



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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High Jump Chicago's Statement on Supreme Court's Strike Down of Affirmative Action

Deep concern over ramifications for current and future students

CHICAGO, IL, June 30, 2023 – As an organization with a mission to bring equity to education, High Jump is deeply concerned about the ramifications that the Supreme Court decision to strike down Affirmative Action will have on our current and future Scholars. In the face of overwhelming historical injustices, Affirmative Action was one of the strongest tools that we had to provide more opportunity for students of color to access educational and cultural spaces that have historically been closed to them.

At High Jump, recognizing these barriers, we start early, preparing our Scholars in middle school to thrive in high school, college, and beyond. We work not just to increase access, but also to prepare them to thrive once they get there and, crucially, to affirm for them that these are spaces in which they belong.

As news of this ruling comes out this summer, we think about our alumni in high school preparing to go to college, our current 7th and 8th grader Scholars who are excited about the opportunities opening up to them, and the High Jump Scholars of the future who will have to navigate their education through spaces even less accessible than the present.

The need for the High Jump program is more important now than ever, and we remain committed to serving our current and future Scholars as they navigate their educational journeys through even greater challenges. To our Scholars and to our alumni, we firmly support you, we are here for you, and we will continue to be your partners and advocates along every step of your journeys.

–Nate Pietrini, Executive Director

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Founded in 1989, High Jump equalizes access to education for Chicago middle school students who have exhibited academic ambition and potential and are of limited economic means. The organization provides academic enrichment, counseling, and support to students of diverse backgrounds, with the goals of sending our participants to superior college preparatory schools, ensuring their success while there, and enhancing their ability to gain admission to highly regarded four-year colleges and universities. For more information, please visit:

highjumpchicago.org