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PHILADELPHIA ACADEMIES INC. WELCOMES NEW PRESIDENT AND CEO F. CHRISTOPHER GOINS:

A nationally recognized leader and education innovator brings his decades-long experience to the non-profit.

PHILADELPHIA, PA- February 5, 2024. [Philadelphia Academies Inc.](#) (PAI) (Two Penn Center 1500 John F. Kennedy Blvd, Suite 312 Philadelphia, PA 19102), an innovative force in education and career development, welcomes its incoming president and chief executive officer, F. Christopher Goins. Goins is a Philadelphia-based education advocate with an extensive development and transformational leadership history. He officially assumes the post on February 5.

"The Board of Directors is pleased to welcome F. Christopher Goins as the next President and CEO of Philadelphia Academies, Inc. (PAI)," said PAI Board Chair Ian P. Sladen. "Chris has an impressive record of educational non-profit leadership, and his steadfast belief in the transformative power of education perfectly aligns with our mission. His unique ability to effectively engage across multiple stakeholder groups will position the organization to broaden its impact on Philadelphia's youth."

Goins holds a Bachelor of Arts in History and Secondary Education from North Carolina A&T State University, a Master of Arts in Urban Educational Leadership from the University of Cincinnati, and is currently pursuing a Doctorate in Executive Leadership at Temple University. Complementing his doctoral studies, Goins also teaches an undergraduate class in Race and Diversity in Children's Literature at Temple University.

With over two decades of experience as a nationally recognized leader in education, Goins has significantly shaped the structure of the institutes he has served. Significant fundraising achievements and a surge in student enrollment marked his tenure as the 2022-23 President of Girard College in Philadelphia. As Chief Equity Officer at Thrive Chicago, his contributions to the My Brother's Keeper Alliance at the Obama Foundation and Goins' founding principalship at Butler College Prep in Chicago, Illinois, garnered national recognition for his visionary leadership.

Among Goins' many notable contributions and accolades, he has earned a recent position on Pennsylvania Governor Josh Shapiro's 2023 transition team, a featured position in the Philadelphia Inquirer's 2022 "Most Influential African-Americans" list, and was awarded the 2016 Chicago Mayor Principal Achievement Award.

Throughout his career, Goins has held a deep commitment to education guided by the principles of his support network and his affiliation with Chicago's Surge Institute, a national nonprofit organization developing leaders of color, the international brotherhood of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated, and Los Angeles-based Educational Leaders of Color (EDLOC), grantmaking and education advocacy membership organization.

Goins becomes the fourth executive to hold the president and CEO position previously held by Jay Vazquez, who has led PAI's mission as president and CEO since January 2007.

"After 14 years at Philadelphia Academies, it is my pleasure to pass the baton to Chris, who will continue the organization's tradition of developing innovative programming to support Philadelphia students with opportunities to succeed."

As a leading nonprofit dedicated to empowering students and teachers, PAI serves 31 schools within the School District of Philadelphia, reaches over 4,800 students, and supports more than 375 educators. Today, the organization's initiatives extend beyond traditional education, providing middle and high school [students](#) with vital career-connected and workforce development opportunities through pre-apprenticeship programs, hands-on experiential learning, and strategic collaborations with Philadelphia's top companies and higher education institutions. In addition, PAI supports educators throughout the School District of Philadelphia through their work with the [9th Grade](#) and Middle School Success networks, empowering teachers and administrators to utilize data and create interventions to keep Philadelphia students on track for graduation.

More information about becoming a partner, sponsorship opportunities, and PAI programming is available [here](#).

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Philadelphia Academies, Inc. (PAI) was established in 1969 to address the dropout crisis plaguing Philadelphia schools. PAI continues to find innovative ways to support student success and career/postsecondary readiness. Their work includes career initiatives for middle school students, workforce development for high school students, capacity building for teachers and school leaders, and industry organizing with the goal of improving outcomes for Philadelphia's young people.