

For immediate release
April 18, 2011

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LOCAL CHARTER SCHOOL WINS PRESTIGIOUS COLLEGE BOARD AWARD

Miami-Dade County, FL -- Each spring the College Board presents Inspiration Awards to three of America's most improved secondary schools. These schools are recognized for their outstanding college-preparation programs and partnerships among teachers, parents and community organizations.

On **Thursday, April 21**, students, educators, administrators, parents and local dignitaries will pack the auditorium at Mater Academy Charter School for an assembly as the school is presented with a 2011 Inspiration Award from the College Board — and a check for \$25,000 — for being one of the three most inspiring secondary schools in America. The event begins at **9 a.m. at Mater Academy Charter School, 7901 Northwest 103rd Street in Hialeah Gardens.**

A Title One school with a 95 percent graduation rate, Mater Academy Charter Middle High School serves a predominantly minority population. Named among the Top High Schools in America by US News & World Report and Newsweek magazine for three consecutive years, Mater Academy was also among just ten winners of the 2010 National Association of Secondary School Principals Breakthrough School Award.

The Inspiration Awards celebrate America's most improved high schools. These schools help their students acquire self-confidence and the skills necessary not only to gain admission to college but also to succeed on campus. Winning secondary schools demonstrate significant and consistent growth across the entire student population in the number of students taking rigorous courses and the percentage of graduates accepted to institutions of higher education.

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