



**June Board Meeting Agenda**  
**June 24, 2026, 9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.**

1. **Introductions and Instructions**  
Marsha Oliver, Board Chair
2. **Public Comments**  
Public comments will be taken now for all items that will be voted on at the meeting. These comments should only be in reference to those action items below. A separate public comment time will be open at the end of the meeting for any general comments to be made by the public.
3. **Staff Spotlight**  
Employee of the Month
4. **Literacy Presentation**  
Marcus Haile, Literacy Alliance of NE Florida
5. **Provider Presentations**  
Betty Burney, I'm A Star Foundation, Inc.  
Tavianna Sanders, Pearls of Perfection, Inc.
6. **Approval of May Minutes**  
Marsha Oliver, Board Chair
7. **KHA Board Committee Updates**
8. **New Business**
  - a. Youth Empowerment Services (YES) RFP
  - b. Managed Access for Child Health Inc. – Lease Agreement Extension
  - c. Vision for Excellence Inc. – City Council Direct Funded
9. **Administrative and Strategic Updates Report**  
Kenneth Darity, Chief Administrative Officer  
Rodger Belcher, Chief Strategic Officer
10. **CEO Report**  
Dr. Dana Kriznar, Interim Chief Executive Officer
11. **Board Discussion**
12. **General Public Comments**
13. **Adjourn**



**May Board Meeting Minutes**  
**May 27, 2026, 9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.**

**1. Introductions and Instructions**

Marsha Oliver, Board Chair

Board Chair Oliver welcomed attendees and reflected on graduation season, sharing a memorable experience at Mt. Herman Exceptional Student Center, where students with significant challenges are celebrated in a supportive and nurturing environment.

Ms. Oliver noted that Mt. Herman’s commitment to helping students thrive reflects the mission of Kids Hope Alliance and its partners in serving Jacksonville’s youth and families. She concluded by thanking staff, board members, and community partners for their dedication and reaffirming the organization’s commitment to a fair and transparent CEO recruitment process while continuing to address community priorities.

Board Members Present – Marsha Oliver, Cynthia Nixon, Meredith Chartrand-Frisch, Carson Tranquille, Lawrence Dennis, Josh Martino

Board Liaisons Present – Reece Wilson, OGC, Mary Hickson -Public Defender’s Office, Ana Dewese – DCPS, Charles Ford – JSO, Kristen Liesch – State Attorney’s Office  
City of Jacksonville Staff members – Leah Hayes and Tara Johnson

**2. Public Comments**

Ms. Oliver advised that public comments on agenda items requiring Board action would be accepted at this time and should be limited to those specific items. She further noted that a separate public comment period would be provided at the conclusion of the meeting for members of the public wishing to address other matters.

Mr. John Nooney was the only speaker.

**3. Staff Spotlight**

Eric McClure, Director of Grants Management, was recognized for 10 years of dedicated service and presented with a Certificate of Recognition and anniversary pin to commemorate this milestone.

Julia Riggins, Contract Compliance Associate, was recognized as Employee of the Month for consistently demonstrating the core values of compassion, courage, partnership, and resilience.

4. **Mental Health Presentation**  
Mayor's Young Leaders Advisory Council

Participants in the Mayor's Young Leaders Advisory Council program shared results of a survey administered to 322 Duval County students seeking to convene conversations about the importance of mental health. These surveys are reflective of 20+ zip codes, and 9-12 grade students in public, private, charter and homeschooled students.

Survey results indicate that:

- 44.4% of surveyed students reported they have experienced mental health challenges that they felt were not addressed.

Top stressors include:

- School / Homework (82.3%)
- Time Management (56.2%)
- College applications or future planning (51.2%)
- Friendships or relationships (42.5%)
- Family (36%)

Recommendations for support:

- Access to supportive and confidential environments where they can speak with qualified professionals.
- Time management and organization skills
- Study strategies and future planning
- Stress management and resiliency
- Study halls and work periods
- College admissions guidance
- Goal setting and support
- Career and workforce pathways
- Peer support

Board Member Cynthia Nixon commended these students for undertaking this survey. She remarked that gathering this information is critical for supporting students not only in Duval County but across the country. The insights gained will help address challenges students face as they transition to college, an issue that affects many young adults.

