warrants may be offered for sale, sold, transferred or assigned without our consent.

*Exchange Listing.* There is no established trading market for the warrants and we do not expect a market to develop. In addition, we do not intend to apply for the listing of the warrants on any national securities exchange or other trading market. Without an active trading market, the liquidity of the warrants will be limited.

*Fundamental Transactions.* If a fundamental transaction occurs, then the successor entity will succeed to, and be substituted for us, and may exercise every right and power that we may exercise and will assume all of our obligations under the warrants with the same effect as if such successor entity had been named in the warrant itself. If holders of shares of our common stock are given a choice as to the securities, cash or property to be received in a fundamental transaction, then the holder shall be given the same choice as to the consideration it receives upon any exercise of the warrant following such fundamental transaction. In addition, upon a fundamental transaction, the holder will have the right to require us to repurchase its warrant at its fair value using the Black Scholes option pricing formula; provided, however, that, if the fundamental transaction is not within our control, including not approved by our board of directors, then the holder shall only be entitled to receive the same type or form of consideration (and in the same proportion), at the Black Scholes value per share of common stock in the fundamental transaction for each share of common stock underlying a warrant, that is being offered and paid to the holders of our common stock in connection with the fundamental transaction, whether that consideration be in the form of cash, stock or any combination thereof, or whether the holders of common stock are given the choice to receive from among alternative forms of consideration in connection with the fundamental transaction.

*Rights as a Stockholder.* Except as otherwise provided in the warrants or by virtue of such holder's ownership of shares of our common stock, the holder of a warrant does not have the rights or privileges of a holder of shares of our common stock, including any voting rights, until the holder exercises the warrant.

## PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

The Special Equities Group, a division of Bradley Woods & Co. Ltd., 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 March 10, 2020. The placement agent is not purchasing or selling any of the securities offered by this prospectus supplement, nor is it required to arrange the purchase or sale of any specific number or dollar amount of securities, but has agreed to use its reasonable best efforts to arrange for the sale of all of the securities 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 securities offered pursuant to this prospectus supplement. We will make offers only to a limited number of qualified institutional buyers and accredited investors. The purchase price of the common stock and warrants and the exercise price for the warrants were determined based on negotiations with the purchasers and discussions with the placement agent based on current market factors, as well as consideration of the rules of the Nasdaq Capital Market. 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 cash fee of approximately \$4.1 million. The following table shows the per fixed combination of shares and warrants and total cash placement agent's fees we will pay to the placement agent in connection with the sale of the securities offered pursuant to this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, assuming the purchase of all of the securities offered hereby.

	<b>Per Fixed Combination of One Share and a Warrant to Purchase One Share</b>		<b>Total</b>
Public offering price	\$	1.55	\$ 57,970,000.00
Placement agent cash fees (1)	\$	0.1085	\$ 4,057,900
Proceeds, before expenses, to us	\$	1.4415	\$ 53,912,100

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 issue to the placement agent or its designees warrants to purchase 2,618,000 shares of common stock. The warrants issued to the placement agent shall have the same form and terms as the warrants issued to investors. The warrants issued to the placement agent are registered on the registration statement of which this prospectus supplement is a part.

In addition, upon any exercise of any warrants issued in this offering, we have agreed to pay the placement agent a cash fee equal to 7% of the aggregate gross proceeds from the exercise of the warrants.

We have also agreed to pay the placement agent a cash fee and warrants 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 securities 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 of common stock 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.

#### **LEGAL MATTERS**

Certain legal matters relating to the issuance of the securities offered by this prospectus supplement will be passed upon for us by Woodburn & Wedge, Reno, Nevada.

#### **EXPERTS**

The consolidated financial statements of Genius Brands International, Inc. as of December 31, 2019 and 2018, and for each of the years 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, 2019 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.



