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LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT AND CITY OFFICE PARTNER TO PROMOTE CULTURAL HERITAGE AND THE ARTS

Festival of the Arts event will feature student artwork in celebration of culture and history

San Antonio, TX – Students will give life to their perspectives on culture, heritage and community through their artwork and photographs at today's *Festival of the Arts* – a community event put forth through a collaboration between the City of San Antonio Office of Historic Preservation (OHP), New Frontiers Charter School District and SA2020.

The event will celebrate cultural heritage with a featured student art showcase, musical performances, poetry readings and interactive art stations. Featured showcase items will include unique art pieces and a display of students' photos from the *This Place Matters* campaign – a national campaign, promoted locally by OHP that encourages people to celebrate the places that are meaningful to them and to their communities.

San Antonio City Councilwoman (District 3), Rebecca J. Viagran, whose family linage extends over 200 years in the San Antonio and South Texas is scheduled to speak on the central theme of the event – a celebration of a community with a rich heritage. "This partnership gives students an opportunity to explore and celebrate the people and places that mean the most to them. The values incorporated in the program and campaign are also reflected in our World Heritage Missions and the communities that surround them, stated Councilwoman Viagran. "It is important that we continue to invest in our community, our people, and celebrate the unique and beautiful historic places, like this campus, here in District 3."

With a vision of securing a collegiate pathway for its students, New Frontiers Charter School District has provided tuition free, quality public education in San Antonio since 1998 – their students will showcase their artistic talents at the event. "We are committed to empowering our students to share their point of view on their community through opportunities like the Festival of the Arts," said New Frontiers Charter School CEO, Alfredo Segura Jr. "This platform and others like it help to propel our students down their path to becoming the future leaders of our community."

The Festival of the Arts will be held today from 5:00 – 7:00pm at the New Frontiers Charter School District's main campus on 4018 S. Presa; download the event flyer here. The event is free and open to the public.

"Today's showcase is a part of our *Preservation Education Program* that engages youth through varying activities that are focused on promoting awareness of historic preservation, history and cultural heritage to ultimately inspire students as future stewards of the community's cultural and historic resources," said Director of the Office of Historic Preservation (OHP), Shanon Miller.

For information about New Frontiers Charter School District, visit www.newfrontierscharters.org. For information on the City of San Antonio Office of Historic Preservation, visit http://www.sanantonio.gov/historic/.

The Office of Historic Preservation (OHP) protects the historical, cultural, architectural, and archaeological resources that make San Antonio unique. The OHP is also committed to historic preservation outreach and education and has established a Preservation Academy to host lectures, workshops, and events promoting historic preservation to the community.

New Frontiers Charter School District operates community-based, free public charter schools for children in kindergarten through high school on the south side of San Antonio. The district offers a college immersion program where students enter college in the 9th grade. Their home grown schools expand the access of opportunity so that each student is equipped to fulfill his/her potential.