5. **Teen Services Discussion**  
Marsha Oliver, Board Chair  
Commander Chuck Ford, JSO

Board Chair Oliver remarked that in previous meetings, discussions were held regarding "teen takeovers," and with the summer months approaching—a time when many young people have more unstructured and idle time— she believes it is important to have a thoughtful conversation about this issue.

She emphasized that this challenge is not unique to Jacksonville and is a growing concern nationwide as evidenced by a recent article in *The New York Times* titled "*What Are Teen Takeovers and Why Are Police Struggling to Stop Them?*" Similarly, *NBC News* recently published a story

emphasizing parental accountability for youth behavior. Chair Oliver requested JSO Liaison Charles Ford share information.

Commander Ford explained that teen takeovers are often organized quickly through social media and can attract large crowds with little advance notice. He noted that these events present significant public safety concerns, including underage drinking, disorderly conduct, traffic violations, firearm possession, drug activity, and other criminal behavior. To address these issues, the Sheriff's Office has invested in technology and intelligence-gathering tools, including a Real-Time Crime Center and an expanded Community Problem Response Unit.

Dr. Kriznar shared findings from a Youth Voice Snapshot survey of 379 Jacksonville youth ages 16–24. Results showed that young people prefer safe, informal social spaces and weekend or evening activities over structured academic programs. Key factors influencing participation include free or low-cost food, safety, music, opportunities to socialize with peers, and engaging activities. Youth reported learning about events primarily through social media, word of mouth, group chats, and schools.

Board member Frisch emphasized that most teens are well-behaved and simply need safe places to gather. They highlighted the importance of educating parents about teen takeovers and discussed curfews as a potential deterrent.

Dr. Dewese noted that youth are more likely to participate when they feel safe, included, and given appropriate structure. She stressed the importance of parent engagement and explained that schools utilize threat management teams to address concerning behaviors and support student safety.

Mr. Griggs advised of the efforts being conducted by the administration to expand evening and weekend Parks and Recreation programming, including a model similar to the former “Summer Night Lights” initiative.

Ms. Liesch shared that the State Attorney’s Office is exploring enhanced penalties for minors who bring firearms to large gatherings. She also expressed concern about the lack of career goals among some youth and encouraged greater community efforts to help young people develop aspirations and positive pathways.

6. **Approval of April Minutes**  
Marsha Oliver, Board Chair

Ms. Oliver asked for revisions to the minutes. Hearing none, she requested a motion for approval.

Motion: Cynthia Nixon  
Second: Carson Tranquille  
Approve: 6-0

7. **KHA Board Committee Updates**  
Lawrence Dennis, CEO Search Committee Co-Chair  
Josh Martino, Governance Board Member  
Meredith Chartrand-Frisch, Governance Chair  
Carson Tranquille, Finance Chair

Mr. Dennis reported that the CEO Search Committee met on May 13 and reaffirmed that CEO selection is the sole responsibility of the Board. Candidates scoring 20 points or higher on the evaluation matrix advanced in the process, and recorded interviews were shared with Board members. Board members were invited to submit interview questions and top three to five candidates by June 15. Final interviews, presentations, and staff engagement sessions are scheduled for July before the Board makes its final selection.

Mr. Martino provided a statement, reminding the board to maintain its focus on the mission of Kids Hope Alliance and avoid distractions that have come in the form of disruptive and destructive comments. He further emphasized the importance of protecting the integrity of the CEO search process and reaffirmed the organization's significant impact on vulnerable children and youth through academic, enrichment, nutrition, mental health, and juvenile justice diversion services.

Meredith Chartrand-Frisch reported that the Governance Committee met on May 20 and approved items later presented under new business. The committee also discussed Councilman Salem's proposed legislation regarding KHA and Library Board appointments, which was postponed until June 9, and reviewed the annual officer nomination process.

Finance Committee Chair Carson Tranquille reported that the Finance Committee met on May 20 and approved several items, including authorization for the CEO to develop a mini-grant program, travel funding requests, and audited financial statements. The committee also reviewed policy updates, financial reports, and grant administration activities.

