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**Urban Community School to Bring Facing History and Ourselves
Partner to Campus**

Cleveland, Ohio - Urban Community School (UCS) is pleased to announce that they have signed a partnership agreement to construct and build a Cleveland headquarters for Facing History and Ourselves (FHAO) to their campus. FHAO and UCS have been working together for over 10 years and UCS is part of FHAO's Northeast Ohio Partner School Network. This diverse nationwide community of schools empowers educators to create transformational schools where culture and curriculum are aligned to promote students' voice and agency through emotionally engaging and intellectually rigorous learning.

The "opportunity for Facing History and Ourselves Cleveland to join the UCS campus represents the ideal intersection of our shared mission and visions," says FHAO Executive Director, Mark Swaim-Fox. Facing History is "honored to be a member of this innovative and diverse campus. Together with our campus colleagues, we will foster dialogue, empathy, and civic participation to help create the next generation of informed, humane and engaged citizens."

Amy Carlson, Board Chair of FHAO, adds that she is "thrilled our new headquarters will be in the heart of Cleveland and our educational nonprofit will be an integral part of the creative and dynamic UCS campus." By working with and alongside each other, "we will be able to better leverage our efforts, delivering even more to the communities we serve." We believe in a year of unprecedented events, FHAO is "needed even more now by all teachers and their students, as we continue to build the next generation of great citizens, preserving democracy together."

"While reflecting on the Ursuline tradition and mission, it would be hard to think of a more aligned nonprofit to join our campus. It is very important, especially in today's climate, to incorporate lessons on racial justice and equity in schools," says Tom Gill, President of UCS.

Urban Community School has added several partners to its growing campus located at West 48th Street and Lorain Avenue. In 2017, UCS added the Gallagher Family Lacrosse Field to serve as the hub of the Lacrosse Communities Project in partnership with US Lacrosse and Near West Recreation. In 2018, Urban Squash Cleveland opened its Youth Development Center on the campus, followed by an additional home housing the House of Champions, a program geared toward providing an after-school, residential-like experience for students who attend UCS and Metro Catholic School.

In 2020, the school opened The Cletus Jeckering Family Health Center - Ohio City Health Center, in partnership with The MetroHealth System, and recently completed construction of the Early Childhood Care & Learning Center expected to open in July 2021. Urban also plans to construct two additional homes on West 47th Street for additional campus partners headquarters.

“In teaching tolerance, racial equity, and civic responsibility, FHAO helps build foundational awareness in students. These are critically important especially in today’s turbulent times,” adds Raj Trikha, Board Chair of UCS.

UCS is eager to add another important partner to its ever-growing campus, serving the whole child and their many needs in a more effective and influential way.

About Urban Community School

Urban Community School (UCS) strives to break social and economic barriers to success for Cleveland's near west side children by providing an individualized, innovative, and challenging education. Rooted in the Ursuline Sisters’ tradition of faith, character, and educational excellence, UCS engages our faculty, families, and community partners in the successful whole child development of our students.

UCS is a fully accredited non-graded elementary school educating students from Pre-Kindergarten (age 3) through eighth grade. In the Ursuline tradition, UCS educates the whole child--academically, socially, emotionally, physically, and spiritually. UCS serves 570 students (400 in-person and 170 virtual) and is widely regarded as a model for urban education, having been the first school in Cleveland to receive the US Department of Education’s Blue Ribbon Award for excellence in education in 1988. UCS graduates attend many of the area’s top private and public high schools.

For more information, visit urbancommunityschool.org.

About Facing History and Ourselves

Facing History and Ourselves (FHAO) uses lessons of history to challenge teachers and their students to stand up to bigotry and hate. Facing our collective history and how it informs our attitudes and behaviors allows us to choose a world of equity and justice. Facing History’s resources address racism, antisemitism, and prejudice at pivotal moments in history; we help students connect choices made in the past to those they will confront in their own lives. Through our partnership with educators around the region, Facing History and Ourselves reaches thousands of students every year.

Established in 1999, the Facing History and Ourselves (FHAO) Cleveland office has provided more than 4,000 educators with programs and resources. These teachers reach over 280,000 middle and high school students in over 500 public, independent, and religious schools across Ohio.

For more information, visit facinghistory.org/about-us/offices/cleveland