



*The National Association of Magnet and Theme-Based Schools*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Magnet Schools of America Announces 2018 Nationally Certified Magnet Schools**

*Washington, DC, March 20, 2018*— Magnet Schools of America (MSA), the national association of magnet and theme-based schools, announces the nationally certified magnet schools for 2018. These 38 schools located in 12 states (AL, CA, CT, FL, GA, LA, MN, NC, NV, SC, TN, and TX) successfully completed a nine-month evaluation process and demonstrated through evidence, reflection, and strategic action that they have established the Magnet School [Standards of Excellence](#) in their schools.

The national certification process is based on the Magnet School Standards of Excellence and the [five pillars of magnet schools](#) (diversity; innovative curriculum and professional development; academic excellence; high quality instructional systems; and, family and community partnerships). These pillars and standards define the essential elements and characteristics of high-quality magnet programs.

To become nationally certified, MSA member schools submitted a detailed application and participated in a rigorous evaluation conducted by MSA. The application process required schools to submit evidence demonstrating how they met each of the multiple indicators included in the Standards of Excellence. This included providing specific examples of how the school was promoting school diversity, closing the achievement gap, integrating a theme-based curriculum throughout the school, and encouraging parent and community involvement.

Among the cohort of nationally certified schools, five were identified as National Demonstration Schools. These schools exceeded the criteria outlined in the Standards of Excellence and are models that should be closely studied and replicated. The Demonstration Schools will serve as innovation laboratories for others to learn best practices in theme-based education.

“The certification process validates the highest caliber schools and programs we have in public education. It has been very encouraging for MSA evaluators to see the outstanding curriculum, professional educators, and learning environments that are provided for students in these magnet schools,” said Kelly Bucherie, Director for Magnet School Leadership, Magnet Schools of America.

The 2018 cohort increases the total number of nationally certified magnet schools to 93 schools. Among these certified schools 15 have been designated as National Demonstration Schools. Additional magnet schools are going through the national certification application process this school year and will be complete this summer. Applications to participate next school year will be released on April 25, 2019. All currently certified schools will be recognized during a ceremony held at Magnet Schools of America’s 36th National Conference in Chicago, Illinois on April 25-29, 2018.

For more information, about the Magnet Schools of America Standards of Excellence Certification Program, please visit: <http://www.magnetschools.info/certification/national-certification>

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About MSA: Magnet Schools of America (MSA) is a nonprofit education association that represents more than 4,340 magnet schools serving nearly 3.5 million students. MSA was founded in 1986 and authorized as a 501(c)3 in 1994. It supports and serves the leaders and teachers of magnet and theme-based schools, while promoting the development of new magnet programs and public schools of choice. It also provides technical assistance through the National Institute for Magnet School Leadership (NIMSL).

### National Demonstration Schools

Young Women's Preparatory Academy	Miami-Dade County Public Schools	FL
Center for Knowledge/Center for Knowledge North	Richland School District Two	SC
Kelly Mill Middle School	Richland School District Two	SC
Lonnie B. Nelson Elementary School ACE Magnet Program	Richland School District Two	SC
Glacier Hills Elementary School of Arts & Science	Independent School District 196	MN

### Nationally Certified Magnet Schools

Montana Street Magnet School	Dothan City Schools	AL
Academy for Academics and Arts	Huntsville City Schools	AL
Cleveland Humanities Magnet	Los Angeles Unified School District	CA
Aero/Hydrospace Engineering and Physical Science at Fairchild Wheeler Interdistrict Magnet Campus	Bridgeport	CT
Biotechnology Research and Zoological Sciences	Bridgeport	CT
Information Technology & Software Engineering High School	Bridgeport	CT
John C. Daniels Interdistrict Magnet School of International Communication	New Haven Public Schools	CT
Quinnipiac Real World Math STEM School	New Haven Public Schools	CT
Maloney Interdistrict Magnet School	Waterbury	CT
New River Middle School	Broward County Public Schools	FL

South Broward High School	Broward County Public Schools	FL
Muller Elementary Magnet School	Hillsborough County Public Schools	FL
Tampa Bay Technical High School	Hillsborough County Public Schools	FL
BioTECH @ Richmond Heights 9-12 High School	Miami-Dade County Public Schools	FL
Center for International Education: A Cambridge Associate School	Miami-Dade County Public Schools	FL
Dr. Henry E. Perrine Academy of the Arts	Miami-Dade County Public Schools	FL
iPrep Academy PK-12	Miami-Dade County Public Schools	FL
Law Enforcement Officers' Memorial High School	Miami-Dade County Public Schools	FL
Sunset Elementary School	Miami-Dade County Public Schools	FL
Martha Ellen Stilwell School of the Arts	Clayton County Public Schools	GA
Baton Rouge Foreign Language Academic Immersion Magnet	East Baton Rouge Public School Systems	LA
Belfair Montessori Magnet School	East Baton Rouge Public School Systems	LA
Forest Heights Academy of Excellence	East Baton Rouge Public School Systems	LA
Scotlandville Pre-Engineering Magnet Academy	East Baton Rouge Public School Systems	LA
Sherwood Middle Academic Magnet School	East Baton Rouge Public School Systems	LA
Westdale Heights Academic Magnet	East Baton Rouge Public School Systems	LA
Carroll Leadership in Technology Magnet Middle School	Wake County Public School System	NC
Kingswood Montessori/STEM Magnet Elementary School	Wake County Public School System	NC
Washington Magnet Elementary School	Wake County Public School System	NC
Ligon GT/AIG Magnet Middle School	Wake County Public School Systems	NC
Jo Mackey Academy of Leadership and Global Communication	Clark County School District	NV
Dent Middle School	Richland School District Two	SC
Oppe Elementary School	Galveston Independent School District	TX