CITY OF HOUSTON

NEWS RELEASE
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

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Contact: Rogene Gee Calvert 832-723-4508

INAUGURATION OF 2006 MAYOR'S YOUTH COUNCIL

Houston- In the aftermath of hurricanes and tropical storms, an important tradition continues on. Mayor Bill White will be administering the oath of office to his 2006 Mayor's Youth Council on Tuesday, September 27, 2005, 5:30 p.m. in the Convention and Visitors Center Board Room in City Hall.

This is the second Youth Council under Mayor Bill White's administration. He renewed the Mayor's Youth Council, started in 1998, to encourage young Houstonians to learn more about city government. Youth Council members were selected after a competitive written application and personal interview. The Mayor's Youth Council emulates the Houston City Council with a Council Chair, City Secretary, Chief of Staff, Coordinator of Programs, five (5) at-large and nine (9) district council positions and their accompanying senior aides.

Youth Council members develop a sense of personal growth and achievement, an understanding of city departments and a rapport with community leaders, citizens and elected officials. Members are called upon to help make decisions affecting Houston's youth as well as participate in numerous activities throughout the year. They will be holding a monthly Council Meeting on a weekday evening at which Houston youth may bring forth their issues, concerns and recommendations; Town Hall Meetings, either devoted to a specific topic or open-ended providing resource experts on the topic, as well as organizing and participating in community service projects and programs. Youth Council members also develop a relationship with their respective Council office to become familiar with activities and issues of that office. Most importantly, they will serve as the "voice" for Houston's youth and report formally throughout the year to the Mayor and City Council on youth concerns. Senior aides represent the Council Member when absent, provide assistance in research and planning, and act as a liaison with the Mayor's Teen Task Force.

This year, thirty-two (32) young individuals, will be installed:

Position	Name	School	Grade
Council Chair	Charlecia Johnson	Booker T. Washington HS	12th
City Secretary	Jana Hemann	Bellaire HS	10th
Chief of Staff	Eric Graves	Bellaire HS	11th
Special Events Coordinator	Devon Castro-Stevenson	Booker T. Washington	11th
At-Large – 1	Ana Vazquez-Trejo	Bellaire HS	10th
Sr. Aide	Robyn Garivey	Lamar HS	12th
At-Large – 2	Zachary Garber	Bellaire HS	10th
Sr. Aide	Cindy Dinh	Spring Woods HS	11th
At-Large – 3	TaShon Thomas	Middle College for Tech.	12th
Sr. Aide	Kenneth Simon	Carnegie Vanguard HS	11th
At-Large – 4	Jarvis Jackson	Hightower HS	12th
Sr. Aide	Jabari Bailey	Challenge Early College	11th
At-Large – 5	Terry Lewis	Barbara Jordon HS	11th
Sr. Aide	Britney Cooks	Barbara Jordon HS	12th
District A	William Luton	Spring Woods HS	12th
Sr. Aide	De Vo	Spring Woods HS	12th
District B	Tyrone Willis	Westbury Christian	12th
Sr. Aide	Sharita Palmer	Barbara Jordon HS	11th
District C	Kavodel Ohiomoba	Westbury HS	12th
Sr. Aide	Jessica Zhao	Bellaire HS	11th
District D	Terah Scott	Madison HS	12th
Sr. Aide	Marquis Alexander	Barbara Jordon HS	11th
District E	Asad Moten	Clear Creek HS	11th
Sr. Aide	Emily Benigno	St. Agnes Academy	11th
District F	William Garcia	Law Enforcement HS	11th
Sr. Aide	Zuri Dale	Barbara Jordon HS	11th
District G	Nikhil Kumar	Memorial HS	12th
Sr. Aide	Christopher Patton	Stratford HS	12th
District H	Gilberto Cardenas	Westside H.S.	11th
Sr. Aide	Jessica Soliz	Law Enforcement HS	9th
District I	Cynthia Alberto	Lee H.S.	12th
Sr. Aide	Patrick Boateng	Westside HS	11th

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