



JOHN J. TECKLENBURG
MAYOR

City of Charleston
South Carolina

OFFICE OF
COMMUNICATIONS

****MEDIA ADVISORY****

For Release: May 15, 2017

CORRECTION: An earlier version of this advisory announced plans for the City of Charleston's "first" Freedom School. Further research on this topic indicates that a now-ended Freedom School program was previously implemented in Charleston in 2007.

Mayor Tecklenburg, Partners to Announce Freedom School in Charleston

Charleston, S.C.—Please join Charleston Mayor John Tecklenburg and fellow members of the Charleston Freedom School Advisory Committee at a press conference announcing the successful fundraising campaign and latest plans for a Charleston Freedom School, a six-week literacy program this summer for 50 at-risk peninsula students. The press conference will be held Tuesday, May 16 at 1 p.m., at the Charleston Progressive Academy/Media Center located at 382 Meeting Street.

By providing summer reading enrichment for students who might otherwise not have access to books, the Charleston Freedom School program will help to curb summer learning loss and lessen academic achievement gaps. Another goal is to empower children to make a difference in themselves, their families and communities.

During the summer of 2015, the Children's Defense Fund Freedom Schools served over 12,375 children at 189 program sites in 96 cities and 29 states. Progressive Academy on Charleston's eastside will be the site for this important initiative sponsored by the Charleston Freedom School Advisory Board.

WHO: Charleston Mayor John Tecklenburg, Dr. Jon Hale of the College of Charleston, Dr. Fran Welch of the College of Charleston, Darrin Goss of the Coastal Community Foundation, Erica S. Taylor Chief Strategy and Communications Officer of the Charleston County School District and Don Cameron of the Charleston Housing Authority

WHAT: Charleston Freedom School Announcement

WHERE: Charleston Progressive Academy / Media Center
382 Meeting Street, Charleston 29403

WHEN: 1 p.m., Tuesday, May 16, 2017

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In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, people who need alternative formats, ASL (American Sign Language) Interpretation or other accommodation please contact Janet Schumacher at (843) 577-1389 or email to schumacherj@charleston-sc.gov three business days prior to the meeting.