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TAMIR D. HARPER JOINS PHILADELPHIA ACADEMIES, INC AS DIRECTOR, DEVELOPMENT AND EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

[Philadelphia Academies, Inc.](#) (PAI) is thrilled to announce Tamir D. Harper as its new Director of Development and External Affairs. A native of Southwest Philadelphia and a proud product of the School District of Philadelphia, Tamir is an established non-profit leader and passionate education advocate committed to creating sustainable generational change.

This appointment marks a significant milestone for Philadelphia Academies, Inc. as it continues to expand its impact and commitment to improving outcomes for Philadelphia's young people. In his new role, Tamir will serve as a creative architect as he recruits financial investments to further PAI's mission while supporting strategic marketing and brand recognition of the organization.

Tamir's journey from the classrooms of Philadelphia to national prominence has been marked by a steadfast dedication to addressing the core issues plaguing our education system. His innovative approach has positioned him as a sought-after voice in the national conversation on educational reform.

As a high schooler, Tamir was honored with an appointment to the City of Philadelphia Youth Commission by now-Council President Kenyatta Johnson, where he rose to the position of Education Committee Chair and later Chair of the 21-member body. After his tenure on the commission, he launched [UrbEd Incorporated](#), a Philadelphia-based education advocacy non-profit. After a successful five-year tenure as executive director, he passed the organization down to the new generation of leaders. He has additionally served as an educator and building-level culture and climate leader as well as a senior staffer for a Philadelphia Councilmember.

With a Bachelor's in Public Relations and Strategic Communications from American University and a Master's in Education with a concentration in Special Education and Secondary English Education from the University of Pennsylvania, Tamir brings a unique blend of strategic communication and educational expertise to the table. He is currently pursuing his Doctorate in Education in education leadership and policy.

"I am thrilled to join Philadelphia Academies, Inc.," said Tamir. "It is an honor to contribute my lived experiences and insights to an organization dedicated to empowering Philadelphia's youth through education and career readiness."

In addition to his professional endeavors, Tamir enjoys spending time with his Labradoodle, Tiger, and remains actively involved as a life member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated.

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Philadelphia Academies, Inc. (PAI) was established in 1969 to address the dropout crisis plaguing Black males in Philadelphia schools. The organization is dedicated to solving the critical challenges facing our city's education system through its programmatic initiatives which include career exploration for middle school students, workforce development for high school students, capacity building for teachers and school leaders, and connecting industry leaders to classrooms.