



Open Doors Academy works to *protect, inspire, nurture* and *challenge* youth to reach their full potential.

## PRESS RELEASE

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**CLEVELAND, OH – Open Doors Academy (ODA) was recently selected to receive a \$300,000 grant from the NBA Foundation. With this award, ODA becomes part of a select group of nationwide nonprofit partners dedicated to helping Black youth successfully transition from school to meaningful employment.**

“We are immensely grateful to the NBA Foundation for their generous support and recognition of the impact our enriching afterschool, summer, and family programs have on the youth we serve,” said Dorothy Moulthrop, Ph.D., CEO of Open Doors Academy. “We know high-quality afterschool and summer learning help youth graduate high school, succeed in college, explore meaningful careers, drive greater educational equity, and lead fulfilling lives. We are honored to partner with the NBA Foundation in delivering results for our scholars.”

Awarded over 18 months, the grant will support Open Doors Academy’s research-based High School Plus program, which provides career readiness and college preparation services to 400 Black youth aged 14 to 19 in high school and one year out of high school.

The Cleveland Cavaliers, longtime partners of Open Doors Academy, supported the proposal. “Over the years, we have had the opportunity to collaborate and see first-hand the impact Open Doors Academy has on the lives of youth across Northeast Ohio. Their ability to produce positive outcomes by harnessing the power of education is leaving a powerful and lasting effect on our community now and for the future,” said Pam Frasco, Cleveland Cavaliers Executive Director of Cavaliers Community Foundation and Vice President of Social Impact and Equity. “We look forward to the continued growth of ODA’s programming and the advancement of their impact on employment opportunities for Black youth in our community.”

Focused on furthering economic opportunity for Black youth, the NBA Foundation has invested over \$119 million in 243 nonprofit partners since its inception in 2020, with \$300 million committed over 10 years from the NBA Board of Governors.

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Open Doors Academy is a Cleveland, Ohio-based nonprofit organization working to create equity in education by providing high-quality afterschool programs, summer camps, scholar travel opportunities, and year-round family engagement for K-12 youth. With a mission to protect, inspire, nurture, and challenge youth to reach their full potential, they impact 1,300 students and their families annually across 29 schools in eight school districts throughout northern Ohio. Ninety-six percent of their students qualify for free and reduced-price meals. Students who participate in ODA have shown increased school attendance, and since 2018, 97% of scholars in their high school programs have graduated high school.

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