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## NEWS RELEASE

October 6, 2009

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### **HPARD to Host HBCU College & Career Fair Day** *Workshops to help high school students plan their futures*

The Houston Parks and Recreation Department's Athletes Seeking Knowledge Program, in partnership with the Center of Academic Preparation to Higher Education, will host the **7<sup>th</sup> Annual Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) College and Career Fair Day**, Saturday, October 10, 2009, from 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. The event will take place at the Judson Robinson, Jr., Community Center, 2020 Hermann Drive, Houston, TX 77004.

"High school students with their adult lives ahead of them often need a guide to get started in the right direction," said Joe Turner, Director, Houston Parks and Recreation Department. "The workshops and guest speakers at the HBCU College and Career Fair Day will be a big help to the kids and their families as they chart their course toward college."

The event is open to high school students and student athletes who will graduate between 2010 and 2013 and their parents, as well as high school teachers, counselors, coaches, and alumni of historically black colleges and universities. Free workshops will be held to help with college planning, admissions, scholarships, and financial aid. A parents-only session will deal with Your Child's College Planning. There will be help regarding NCAA Guidelines for student athletes by a NCAA compliance officer, and representatives from HBCUs, the United Negro College Fund, Thurgood Marshall Institutions, and ACT will be on hand for consultation. All registered participants who attend the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual HBCU College & Career Fair Day can compete for college scholarships.

Athletes Seeking Knowledge (A.S.K.) seeks to mold better student athletes by providing the necessary tools, guidance, and support for their academic success. Through sports and recreation and free tutorials and ACT and SAT training, A.S.K. keeps children ages 13 – 18 focused on their educations and a bright future. The program is free of charge and is offered by the Houston Parks and Recreation Department as part of its After School, Teen and Summer Enrichment Programs.

For more information on A.S.K. and the Houston Parks and Recreation Department, call (713) 865-4537, or go to [www.houstonparks.org](http://www.houstonparks.org).