

Center of Tampa

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE **January 14, 2019**

Academy Prep Center of Tampa Announces New Head of School

Ybor City, FL – The Academy Prep Center of Tampa Board of Trustees is pleased to announce the appointment of L'Tanya Evans as Academy Prep Center of Tampa's new Head of School, effective June 1, 2019.

"Ms. Evans brings a wealth of experience in school leadership and effective pedagogy to this role," said Patricia Douglas, Chair, Academy Prep Center of Tampa Board of Trustees. "Her warmth and ease with students and faculty was apparent from the moment she stepped on the Academy Prep campus to visit. L'Tanya has worked her entire career to prepare herself to be a head of school and in her we find our next leader."

Evans will be Academy Prep Center of Tampa's second Head of School and will succeed founding Head Lincoln Tamayo. Tamayo will retain his position as VP of Center Operations for the Academy Prep Foundation and serve as the Head of School at the new Academy Prep Center of Lakeland, which opens in June 2019.

"I am honored and blessed with this opportunity to join Academy Prep and the important work that it does on behalf of young people," said Evans. "As I continue to reflect on the time I spent at Academy Prep I find myself smiling because I can proudly say that I am going to be a part of all of the amazing passion in action that I witnessed. My professional and personal experiences have and continue to prepare me for this next chapter."

The Board's Search Committee and Academy Prep Center of Tampa Board of Trustees voted unanimously and enthusiastically to appoint Ms. Evans to the position after a thorough vetting of many highly qualified candidates by the Head of School Search Committee. The Board's Search Committee, comprising current and former members and chairs of the Academy Prep Tampa Board of Trustees, conducted a national search for the new Head of School beginning in the spring of 2018.

Evans holds an M.A. in Liberal Studies from Northwestern University and a B.A. in English and Communications from Chatham University. She is joining Academy Prep Tampa after 16 years at The Out-of-Door Academy in Sarasota, where she has been Associate Head of School for Academic Affairs since 2016 with supervision over all 12 Department Heads, the Directors of Middle and Upper School Academic Services; and has dotted line supervision over all three Division Directors and their Assistant Heads. In prior years, Ms. Evans served as Academic Dean and Head of Visual and Performing Arts, Dean of Students, and Head of the English Department. Notably, Ms. Evans has held three department chair positions across her tenure.

"All of us on the Board are excited and optimistic for the future and for the leadership L'Tanya will bring to our school," Douglas said.



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Evans, Tamayo, and members of the Board of Trustees and Search Committee are available for media interviews. The announcement letter from the Academy Prep Center of Tampa Board of Trustees is available on the school's website: academyprep.org/tampa

About Academy Prep

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.

With rigorous academics, diverse extra-curricular activities, and intensive graduate support, Academy Prep gives Florida's most disadvantaged students a chance to succeed. Since 2003, the school's unique academic model has realized outstanding results – its students have gone on to graduate, to flourish, to find success, and to give back to their community in meaningful ways as adults committed to affect positive change. In an area where within a mile radius of the school less than half the adults hold a high school diploma, 99% of Academy Prep graduates graduate from high school on time, with 85% of graduates moving on to college.

To learn more about Academy Prep Center of Tampa, please visit: academyprep.org/tampa

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