Mr. Dennis also summarized the April 30 GUIDE Committee meeting, which focused on CEO evaluation criteria, employee and provider feedback, and organizational climate surveys. The committee agreed to align CEO evaluations with Board priorities, implement a phased Climate Survey process, and involve employees and providers in developing evaluation tools before the new CEO begins.

## 8. **New Business**

Dana Kriznar, Interim CEO  
Kenneth Darity, CAO

### a. Jax Forward Memo of Understanding

Dr. Kriznar presented a request for Board approval authorizing Kids Hope Alliance, on behalf of the City of Jacksonville, to enter into the Jacksonville Future Workforce Development (JaxFWD) Coalition Memorandum of Understanding.

Motion: Carson Tranquille

Second: Josh Martino

Approve: 6-0

### b. NEW Mini Grants Policy

Mr. Darity presented a proposal to authorize the CEO to develop and administer a mini-grant program to support emerging providers and innovative initiatives that address unmet community needs outside the regular RFP cycle.

Ms. Nixon suggested reconsidering the eligibility of current KHA-funded providers, noting that KHA encourages providers to diversify their funding sources. She expressed support for prioritizing emerging and unfunded organizations for mini-grant opportunities.

Ms. Oliver asked for a motion to amend the policy to remove the option for existing providers to receive funding:

Motion: Cynthia Nixon  
Second: Josh Martino  
Approve: 6-0

Mr. Dennis expressed support for postponing this action item until the next Governance Committee meeting, allowing Board members additional time to review the proposal in detail and recommend any necessary revisions before moving forward.

Ms. Oliver asked for a motion to delay this policy until the next Governance meeting:

Motion: Josh Martino  
Second: Cynthia Nixon  
Approve: 6-0

c. FY 2026-27 Contract Renewals

Dr. Kriznar presented a contract renewal request for Krumpin' 4 Success under the Teen/Pre-Teen category in the amount of \$75,000.

Motion: Josh Martino  
Second: Meredith Chartrand-Frisch  
Approve: 6-0

d. Youth Travel Trust Fund (YTTF) Funding Approval

Dr. Kriznar presented a recommendation for approval of a Youth Travel Trust Fund application from Soyini Circles Girls Corp. in the amount of \$2,950.

Motion: Josh Martino  
Second: Cynthia Nixon  
Approve: 6-0

e. Audited Financial Statement Requirements Policy Update

Dr. Kriznar presented an update to the Audited Financial Statement Requirements Policy for Board approval. The revisions establish a formal process allowing providers to request extensions for audit submissions.

Motion: Cynthia Nixon  
Second: Carson Tranquille  
Approve: 6-0

f. CEO Communications to the Board Policy Update

Dr. Kriznar presented an update to the CEO Communications to the Board Policy, which outlines the circumstances under which providers may be placed on a noncompliance list and ensures that the Board receives routine updates on these matters.

Motion: Josh Martino  
Second: Carson Tranquille  
Approve: 6-0

9. **Administrative and Strategic Update Reports**

Kenneth Darity, Chief Administrative Officer  
Rodger Belcher, Chief Strategic Officer

Mr. Darity shared an update on reimbursements processed, children served and operational performance.

Mr. Belcher provided the status of the Community Needs and Gap Analysis as well as the launch of the Data Security and Privacy Program.

10. **CEO Report**

Dr. Dana Kriznar, Interim Chief Executive Officer

Dr. Kriznar provided updates on state and local funding for children's services and KHA, noting that votes on appointments to the KHA and Jacksonville Public Library Boards were postponed until June 9. She reviewed recent provider visits and events, including KHA Family Literacy Day, as well as other important updates.

11. **Board Discussion**

There was no further Board discussion.

12. **General Public Comments**

Honey Holzendorf, of Tameka's School of Epicure, expressed her sincere appreciation for KHA funding and shared her enthusiasm for the 2027 Emerging Providers RFP.

13. **Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:35am.

