FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Head of School, Trustee and Students to Shave Heads to Fight Cancer

Ybor City, FL – Cancer is the number one disease killer of children under fifteen years old in the United States, and every day the equivalent of two classrooms of students are diagnosed with cancer. In conjunction with the Pediatric Cancer Foundation’s Cut for a Cure campaign, The Academy Prep Center of Tampa will host a head-shaving event, to benefit the fight against childhood cancer and Academy Prep’s Student Scholarship Fund. The event will be held on Friday, April 12th, at 3:15 pm in the library at the Academy Prep campus in Ybor. Representatives from Pediatric Cancer Foundation as well as Academy Prep’s staff and Board of Trustees will be in attendance.

Lincoln Tamayo, Academy Prep Foundation VP of Operations, and Head of School for Academy Prep Center of Tampa, will lead the charge by shaving his head on Friday. School staff members have been donating to vie for a chance to shave Tamayo’s locks – the highest fundraiser will have the opportunity.

“As a school serving children in many of Tampa’s neighborhoods, the ongoing crusade against pediatric cancer is a cause we are compelled to support,” said Tamayo. “By participating in the Cut for a Cure Charity Challenge, the Academy Prep Cobras want to get behind children and their families facing one of the biggest challenges of their lives. In doing so, we’ve decided to leave our hair behind.”

Members of the Academy Prep Center of Tampa Cobra team include Head of School Lincoln Tamayo, Trustee member Charlie Poe, and four students: Damien, Allen and Richard – all sixth grade students, and Sarai a fifth grade girl. In addition to shaving their heads in solidarity, the Academy Prep Cobra team is committed to raising at least $50,000 towards pediatric cancer research so that children facing cancer can become future community leaders. This fundraiser runs through May 3, 2013. Net proceeds from this fundraiser will be split between Pediatric Cancer Foundation and Academy Prep Center of Tampa.

The head shaving event is open to Academy Prep students, staff, families and the media. The shaving will begin at 3:15pm in the school’s library. Donors interested in giving a financial contribution to fight pediatric cancer and support the Academy Prep team can do so online by visiting: http://pcfcutforacure.org and following the links to select the Academy Prep team.
For more information on the 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.

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. Academy Prep’s main building is housed in the historic former V.M Ybor Grammar School building. This original structure was renovated, new buildings were added to the campus grounds, and Academy Prep officially opened in 2003. To learn more information, please visit: www.academyprep.org/tampa

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