**Genius Brands International, Inc.  
37,400,000 Shares of Common Stock  
Warrants to Purchase up to 40,018,000 Shares of Common Stock  
Up to 40,018,000 Shares of Common Stock Underlying the Warrants  
PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT**

*Placement Agent*  
**The Special Equities Group**

**a division of Bradley Woods & Co., Ltd.**

October 28, 2020

---

GENIUS BRANDS INTERNATIONAL, INC.

\$100,000,000

COMMON STOCK  
PREFERRED STOCK  
DEBT SECURITIES  
WARRANTS  
RIGHTS  
UNITS

This prospectus will allow us to issue, from time to time at prices and on terms to be determined at or prior to the time of the offering, up to \$100,000,000 of any combination of the securities described in this prospectus, either individually or in units. We may also offer common stock or preferred stock upon conversion of or exchange for the debt securities; common stock or preferred stock or debt securities upon the exercise of warrants or rights; or any combination of these securities in the form of units.

This prospectus describes the general terms of these securities and the general manner in which these securities will be offered. We will provide you with the specific terms of any offering in one or more supplements to this prospectus. The prospectus supplements will also describe the specific manner in which these securities will be offered and may also supplement, update or amend information contained in this document. You should read this prospectus and any prospectus supplement, as well as any documents incorporated by reference into this prospectus or any prospectus supplement, carefully before you invest.

Our securities may be sold directly by us to you, through agents designated from time to time or to or through underwriters or dealers. For additional information on the methods of sale, you should refer to the section entitled “Plan of Distribution” in this prospectus and in the applicable prospectus supplement. If any underwriters or agents are involved in the sale of our securities with respect to which this prospectus is being delivered, the names of such underwriters or agents and any applicable fees, commissions or discounts and over-allotment options will be set forth in a prospectus supplement. The price to the public of such securities and the net proceeds that we expect to receive from such sale will also be set forth in a prospectus supplement.

Our common stock is listed on the Nasdaq Capital Market, under the symbol “GNUS.” On September 3, 2020, the last reported sale price of our common stock on the Nasdaq Capital Market was \$1.06 per share.

**Investing in our securities involves a high degree of risk. Before deciding whether to invest in our securities, you should consider carefully the risks that we have described on page 3 of this prospectus under the caption “[Risk Factors](#).” We may include specific risk factors in supplements to this prospectus under the caption “[Risk Factors](#).” This prospectus may not be used to sell our securities unless accompanied by a prospectus supplement.**

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

The date of this prospectus is September 15, 2020.

---

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<b>Page</b>
<a href="#">About This Prospectus</a>	ii
<a href="#">Prospectus Summary</a>	1
<a href="#">Risk Factors</a>	3
<a href="#">Special Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements</a>	3
<a href="#">Use of Proceeds</a>	5
<a href="#">Plan of Distribution</a>	5
<a href="#">Description of Capital Stock</a>	7
<a href="#">Description of Debt Securities</a>	10
<a href="#">Description of Warrants</a>	12
<a href="#">Description of Rights</a>	14
<a href="#">Description of Units</a>	15
<a href="#">Legal Matters</a>	16
<a href="#">Experts</a>	16
<a href="#">Where You Can Find More Information</a>	16
<a href="#">Incorporation of Certain Documents By Reference</a>	16

## 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 or rights, either individually or in units, in one or more offerings, with a total value of up to \$100,000,000. 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 190 North Canon Drive, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, 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

*This summary highlights some information from this prospectus. It may not contain all the information important to making an investment decision. You should read the following summary together with the more detailed information regarding our Company and the securities being sold in this offering, including "Risk Factors" and other information incorporated by reference herein.*

