

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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St. Louis Mosaic Project



### **Confluence South City Academy Joins the Mosaic Ambassador School Program as the 111th Ambassador School**

St. Louis, MO – January 13th, 2023 – The St. Louis Mosaic Project is excited to add Confluence South City Academy to the list of 110 schools that thrive on creating a welcoming environment for foreign-born families. Confluence South City Academy is one of five Confluence Academy campuses and is in St. Louis, Missouri. The network of Charter schools was established in 2003 and is a nonprofit, public charter school sponsored by the University of Missouri-Columbia. Of the 783 Pre-K - 8th-grade students, 51% are Hispanic, 44% are black, 3.5% are White, 0.1% are Asian, and 0.8% consist of two or more races. As a Mosaic Ambassador School, Confluence South City Academy shares the same values as St. Louis Mosaic project: to promote diversity and inclusion.

By becoming a Mosaic Ambassador School, Confluence South City Academy is committing to continuing its support for its foreign-born students, teachers, staff, and families in the St. Louis area. All five Confluence Charter schools place great value on nurturing an international school community by providing and embracing the 39 languages and dialects spoken in its students' families' homes and English. Confluence South City Academy currently has 353 Pre- K to 8th grade English Language Learners on its campus, of which over 95% are Spanish speakers. Furthermore, the school's website can be translated into Spanish, which helps students, families, and teachers to communicate on multiple levels.

Confluence South City Academy understands that teachers are a big part of creating a welcoming environment for its foreign-born students and their families. This is why the school has staff members and teachers who are foreign-born and some that can speak two or more languages to help students and their families communicate easily. Multilingual teachers serve as translators and cultural ambassadors for immigrant students who may not be as familiar with American traditions, customs, and social norms. This also can benefit American students, staff, teachers, and families to learn about other people's cultures. As a Mosaic Ambassador School, the school will continue to host and introduce events designed to welcome international families. For example, the school hosts international night fairs for its students and families and celebrates Hispanic Heritage month. The school also hosts *Leyendo Con La Familia* each month, an international breakfast. Confluence South City Academy school plans to start offering Lexia English Language development program during the 2023-24 school year.

The school is pleased to join the St. Louis Mosaic Project and connect to their information and resources that keep schools informed about the region's foreign-born community. Most importantly, as a Mosaic Ambassador School, Confluence South City Academy will seek Mosaic Project's help to connect the school to resources in training its faculty and staff on DEI, and the school will distribute resources and materials for Mosaic to international families. "Confluence South City Academy is thrilled to be a part of the St. Louis Mosaic's Ambassador School Program. We look forward to beginning a partnership to provide a more diverse, equitable, and inclusive atmosphere for our staff, students, and families. Our school professionals aim to use expertise, knowledge, and new connections with St. Louis Mosaic to advance South City Academy's educational vision by amplifying and strengthening systems for all English Language Learners/Multilingual Learners (ELLs/MLLs)." Confluence Academy - South City, Lead ELL Specialist, Shannon Adcock.

### **About Confluence South City Academy**

The mission of Confluence Charter Schools is to provide the highest quality public education for its students. Every day, students are engaged and encouraged to excel in reading, math, science, technology, visual arts, and performing arts. Confluence Charter School's vision is to provide a world-class public education so that it prepares its students for success in college, career, and life.

### **About the St. Louis Mosaic Project**

The St. Louis Mosaic Project was launched in 2012 in response to an economic impact report, outlining St. Louis to be lagging in immigrant growth as well as highlighting the economic benefits of increasing its foreign-born population. The Mosaic Project is a regional initiative that is professionally managed by [St. Louis Economic Development Partnership](#), [World Trade Center St. Louis](#) and a 32-member committee.

The St. Louis Mosaic Project's goal is to transform St. Louis into the fastest growing major metropolitan area for immigration by 2025, to design and support regional attraction strategies and to promote regional prosperity through immigration and innovation.

For more information contact Betsy Cohen at [ecohen@worldtradecenter-stl.com](mailto:ecohen@worldtradecenter-stl.com) or visit [www.stlmosaicproject.org](http://www.stlmosaicproject.org).