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**BOARD ACTION ITEM:** YOUTH EMPOWERMENT SERVICES (YES) PROGRAM SERVICES RFP

**BOARD ACTION NUMBER:** 26-022

**CATEGORY:** PRE-TEEN/TEEN/WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

**FINANCE MEETING:** JUNE 18, 2026

**BOARD MEETING:** JUNE 24, 2026

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**TO:** KIDS HOPE ALLIANCE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**FROM:** DR. DANA KRIZNAR, INTERIM CEO

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**REQUESTED ACTION:**

The Board is asked to:

- Authorize Kids Hope Alliance to issue the Youth Empowerment Services (YES) Program Services RFP on behalf of the City of Jacksonville and the Special Committee on Youth Empowerment, and to evaluate, select, and execute contracts with awarded providers in accordance with City and KHA requirements.

**NARRATIVE:**

The Special Committee on Youth Empowerment (YEC), established by City Council President Kevin Carrico and chaired by Council Member Terrance Freeman, was created to align Jacksonville’s education, youth development, and workforce readiness investments under a single coordinated vision. KHA serves as the administering entity for YES-funded programming.

The YES Program Services RFP makes up to **\$5,200,000** available to eligible 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations to deliver youth empowerment programming targeting young people ages 16–24 in Jacksonville’s 61 dual-distressed census tracts. Jacksonville has over 16,000 opportunity youth and the annual economic cost of youth disconnection exceeds \$300 million in lost earnings, tax revenue, and increased public expenses.

This RFP addresses two Committee priorities: **Theme A** (expanding programming in underserved neighborhoods) and **Theme B** (expanding STEAM and skilled trades pathways tied to Jacksonville’s key growth industries). Funded programs must connect youth to employer-aligned training, work-based learning, industry-recognized credentials, and wraparound supports, with youth voice embedded in program design and delivery.

**Funding Structure:**

Award Range	Applicant Type	Match Requirement
Up to \$250,000	Individual organization	Encouraged, not required
\$250,001 – \$500,000	Individual organization	10–25%
\$500,001 – \$1,000,000	Collaborative only	25–35% (min. 10% cash)

No single award or organization may receive more than \$1,000,000 in total YES funding in a single cycle. All awards are subject to annual appropriation, performance review, and contract renewal.

**STRATEGIC GOAL & ELEMENT:**

This action item aligns with the Strategic Goal to *Improve Employability and College-Readiness for All At-Hope Children and Youth*, as outlined in the KHA Essential Services Plan. The YES RFP directly advances career exposure, workforce readiness, and employer-connected pathways for at-hope youth and young adults in Jacksonville’s highest-need communities, reinforcing KHA’s commitment to equitable access and long-term economic mobility.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

Up to \$5,200,000 in City-appropriated YES Program Services funding will be administered by KHA. No KHA General Funds are required.

**OPTIONS:**

- Vote to approve action item.
- Decline to approve action item.
- Vote to approve action item with amendments. If checked, the following amendment to the item is approved.

Board Secretary’s Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
*(In the event the Board Secretary is not present, the Board Chair may sign, and authority shall pass down accordingly.)*

Print Name and Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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**BOARD ACTION ITEM:** **MANAGED ACCESS FOR CHILD HEALTH, INC.  
LEASE AGREEMENT EXTENSION**

**BOARD ACTION NUMBER:** **26-023**

**CATEGORY:** **N/A**

**FINANCE MEETING:** **JUNE 18, 2026**

**BOARD MEETING:** **JUNE 24, 2026**

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**TO:** **KIDS HOPE ALLIANCE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**FROM:** **DR. DANA KRIZNAR, INTERIM CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

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**REQUESTED ACTION:**

The Board is asked to approve the following:

- 1.) A six-month extension of the existing lease agreement between the City of Jacksonville, through the Kids Hope Alliance, and Managed Access for Child Health, Inc. (MACH).
- 2.) Authorization for KHA Staff to seek approval for this six-month extension from the Mayor's Budget Review Committee (MBRC) and the Jacksonville City Council.
- 3.) Authorization for KHA Staff to simultaneously submit legislation to City Council requesting an additional four-year lease term following the six-month extension.

**NARRATIVE:**

Managed Access for Child Health, Inc. occupies City-owned space under a lease administered by the Kids Hope Alliance. The most recent lease agreement expired on May 2, 2026. MACH continues to operate in the space and has expressed the desire to continue tenancy.

