



The National Association for Magnet and Theme-based Schools

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**U.S. Congressman Bobby Scott Receives
Champion of Magnet School Excellence Award**

Washington, DC, February 16, 2017 – Magnet Schools of America (MSA), the national association for magnet and theme-based schools is pleased to announce that Congressman Bobby Scott from the third Congressional District of Virginia is the recipient of our Champion of Magnet School Excellence Award. MSA presented the award to the Congressman on the second day of its National Policy Training Conference at the Library of Congress in Washington, DC.

The Champion of Magnet School Excellence Award recognizes a political leader that demonstrates outstanding national leadership and support for magnet schools. MSA would like to commend Congressman Scott for his actions to raise awareness of the alarming trend of resegregation that is occurring in our public schools. Furthermore, we would like to recognize him for being a vocal advocate for magnet schools through his position as Ranking Member on the House Committee on Education and the Workforce, and for actively championing magnet school programs in his state and congressional district.

Magnet Schools of America specifically acknowledges Congressman Scott for taking the following actions on behalf of the magnet school community:

- Ensuring the Magnet Schools Assistance Program was reauthorized in the Every Student Succeeds Act and for introducing an amendment that would have tripled funding for the program;
- Directing the Government Accountability Office (GAO) to analyze current disparities in our public school system caused by racial and socioeconomic segregation;
- Holding public hearings to discuss the ramifications of the GAO findings and to explore possible solutions to address inequitable educational opportunities for students;
- Signing a joint letter sent to the Chairman and Ranking Member of the House Committee on Appropriations requesting additional support for magnet schools in FY 2017.

“We thank Congressman Scott for his efforts to ensure that every student has access to a high-quality magnet education that will help them flourish and reach their full potential,” said Magnet Schools of America, President Sara Wheeler. “We appreciate his commitment to magnet schools as an effective public school choice model that is used to close the achievement gap and promote school diversity.”

For additional information, please contact John Laughner, Legislative and Communications Manager at john.laughner@magnet.edu

About Magnet Schools of America:

Magnet Schools of America (MSA) is a nonprofit education association that represents more than 4,340 magnet schools serving more than 3 million students. MSA was founded in 1986. It supports and serves the leaders and teachers of magnet and theme-based schools, while promoting the development of new magnet programs and public schools of choice.

MISSION STATEMENT

Providing leadership for high quality innovative instructional programs that promote choice, equity, diversity, and academic excellence for all students.