### Business Overview

Genius Brands International, Inc. ("we," "us," "our," or the "Company") is a global content and brand management company that creates and licenses multimedia content. Led by experienced industry personnel, we distribute our content in all formats as well as a broad range of consumer products based on our 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. New intellectual property titles include the preschool property *Rainbow Rangers*, which debuted in November 2018 on Nickelodeon and which was renewed for a second season, and preschool property *Llama Llama*, which debuted on Netflix in January 2018 and was renewed by Netflix for a second season. Our library titles include the award winning *Baby Genius*, adventure comedy Thomas Edison's Secret Lab® and Warren Buffett's *Secret Millionaires Club*, created with and starring iconic investor Warren Buffett, which is distributed across our Cartoon Channel! on Comcast's Xfinity on Demand, AppleTV, Roku, Amazon Fire, YouTube, Amazon Prime, Cox, Dish, Sling and Zumo as well as Connected TV. We are also developing an all-new animated series, *Stan Lee's Superhero Kindergarten* with Stan Lee's Pow! Entertainment, Oak Productions and Alibaba. Arnold Schwarzenegger lends his voice as the lead and is also an Executive Producer on the series. The show will be broadcast in the United States on Amazon Prime and the Company's wholly owned distribution outlet, Cartoon Channel!

In addition, we act as licensing agent for Penguin Young Readers, a division of Penguin Random House LLC who owns or controls the underlying rights to *Llama Llama*, leveraging our existing licensing infrastructure to expand this brand into new product categories, new retailers, and new territories.

### Recent Developments

On August 27, 2020, our stockholders approved, a proposed amendment to the Company's Articles of Incorporation, as amended, to increase the authorized number of shares of the Company's common stock from 233,333,334 to 400,000,000 in order to enable the Company to efficiently take advantage of accretive opportunities, largely targeting acquisitions, which may arise and provide enriched shareholder value as the media industry undergoes a period of consolidation and the 2020 Incentive Plan, which will replace the Company's 2015 Amended Incentive Plan for all future equity-based incentive awards and enable the Company to attract, motivate, and retain qualified individuals upon whom its business and accretive growth strategy depends.

On August 18, 2020, the Company and its Chief Executive Officer Andy Heyward were named as defendants in a putative class action lawsuit filed in the U.S. District Court for the Central District of California and styled *Salvador Verdin v. Genius Brands International, Inc. and Andy Heyward*, Case No. 2:20-cv-07457-DDP-PJW. Plaintiff, who wishes to represent a class of persons who acquired Company securities from March 17 through July 5, 2020, alleges generally that defendants violated Sections 10(b) and 20(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 by making materially false or misleading statement regarding the Company's business and business prospects, artificially inflating the Company's stock price. Plaintiff seeks unspecified damages on behalf of the alleged class. The *Verdin* lawsuit and any similar later-filed actions are subject to procedures specified in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act, including the selection and appointment by the court of a lead plaintiff and plaintiff's counsel. These procedures mean that little if any substantive activity in the litigation is expected until after the court's appointment of a lead plaintiff, which is unlikely to occur before November 2020. In the meantime, defendants deny any wrongdoing, including as alleged in the *Verdin* complaint, believe the lawsuit lacks legal or factual merit, and intend to defend the claims vigorously.

**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 us 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.”

Our principal executive offices are located at 190 N. Canon Drive, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, 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.

## RISK FACTORS

An investment in our securities involves a significant degree of risk. You should carefully consider the risk factors and all of the other information included in this prospectus, any prospectus supplement and the documents we have incorporated by reference into this prospectus and any prospectus supplement, including those in our most recent Annual Report on Form 10-K, any subsequently filed Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q and Current Reports on Form 8-K, and other reports and documents we file with the SEC after the date of this prospectus and that are incorporated by reference herein, in evaluating an investment in the securities. If any of these risks were actually to occur, our business, financial condition or results of operations could be materially adversely affected. Additional risks not presently known to us or that we currently believe are immaterial may also significantly impair our business operations and financial condition. When we offer and sell any securities pursuant to a prospectus supplement, we may include additional risk factors relevant to such securities in the prospectus supplement.

