



Build with Purpose and Lady Liberty Academy to Celebrate New Campus with Ribbon Cutting

Civic Builders recently joined Heketi Community Charter School students, families, and educators in the South Bronx to celebrate the opening of their brand new school facility. Previously sharing space with a Montessori charter school, Heketi can now expand to give over 300 kindergarten through fifth grade students an inspiring space to learn and call their own.

At the celebration, Heketi's founder and head of school, Cynthia Rosario, described the impact the school's space is having on its students: "Space has never had such depth of meaning until now. Our children and families, in their awe at the enormity of our new building, remind me just how transformative a beautiful space can be. It's a testament to how a physical structure can affect the quality of life of the people it touches."

Heketi parents are similarly excited about the new space. Claudia Marin-Andrade, who has two Heketi scholars, said: "Our children love the new building; they come home to tell us all about the spacious gym, beautiful art studio, the comfortable nurse's office and are anxiously awaiting their first community circle in the new space. The added level of safety in the new building makes us feel confident, the children's safety features around the doors, children height water fountains, beautiful artwork, and wonderful staff, completes a caring educational community."

Civic Builders is incredibly proud to have been part of this fantastic project that is transforming lives in the South Bronx. David Umansky, the founder and CEO of Civic Builders, explains: "Each hallway, classroom and open space is brightened by the dedicated students and teachers who learn and grow together within these walls. A school building is a second home - a safe space to come together, share and cultivate knowledge. We are so happy to celebrate Heketi's homecoming today."

Newark, NJ (October 16, 2014)- Build with Purpose will be joined by Lady Liberty Academy Charter School (Lady Liberty) students, staff and families to celebrate the opening of their new school building and campus in Newark on October 22 at 1p. Build with Purpose, a national leader in charter school facility development, is the owner and developer of the property. Lady Liberty has a 30 year lease with an option to purchase at any time.

Students at Lady Liberty began the school year in their brand new building after spending the past two years at a temporary location in Harrison, NJ. The new site brings the 480 K-8 students back home to Newark to a campus that includes a newly constructed 18,000 square foot middle school, a renovated elementary school, a gym and a new outside courtyard. The new middle school building is comprised of twenty seven modular units and was fabricated in Pennsylvania and will be delivered via tractor trailers and lifted into place by cranes



The \$10.5 million project was financed by Royal Bank of Canada (RBC) and NJEDA tax exempt bonds. Predevelopment financing was provided by The Reinvestment Fund. GLUCK+ was the architect and construction manager for the project and provided a seamless, high quality, and efficient

delivery of the project. GLUCK+ was recently named one of the top 10 most innovative architecture companies by Fast Company for ensuring quality and efficiency by seeing a building through the entire process of design and construction.

Lady Liberty moved from its temporary site in Harrison, NJ this summer in time for the beginning of the new school year “We are educators” said Glen Pindar the Head of School for Lady Liberty. “We don’t have the knowledge or capacity to finance and develop a school building on our own. Partnering with Build with Purpose allowed us to get exactly what we needed while allowing us to stay focused on our mission. Staff, parents and students love their new school!” Build with Purpose and Lady Liberty will be celebrating their new campus with a ribbon cutting on October 22 at 1pm.

To see a time lapse of the construction of the new building visit www.bwpurpose.org and view the video on the home page. For more information regarding this project or Build with Purpose please call Brian Keenan at 732 635-1000 extension 153.

About Build with Purpose

Build with Purpose has facilitated over \$150 million in real estate development financing for more than 30 community organizations over the course of its first ten years and has an established track record directly developing real estate, managing real estate projects for other nonprofits and bringing a variety of community real estate assets back to life. These projects have positively impacted over 8,000 people and helped to make the surrounding communities healthier and more vibrant. For more information about Build with Purpose go to www.bwpurpose.org.

