



**BEZOS
ACADEMY**

Press Contact:

Ivy Lopez

ivy@hollandcollective.co

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**Innovative Affordable Housing Developer Announces Partnership with
Preschool Nonprofit**

*Texas-Based Saigebrook Development and Bezos Academy Partner to Bring Tuition-free,
Montessori-Inspired Preschool Education to East Dallas Families*

DALLAS/FORT WORTH, Texas (October 6, 2022) – Today, Saigebrook Development announced a 10-year lease agreement with Bezos Academy. The lease agreement will provide Bezos Academy with the space to open a tuition-free, Montessori-inspired preschool called **Bezos Academy Old East Dallas** at 4724 East Side Ave, Dallas, Texas 75226. **The project is part of Kiva East, a mixed-income housing community currently under development by Saigebrook** in East Dallas. Construction of Kiva East began last month; the preschool is slated for completion in 2024.

When asked about this project, **Lisa Stephens, Owner and President of Saigebrook Development, said**, "Saigebrook is excited to partner with Bezos Academy to provide free, on-site, early childhood education at Kiva East. Our mission is to provide high-quality, affordable homes for families in need, combined with services that enrich the lives of our residents. This partnership with Bezos facilitates that not just for our residents but also the community at large."

Noting Saigebrook's reputation for innovative, affordable housing projects, Bezos Academy reached out to partner with the Saigebrook team. The timing was ideal as plans were already underway for the Kiva East community. The preschool will feature two classrooms and follow a full-day, year-round schedule – enabling the academy to provide 40 children with vital early education.

"In Saigebrook, we are excited to have found a partner that has specialized in providing quality affordable and workforce housing communities for over 20 years," said **Mike George, President of Bezos Academy**. "We are thrilled to complement the services they offer and further support the community by providing tuition-free preschool to families in need."

Kiva East will be a mixed-income housing community centrally located in Old East Dallas with direct access to the Sante Fe Trail. The community will provide 87 units of high-quality, affordable, and market-rate housing and aims to serve working families of various income levels in this quickly growing area. This innovative partnership will allow Saigebrook to offer an amenity never before possible in one of their communities.

Stephens continued, "It's our desire to create access to excellent preschool education at no cost to families in East Dallas and we hope it will be life-changing for working parents and will contribute to each child's future educational success. This opportunity is significant to us, as we believe this is a replicable model for future developments as we work to bridge gaps in available housing and education in low and moderate-income communities."

Bezos Academy launched in 2020 and has announced 19 preschools, seven of which are in operation, with more opening each year. The nonprofit leads with the belief in the great start that an excellent preschool education provides. Over the past half-decade, studies have shown that early education can provide significant advantages to children as they grow and develop. Bezos Academy aims to nurture every child's potential, and Saigebrook Development will become part of that legacy through this partnership!

Families earning up to 400% of the federal poverty level with children aged 3-4 are encouraged to apply. For more information, applications for the lottery-based selection process, and updates on opening, visit www.bezosacademy.org.

For more information or to set up interviews with Saigebrook Development, contact Ivy Lopez at ivy@hollandcollective.co. For Bezos Academy, contact Katie Ford at katie.ford@bezosacademy.org.

ABOUT SAIGEBROOK DEVELOPMENT LLC

Saigebrook Development, LLC is a WBE- and HUB-certified real estate development consulting firm focused on serving the affordable housing industry in Texas. President and Owner Lisa Stephens has specialized in providing first-class affordable and workforce housing communities since 1996, developing in excess of 50 communities with more than 6,800 apartment homes.

ABOUT BEZOS ACADEMY

Bezos Academy is a non-profit organization that is building a network of tuition-free preschools. Our preschools offer year-round, full-day programming, five days a week, for children ages 3-5 years old from low-income families. Bezos Academy also provides students with all necessary educational supplies and services to set each student up for success, including Montessori materials, books, arts and crafts, field trips, and meals. For more information, visit: www.bezosacademy.org.

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