A six-month extension is necessary to ensure continuity of operations while allowing adequate time for legislative review of a longer-term four-year renewal. To prevent further lapse and ensure compliance with City real estate processes, the short-term extension and long-term request will be advanced together to MBRC and City Council.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

There is no anticipated change to the current fiscal terms during the six-month extension period. Any revisions to lease rates or operational costs for the additional four-year term will be presented in the legislation submitted to City Council.

**OPTIONS:**

- Vote to approve action item.
  - Decline to approve action item.
  - Vote to approve action item with amendments. If checked, the following amendment to the item is approved.
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Board Secretary's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
*(In the event the Board Secretary is not present, the Board Chair may sign, and authority shall pass down accordingly.)*

Print Name and Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Draft

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**BOARD ACTION ITEM:** VISION FOR EXCELLENCE, INC. – CITY COUNCIL DIRECT FUNDED

**BOARD ACTION NUMBER:** 26-024

**CATEGORY:** OUT OF SCHOOL TIME

**FINANCE MEETING:** JUNE 18, 2026

**BOARD MEETING:** JUNE 24, 2026

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**TO:** KIDS HOPE ALLIANCE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**FROM:** DR. DANA KRIZNAR, INTERIM CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

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**REQUESTED ACTION:**

The Board is asked to approve the following:

- 1) Authorization for KHA to enter into a contract with Vision for Excellence, Inc. for a total not-to-exceed amount of \$125,000 dollars.
- 2) Authorization for KHA to execute the contract for the term of June 1, 2026 through December 31, 2026, consistent with the funding and scope authorized by recently enacted City Council legislation for direct-funded programs.
- 3) Authorization for KHA staff to take all necessary action to execute, manage, and administer the agreement in accordance with City procurement and contract-compliance requirements.

**NARRATIVE:**

Vision for Excellence, Inc. was awarded funding through City Council’s Direct-Funded appropriation for Fiscal Year 2026 pursuant to recently passed legislation supporting eligible community-based programs. Funding is designated to support youth development and enrichment services aligned with KHA’s mission and statutory authority.

This action item enables KHA to enter into the agreement, implement the funding appropriation, and ensure timely commencement of services for the remainder of Calendar Year 2026. The contract period of June 1, 2026 through December 31, 2026 aligns with Council’s intended period of performance for the direct-funded allocation.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

\$125,000 appropriated by City Council through direct-funded legislation. No additional KHA funds are required.

**OPTIONS:**

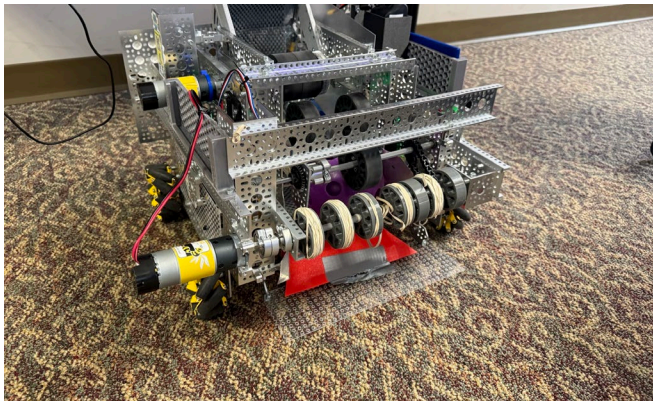
- Vote to approve action item.
  - Decline to approve action item.
  - Vote to approve action item with amendments. If checked, the following amendment to the item is approved.
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Board Secretary's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
*(In the event the Board Secretary is not present, the Board Chair may sign, and authority shall pass down accordingly.)*

Print Name and Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Draft



# KHA Board Meeting

Interim CEO Report  
June 24, 2026



# This Month's Provider Visits

- Sanctuary on 8<sup>th</sup> Summer Camp
- Team Nitro MMA
- JaxPAL Westside
- Shiva Robotics Field Trip (Sanctuary)
- The Arts Corner Field Trip (I'm a Star)
- Jax Equestrian Field Trip (BGCL-Ed White)
- Vision for Excellence
- Malivai Washington

