



For Immediate Release

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Contact:

Courtenay Fain: 843-709-8139

Media Release

Chicora School of Communications Captures 2017 CPN Social Studies Bowl Crown

Charleston, SC – A crowd of nearly 200 at The Charleston Museum watched student teams from Chicora School of Communications, James Simons School, Mary Ford Elementary, and Sanders-Clyde Creative Arts School compete in Charleston Promise Neighborhood's (CPN) 2017 Social Studies Bowl on Thursday, March 2, 2017.

Thanks to a clutch performance by their fifth graders in the final round, the Chicora Eagles took home the title, edging out last year's winner, Mary Ford. Questions ranged from "name one natural resource found in our region in South Carolina," posed to second graders, to "where did the last battle of the American Revolution take place," asked of fifth graders.

"I am so proud of our Chicora scholars," exclaimed Principal Shavonna Coakley. "We have been challenging our students this year to think beyond the books by using their world class skills. Tonight's Social Studies Bowl is a great milestone for Chicora, as our students demonstrated their mastery of creativity, critical thinking, collaboration, and all the social skills we have been learning for being successful in the game we call LIFE!"

CPN's Social Studies Bowl is an event that gives second through fifth grade students from Charleston County School District (CCSD) neighborhood schools a chance to display their knowledge in topics such as history, government, geography, and sociology. This is the fourth year the four schools have come together for this friendly competition, which was widely attended by students' families and teachers. It is hosted by CPN in partnership with CCSD, The Charleston Museum, and the Historic Charleston Foundation, and with the financial support of Mercedes-Benz Vans and Jim 'N Nick's Bar-B-Q.

"It was absolutely amazing," added CPN Chief Executive Officer Sherrie Snipes-Williams. "Charleston Promise Neighborhood was thrilled to work with these amazing students and their teacher-coaches. They competed hard and demonstrated their aptitude in social studies. Families were cheering, principals were nervous, and the students came ready to win. This is truly an example of how to make learning fun."

For information about the CPN Social Studies Bowl, or how you can get involved in next year's tournament, please contact Courtenay Fain (843) 709-8139.

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About Charleston Promise Neighborhood

Charleston Promise Neighborhood (CPN) is a nonprofit organization incorporated in May 2010, whose vision and purpose is to transform the “Neighborhood” within a generation. The CPN Neighborhood, home to just under 27,000 residents—4,300 of whom are children under the age of 18—is a 5.6 square mile area of Charleston County that straddles portions of the cities of Charleston and North Charleston, and coincides with the attendance zones of four CCSD elementary schools with high concentrations of children living in poverty: Chicora, James Simons, Mary Ford and Sanders-Clyde. CPN’s current focus areas include education, healthcare, parenting engagement, and community engagement. For more information, visit www.charlestonpromise.org.

About the Charleston County School District

Charleston County School District (CCSD) is the second largest school system in South Carolina representing a unique blend of urban, suburban, and rural schools that span 1,000 square miles along the coast. CCSD serves more than 50,000 students in 86 schools and several specialized programs. With approximately 6,100 employees district-wide, CCSD is the fourth largest employer in the region.

CCSD offers a diverse, expanding portfolio of options and specialized programs, delivered through neighborhood, charter, magnet, IB (international baccalaureate), and Montessori schools, and is divided into three Learning Communities led by associate superintendents. Options include specialized programs in science, engineering and mathematics; liberal arts; music and other creative and performing arts; career and technical preparation programs; and military and other public service enterprises.

About Mercedes-Benz Vans, LLC

Mercedes-Benz Vans, LLC (“MBV”) is a plant in South Carolina that assembles Sprinter vans for the U.S. market under the brands Mercedes-Benz and Freightliner. The midsize Metris van was added to the assembly line in 2015. In March 2015, MBV announced that it will invest \$500 million in construction of a new Sprinter production plant, in addition to an expansion of existing operations. In July 2016, MBV officially broke ground on the site of its new plant, located next to existing operations in North Charleston. The MBV facility will provide up to 1,300 jobs by the end of the decade. Open positions can be found online at <http://readysc.org/mercedes> and daimler.com/career.

About Jim ‘N Nick’s Bar-B-Q

Smoke, meat and time. These are the three basic components in barbecue. What makes the difference is a passion for the craft, sourcing the best raw ingredients and attention to small details. Since 1985 Jim ‘N Nick’s Bar-B-Q has been diligent in making sure that the barbecue is the star of the plate. Three decades and thirty locations later, the talented folks at Jim ‘N Nick’s are still committed to honoring the tradition of Southern barbecue. We take pride in the roots of Alabama pit barbecue and strive for the highest quality from the hospitality in the dining room, innovative, freshly made recipes that are rooted in tradition, thoughtful, friendly service at our bar to the pies baked totally from scratch in each restaurant kitchen. Community matters to us and we are proud to serve you whether you’re seated at a table in our restaurant, enjoying a catered event, picking up food to go or through charitable efforts. We give you our best.