### SPECIAL NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This prospectus (including the section regarding Management's Discussion and Analysis and Results of Operation) contains forward-looking statements regarding our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects. Words such as "expects," "anticipates," "intends," "plans," "believes," "seeks," "estimates" and similar expressions or variations thereof are intended to identify forward-looking statements, but are not deemed to represent an all-inclusive means of identifying forward-looking statements as denoted in this prospectus. Additionally, statements concerning future matters are forward-looking statements. These statements include, among other things, statements regarding:

- our ability to generate revenue or achieve profitability;
- our ability to obtain additional financing on acceptable terms, if at all;
- our ability to repay our outstanding accrued convertible notes;
- fluctuations in the results of our operations from period to period;
- general economic and financial conditions;
- our ability to anticipate changes in popular culture, media and movies, fashion and technology;
- competitive pressure from other distributors of content and within the retail market;
- our reliance on and relationships with third-party production and animation studios;
- our ability to market and advertise our products;
- our reliance on third-parties to promote our products;

- our ability to keep pace with technological advances;
- performance of our information technology and storage systems;
- a disruption or breach of our internal computer systems;
- our ability to retain key personnel;
- the impact of federal, state or local regulations on us or our vendors and licensees;
- our ability to protect and defend against litigation, including intellectual property claims;
- the volatility of our stock price;
- the marketability of our stock;
- our broad discretion to invest or spend the proceeds of our financings in ways with which our stockholders may not agree and may have limited ability to influence; and
- other risks and uncertainties, including those listed in the section on “Risk Factors.”

Although forward-looking statements in this prospectus reflect the good faith judgment of our management, such statements can only be based on facts and factors currently known by us. Consequently, forward-looking statements are inherently subject to risks and uncertainties and actual results and outcomes may differ materially from the results and outcomes discussed in or anticipated by the forward-looking statements. Factors that could cause or contribute to such differences in results and outcomes include, without limitation, those specifically addressed under the heading “Risks Factors” above, as well as those discussed elsewhere in this prospectus. Readers are urged not to place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements, which speak only as of the date of this prospectus. We file reports with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”) and our electronic filings with the SEC (including our Annual Reports on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q and current reports on Form 8-K, and any amendments to these reports) are available free of charge on the SEC’s website at <http://www.sec.gov>. You can also read and copy any materials we file with the SEC at the SEC’s Public Reference Room at 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549. You can obtain additional information about the operation of the Public Reference Room by calling the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330.

We undertake no obligation to revise or update any forward-looking statements in order to reflect any event or circumstance that may arise after the date of this prospectus, except as required by law. Readers are urged to carefully review and consider the various disclosures made throughout the entirety of this prospectus, which are designed to advise interested parties of the risks and factors that may affect our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects.

## 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 OUR 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 410,000,000 shares of capital stock, of which 400,000,000 are shares of common stock, par value \$0.001 per share, and 10,000,000 are shares of preferred stock, par value \$0.001 per share.

### Capital Stock Issued and Outstanding

As of September 3, 2020, we have issued and outstanding:

- 219,029,898 shares of common stock; and
- 100 shares of shares of Series A Convertible Preferred Stock which are convertible into 476,190 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 conversion price is currently \$0.21 per share, subject to adjustment in the event of stock splits, dividends and recapitalizations.

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 except as required by law.

### **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 January 15, 2020, we had 269 stockholders of record, not including persons or entities that hold our stock in nominee or “street name” through various brokerage firms.

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.

### ***Transfer Agent and Registrar***

The transfer agent and registrar for our common stock is VStock Transfer LLC, 18 Lafayette Place, Woodmere, NY11598.

### ***Nasdaq Capital Market Listing***

Our common stock is publicly traded on the Nasdaq Capital Market under the symbol “GNUS.”

