

Center of Tampa

Academy Prep Center of Tampa 1407 E. Columbus Drive Tampa, FL 33605 Contact: Maggie McCleland 813.248.5600 x 1138 mmccleland@academyprep.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE July 30, 2012

Academy Prep Center of Tampa Hosts Annual Fund Society Kickoff

Ybor City, FL – The Academy Prep Center of Tampa will hold its inaugural Annual Fund Society kick-off party on Thursday, August 23rd, at 6:00 p.m. The event will be hosted at The Ritz Ybor located off of 7th Avenue. All proceeds from the event will benefit Academy Prep's student scholarship fund. This cocktail reception is free and open to the public. Attendees will receive complimentary drinks and appetizers as they network with other professionals and learn more about Academy Prep.

The Annual Fund Society is a grassroots group of community members who support the mission and efforts of Academy Prep through annual gifts. Donors of \$100 or more become automatic members of the Academy Prep Annual Fund Society and receive other various benefits throughout the year. Donors of any amount will be entered into a raffle to win fabulous prizes. The Annual Fund Society kicks off as the Academy Prep Center of Tampa enters its tenth anniversary year, and marks one of the many celebratory events the school will host.

"Entering our tenth year, I look forward to welcoming a new Academy Prep class joining our continuing students – all leaning forward," said Head of School Lincoln Tamayo. "Without the community's unwavering faith in our mission, Academy Prep would not be in existence and achieving such outstanding results."

For more information about this event, or about Academy Prep Center of Tampa, please contact Maggie McCleland, Development Manager, at 813.248.5600 (ext 1138) or 813.486.8107 (cell) or mmccleland@academyprep.org. Media are invited to attend the kick-off party—which will last from 6:00-8:00 p.m. School officials will be available for interviews. An invitation is also attached.

The Academy Prep Center of Tampa is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. It is an urban college preparatory middle school whose mission is to inspire and empower students qualifying for need-based scholarships to be future community leaders through a rigorous middle school program coupled with ongoing graduate support. Students attend tuition-free on full scholarships provided by the local community. Students attend Academy Prep up to 11 hours a day, six days a week, 11 months each year. Upon graduation, students are provided eight years of graduate support services. Ninety-six percent of Academy Prep graduates are attending high school, college, or have begun a career. Academy Prep is housed in the historic former V.M Ybor Grammar School building. To learn more information, please visit: www.academyprep.org/tampa

Center of Tampa

###