## Other Events

- ReadJAX Leadership Council
- Journey Forward Meeting
- CPAC Meetings
- Center of Hope at Kennedy Ribbon Cutting
- Meeting with Parks & Rec with Board Chair
- All-Staff Meeting – RFP process
- All-Staff Meeting – Office of Inspector General
- City Council Meetings
- National League of Cities Decades in the Making visit



# Bad Dad Joke Contest Winners

- **Tyrica Young:**

What did the buffalo say when his son left? *Bison*

- **Katoia Wilkins:**

Do you want to hear a secret joke about peanut butter? *Actually I can't tell you ... you might spread it!*

- **Sherrill Hensley:**

Why did the man fall into the well? *Because he didn't see that well.*

- **Delores Young:**

Why did the egg not cross the street? *Because it didn't want to fall in the cracks.*

- **John Everett:**

What country's capital is growing the fastest in the world? *Ireland, it's Dublin.*

Organization	Site Name	Compliance Issue	Resolution
America's Little Leaders	America's Little Leaders	Certificate of Insurance (COI) issues and outstanding advance of \$7,439.10. Provider no longer responding to emails or phone calls.	Provider is no longer operating. Advance payback has been escalated to the City of Jacksonville Legal Department and the Council Auditor's Office for further guidance.
Boys & Girls Club	Citi Teen Center- Print Program	Repeat reimbursement documentation discrepancies. Staff identified an overlapping of program services being provided to participants in Print and the afterschool program.	Site placed on a Corrective Action Plan. Reimbursement request will be modified, removing the units in question, plus a 25% penalty .
Made A Way Foundation	Made A Way Foundation	COJ Chapter 118 Non-Compliance List for Grants Compliance	Working with COJ and Provider to clear from COJ list. Holding on contract renewal for 2026-27.
West Jax Restoration Center	West Jax Restoration Center	The required insurance was terminated prior to the policy expiration date – the COI as submitted requires revisions.	Updated COI has been submitted but requires revisions per COJ Risk.

## May Noncompliance List

# May Purchases by CEO under Delegated Authority

Contract/ Purchase	Amount	Purchase	Purpose
Amazon	\$2,856.70	Purchase of 66 clear backpacks with school supplies	Back-to-school event in July
Warden Construction	\$2,710.40	Radon testing at the Brewer Center	Required testing
Florida Afterschool Alliance	\$2,245.00	Registration fees	Allows providers to attend conference
Barnes & Noble	\$1,819.00	Purchase of 50 copies of The One Minute Manager	Training with providers
Printing & Promotional Partners	\$3,586.23	Purchase of 300 clear backpacks and 250 pens	River City Readers
CDWG	\$2,500.00	Adobe Pro Software for 25 Staff	Needed for contract management
Scholastic Books	\$645.00	Purchase of 360 bargain box books	For Little Free Libraries
Instrument'l	\$6,291.00	Grant Renewal Software System	Assist with grant
The Lark Cooperative	\$1,650.00	Event space	National League of Cities Provider event

# Upcoming Meetings & Events

- June 25 – City Hall 5 pm  
*City Council Leadership Installation Ceremony*
- June 26 at 10 am  
*Tree Hill Nature Center*
- June 29 at 1 pm  
*Tamika’s Cooking School*
- June 30 at 1 pm  
*Historic Eastside Field Trip*
- July 1 at 10:30 am  
*Jacksonville Humane Society*
- July 1 at 12:15 pm  
*Cummer Museum Field Trip*
- July 8 at 10 am  
*Diamond D Ranch Field Trip*
- July 10 at 1 pm  
*Hands on Children’s Museum*
- July 13 at 1:30 pm  
*JU Marine Field Trip*
- July 14 at 10 am  
*Ritz Theater Field Trip*
- July 14 at 5 pm  
*City Council Meeting*

# Save the Date...

- **July 2 at 10:30**
  - Free Little Library Ribbon Cutting Ceremony
  - *Sallye B. Mathis Elementary*
- **July 18 from 10 am – 2 pm**
  - Unearth the Story – JPL Free Event
  - *Jacksonville Zoo & Gardens*
- **August 8**
  - Historic Eastside Back-to-School Bash
  - *Matthew Gilbert MS*
- **September 1-4**
  - Arts Education Partnership National Convening
  - *Hyatt Regency Riverfront*



# Mission Moment

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