

LEADERSHIP PREPARATORY ACADEMY

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Leadership Preparatory Academy receives 2019 Innovative Charter of the Year Award at the annual Georgia Charter Schools Association Conference

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 19, 2019

STONECREST - Leadership Preparatory Academy received the inaugural Innovative Charter of the Year Award at the Georgia Charter School Association Annual Conference held in Savannah, Georgia. This a brand new award category and is designed to recognize a charter school that achieves measurable student growth, through the use of innovative practices.

In order to compete for this prestigious award, charter schools who met the criteria, were invited to apply through an extensive grant application and rigorous interview process. As the recipient of this inaugural award, Leadership Preparatory Academy will receive \$30,000 from GCSA and the Coca Cola Foundation. The funds will be used to expand its annual Summer STEM Camp and to purchase additional technology hardware for its classrooms.

According to Dr. Williams, "This recognition is a culmination of utilizing research based best practices that are supported and grounded in evidence based decision making. The autonomy and flexibility that exists in the charter environment, allows educators to collaboratively work together to explore new ideas and implement them in real time learning environments. This approach allows for more instantaneous data collection which drives instruction. As a result of this data driven approach incremental adjustments to fiscal policies and resource allocation ensures student success."

Leadership Preparatory Academy has served the Lithonia and Stonecrest communities since 2010. CONSISTENT WITH OUR MISSION AND VISION, Leadership Preparatory Academy (LPA) is focused on developing world class leaders, one student at a time. We are able to do this WHEN students are ready to learn, parents ARE SUPPORTIVE and teachers believe in the genius that exists in each child. LPA collaborates with the Lithonia and Stonecrest community to provide CONTINUOUS opportunities outside the walls of the school, for students to showcase their academic AND leadership skills. WE ENDEAVOR TO INSURE THAT LPA scholars are poised to lead the GLOBAL COMMUNITY OF NATIONS IN THE 21ST CENTURY.



Photo taken at GCSA Conference, February 15, 2019, Savannah, GA

Pictured from left to right: *Dr. Tony Roberts*, President & CEO, GCSA; *Yglesias Hollins*, Manager, Strategic Initiatives, Global Community Affairs, The Coca-Cola Company; *Dr. Tonya Mahone Williams*, Chief Academic Officer and Chief Learning Officer, Leadership Preparatory Academy; *Lisa Haygood*, *Chiquita Smith* and *Dr. Wanda Gilliard*, Members of the Governance Board for Leadership Preparatory Academy