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**For Immediate Release**

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## **Friendship Public Charter Schools Retains Michael Marshall Design, VA-Spaces for Master Planning, Architecture and Interior Design Services**

*Firms to provide comprehensive services across the organization's entire portfolio of campuses*

**WASHINGTON, DC** — DC-based Michael Marshall Design in partnership with interior architecture and design firm VA-Spaces has announced the firms have been retained to provide master planning, architecture and interior design services for Friendship Public Charter Schools. The scope of work will include comprehensive services for all 11 of the organization's schools located across the District of Columbia.

A cohesive approach to the organization's investments through the built environment is the ultimate goal, ensuring that the brand mission and objectives of the organization are consistently embraced and applied across every campus. Additionally, the unique physical context, community and offerings of each individual school will be explored, and upgrades to each campus will be made according to the distinct features of each location.

"We are honored to be involved with an organization of this stature, known for its innovation and dedication to educational excellence. We look forward to supporting Friendship Public Charter Schools as it continues to offer exceptional educational opportunities for families and students in the nation's capital," said architect Michael Marshall.

Friendship Public Charter Schools began with just two locations in 1998, growing to the current portfolio of 11 physical campuses (12 total, including an online campus). The schools are known for "rigorous curriculum, exemplary instruction, resource-rich forums and commitment to student achievement." The curriculum inspires curiosity and confidence and the belief that every child can achieve to the highest standards. The organization is known for ingenuity and advancement, including opening the district's first Early College Charter High School, and its dedication to expanding opportunities for students to realize college and career success.

"What a tremendous opportunity to work with such an outstanding organization. Friendship Public Charter Schools is one of the preeminent educational institutions in DC. Their commitment to excellence impacts families for the better on a daily basis and we look forward to serving their needs," said va-spaces CEO Valerie A. Barnes.

### **About Michael Marshall Design**

Michael Marshall Design (MMD) is a DC-based architecture and design firm, serving clients in the public and private sectors. A seasoned collective of architects, brand strategists and creative thinkers, we work across design disciplines, beyond the expected, to inspire greater engagement and impact everywhere we come together.

We are passionate about using architecture and branding to create more relevant public spaces and more dynamic experiences. An architecture firm since 1989, we have always understood the power of the built environment, and now we bring our broad-based design thinking to create greater opportunities and drive positive change in our communities.

[www.michaelmarshalldesign.com](http://www.michaelmarshalldesign.com)

### **About VA-Spaces**

VA-Spaces was established in 2006 with the goal to create unique and personal spaces for each of its clients. Our firm has a client-first approach that focuses on what is needed to operate at the highest levels while incorporating dramatic design.

Based in Tysons Corner, VA-Spaces serves the DC Metro area, and also has projects around the country. We are a full-service firm but specialize in interior spaces with unique design. We believe your space is reflective of you and vital to any venture's success. In addition to design, VA-Spaces offers construction administration and management, furniture procurement, and more in Healthcare, Corporate, Retail, and Government.

[www.va-spaces.com](http://www.va-spaces.com)

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