



## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

For more information, please contact –

Bob Bedi, 919-539-2507, [bbedi@mediaintegrations.com](mailto:bbedi@mediaintegrations.com)

Valencia Toomer, 919-704-2006, [schooloftheartsforboysacademy@gmail.com](mailto:schooloftheartsforboysacademy@gmail.com)

### **PITTSBORO'S SCHOOL OF THE ARTS FOR BOYS ACADEMY ANNOUNCES ITS NEW SCHOOL LOCATION FOR 2023-24**

*North Carolina's first all-boys tuition-free charter school, based in Chatham County, will begin operation at its newly purchased learning center in downtown Pittsboro. SABA's first year begins on August 14 with boys in grades 3-to-6.*

**PITTSBORO, NC (May 18, 2023)** – The Board of Directors of School of the Arts for Boys Academy met on 05/16/23 and is pleased to announce the location for the free Public Charter school. The school will open in August at 69 Robyns Nest Lane in Pittsboro.

SABA's new 1.9 acre property has served as a community learning center for over two decades and is an ideal, centrally-located facility, as SABA begins its mission of providing boys in the area with an outstanding educational experience. The campus includes lots of open space, ample areas for recess and outdoor activities and plenty of parking, as well as a well-maintained primary building with spacious classrooms. SABA's new location, just off the intersection of US 15-501 and NC-87 and a mile away from Pittsboro's downtown courthouse, provides convenient access for families in Pittsboro, Moncure, Siler City, Sanford and nearby communities in Chatham, Lee, Orange, Durham and Wake Counties.

School of the Arts for Boys Academy Founder/Head of School Valencia Toomer is thrilled to announce the school's new location. She enthusiastically comments, "This is a memorable day for SABA. Over the past couple of years, we've dedicated considerable time, effort and resources on our mission to create a school specifically for boys in our area and the time has now arrived! We have secured a fabulous learning center and are ready to begin serving our families. Numerous studies confirm the significant achievement gap that many boys begin to experience at around third grade in traditional schools. By building SABA specifically to account for the ways boys learn best, we will be making a permanent, positive difference in the lives of our Kings. We will play a critical role of 'building boys into men.'"

SABA Board Chair Dr. Allyson Alston views the school's acquisition of this property as the final piece in the ready to open process, observing, "When we learned that this learning facility was available, we moved decisively to secure it. Our location and transportation plan will provide easy access to the SABA. Equally important, we love the history of the building; Robyn's Nest has served the area families and children as a daycare for over two decades. In many respects, SABA is a continuation and extension of that servant approach."

SABA Board Vice Chair Dr. Brent Anderson focuses on the actual campus noting, "From a practical standpoint, our location on Robyns Nest Lane is ideal. It's been well-maintained and is already designed to serve children. The classrooms and outdoor spaces will provide our Kings and our staff with a great environment that will allow SABA to achieve our mission and serve our students. I'm very pleased with the opportunity to begin the SABA journey in such an ideal facility and location."

SABA opens its doors for the first time in August 2023, serving boys in grades 3-to-6, with a projected student population of 116. In ensuing years, SABA will add new grades incrementally, with plans to ultimately be a K-to-12 school. As a result of this progression, every boy who enrolls at SABA will have the opportunity to graduate from high school at SABA.

SABA is still accepting applications for the 2023-24 school year, as well as completing its staffing for its inaugural year. Applications and enrollment information are available at <https://www.sabacademy.org/apply>. Open positions and staffing information is available at <https://www.sabacademy.org/teachers>.

To learn more and apply for enrollment at SABA, please stop by the information booth in front of Pittsboro Pharmacy on Friday from 3-6pm. Follow SABA for news updates, information and upcoming events on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/SABAcademyKings>.

### ***About School of the Arts for Boys Academy***

SABA is a tuition-free North Carolina Public Charter School, based in Pittsboro and serving boys in grades 3-to-6, opening in August 2023. SABA utilizes arts, academics and athletics to provide its Kings with a superior educational environment and to build boys into responsible men who will be positive contributors in our society. Learn more at [www.SABAcademy.org](http://www.SABAcademy.org).

#####

**MEDIA ADVISORY:** School of the Arts for Boys Academy Founder and Head of School Valencia Toomer is accepting interview requests at 919-704-2006 or [schooloftheartsforboysacademy@gmail.com](mailto:schooloftheartsforboysacademy@gmail.com).