## 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 or by wire. 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, or rights, 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, or warrants, 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 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, or rights, 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,” and “Description of Rights” will apply to each unit, as applicable, and to any common stock, debt security, warrant, or right 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

Woodburn and Wedge, Reno, Nevada, will pass upon the validity of the issuance of the securities to be offered by this prospectus. Certain other legal matters will be passed upon for us by Vinson & Elkins L.L.P., New York, New York. Additional legal matters may be passed upon for us, or any underwriters, dealers or agents, by counsel we will name in the applicable prospectus supplement.

## EXPERTS

The consolidated financial statements of Genius Brands International, Inc. as of December 31, 2019 and 2018 and for each of the years in the two-year period ended December 31, 2019 incorporated in this Prospectus by reference from the Genius Brands International, Inc. Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2019 have been audited by Squar Milner LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, as stated in their report thereon (which report expresses an unqualified opinion and includes an explanatory paragraph relating to the Company's ability to continue as a going concern) have been incorporated in this Prospectus and Registration Statement in reliance upon such reports and upon the authority of such firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

## WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

We are required to file annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC. Our filings with the SEC are available to the public at the SEC's website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov). We also make available free of charge on our website at [www.gnusbrands.com](http://www.gnusbrands.com) all of the documents that we file with the SEC as soon as reasonably practicable after we electronically file such material with the SEC. Information contained on our website is not incorporated by reference into this prospectus.

This prospectus is part of a registration statement that we have filed with the SEC relating to the securities to be offered. This prospectus does not contain all of the information we have included in the registration statement and the accompanying exhibits and schedules in accordance with the rules and regulations of the SEC, and we refer you to the omitted information. The statements this prospectus makes pertaining to the content of any contract, agreement or other document that is an exhibit to the registration statement necessarily are summaries of their material provisions and do not describe all exceptions and qualifications contained in those contracts, agreements or documents. You should read those contracts, agreements or documents for information that may be important to you. The registration statement, exhibits and schedules are available through the SEC's Internet website.

## INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN DOCUMENTS BY REFERENCE

The SEC allows us to "incorporate by reference" the information we have filed with the SEC. This means that we can disclose important information to you without actually including the specific information in this prospectus by referring you to other documents filed separately with the SEC. The information incorporated by reference is an important part of this prospectus. Information that we later provide to the SEC, and which is deemed to be "filed" with the SEC, will automatically update information previously filed with the SEC, and may replace information in this prospectus and information previously filed with the SEC. You should not assume that the information contained in the documents incorporated by reference in this prospectus or any supplement thereto is accurate as of any date other than the respective dates of those documents.

We incorporate by reference the documents listed below and any future filings we make with the SEC under Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), from the date of this prospectus until the termination of each offering under this prospectus (excluding any information furnished pursuant to Item 2.02 or Item 7.01 on any Current Report on Form 8-K):

- our Annual Report on [Form 10-K](#) for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2019, as filed on March 30, 2020 (including the description of our common stock contained in Exhibit 4.13 thereto);
- our Quarterly Reports on [Form 10-Q](#) for the quarter ended March 31, 2020, as filed on May 18, 2020 and for the quarter ended June 30, 2020, as filed on August 14, 2020;
- our Current Reports on Form 8-K filed on [January 16, 2020](#), [January 23, 2020](#), [March 5, 2020](#), [March 11, 2020](#), [March 20, 2020](#), [March 23, 2020](#), [May 7, 2020](#), [May 8, 2020](#), [May 15, 2020](#), [May 18, 2020](#), [May 28, 2020](#), [May 29, 2020](#), [June 18, 2020](#), [June 23, 2020](#), [July 27, 2020](#) and [September 2, 2020](#);
- the information specifically incorporated by reference into the Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2019 from our Definitive Proxy Statement on [Schedule 14A](#), as filed on April 14, 2020; 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 calling us at (310) 373-4222 or by writing to us at the following address:

Genius Brands International, Inc.  
190 N. Canon Drive, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Beverly Hills, CA 90210  
Attn: Robert Denton

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.

---

**PROSPECTUS**

---