



SOPHY Hyde Park Makes Donations to Hyde Park Academy High School

Hyde Park Chicago, IL, May 2, 2018 - [SOPHY Hyde Park](#), the new 98-room boutique hotel currently under construction in Chicago's historic Hyde Park neighborhood, has made a donation to Hyde Park Academy High School for Smart TV monitors.

Anthony Beach, the General Manager of SOPHY, a former Hyde Park resident and an alumnus of the Academy, presented the donation, which will enable the students to view their art lessons on the Smart TV monitors and will allow them to digitally connect and collaborate with art students at other schools.



From Left to Right: Joshua VanderJagt, Assistant Vice Principal; Rhonda Gholston, Fine Arts Instructor; Tina Nishida, Fine Arts Instructor; 5th Ward Alderman, Leslie Hairston; Principal, Antonio Ross; Anthony Beach, General Manager SOPHY Hyde Park; and Alicia Garcia-Abner, President, Trinal, Inc.

Earlier this year, SOPHY Hyde Park donated funds to Hyde Park Academy High School for art supplies that were used by students to create 60 original works of art expressing the inspiring intellectual, artistic and cultural innovations that are part of Hyde Park's rich history. They were combined into an exterior mural that is currently serving as an outdoor gallery in front of the hotel site, located at 53rd Street and Dorchester Avenue. Selected works from the murals will be chosen to become part of the hotel's art program, which focuses on local artists and Chicago topics. The pieces will be displayed in the hotel's restaurant when it opens later this summer.

"We are delighted that this community engagement project has provided these talented students with the opportunity to create compelling work and contribute to the beautification of Hyde Park," said Leslie A. Hairston, Alderman for the 5th Ward. "It's wonderful when our local businesses reach out and involve the students of Hyde Park Academy High School in such a meaningful way. The donations from SOPHY and the extended display of student artwork in the hotel show a commitment to the neighborhood and the young people who are the heart of its future."

The donations and mural project were spearheaded by Alicia Garcia-Abner, President of Trinal, Inc., a Chicago-based diversity and inclusion consulting company.

In a neighborhood in the midst of a dynamic revitalization, SOPHY's community engagement and support is central to the hotel's mission. SOPHY is firmly rooted in the history of Hyde Park, which is famed as the site of the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition and home to both the University of Chicago campus and the Museum of Science and Industry. It is also close to the site of the future Barack Obama Presidential Center. SOPHY Hyde Park is on schedule to open in summer 2018.

About Hyde Park Academy

Founded in 1863 as a single room housed in a local grammar school, Hyde Park High School underwent several reincarnations before relocating to its current building at 6220 South Stony Island Avenue in 1914. In 1976, Hyde Park became a magnet school and a Career Academy. Since 1996, the school has been known as Hyde Park Academy, with a focus on college readiness and career preparation. In 2001, Hyde Park Academy became an authorized International Baccalaureate World School, offering the world's most rigorous college preparatory curriculum through its Middle Years (as of 2004) and Diploma programs. The school is located across from the future Barack Obama Presidential Center in Hyde Park. www.hydeparkcps.org

About SOPHY Hyde Park

SOPHY Hyde Park is a 98- room hotel currently under construction in Chicago's historic Hyde Park neighborhood. Developed by The Olympia Companies and SMART Hotels, and managed by Olympia Hotel Management, SOPHY is near the site of the future Barack Obama Presidential Center, the University of Chicago and the University of Chicago Medical Center. SOPHY is a member of the Preferred Hotels & Resorts Lifestyle Collection. www.sophyhotel.com

@SOPHYHotel #SOPHYHotel

Press Contact:

Gayle Conran

ConranPR

gconran@conranpr.com

917.769.8401