



THE ARTHUR M. BLANK FAMILY FOUNDATION

Promoting positive change in people's lives and enhancing the communities in which they live.

Issue No. 1

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Speaker Series: Education Leadership for 21st Century



[View the video](#) from the Foundation's Feb. 21 sold out Speaker Series event on education leadership, which featured opening remarks from Mayor Reed and a discussion on the pros and cons of elected school boards, mayoral control of schools and other governance models. Read the latest [Foundation op-ed](#) about public education in the Atlanta Business Chronicle.

Shop on March 9th and Help the Wheat Street Garden



On March 9, Atlanta area Whole Foods / Harry's Farmers Market stores will be donating 5% of the day's sales to the Truly Living Well Wheat Street Garden, which is part of the Falcons Fitness Zone initiative. [View an AFYF video](#) on the garden, located in the Old Fourth Ward, and check out Councilman Kwanza Hall's [tweet pics](#) of the season's first sprouts.

Recognizing the Critical Early Years of a Child's Life



Partnering with the Georgia Early Education Alliance for Ready Students (GEEARS), Voices for Georgia's

Children and other proponents, the Blank Foundation is working with Governor Nathan Deal and DECAL Commissioner Bobby Cagle to manage budget cuts to Georgia's universal pre-K in a way that keeps this successful program whole. Recognizing the critical early years of a child's life, GEEARS was created to promote school readiness for children from birth through age five. Last year alone, Georgia Pre-K served more than 80,000 of the state's youngest children. Visit the [GEARS Website](#) to learn more. Read the [latest op-ed by GEEARS chair Stephanie Blank](#) in the Atlanta Journal Constitution. To learn more of the proposed cuts to Georgia Pre-K [read Aaron Gould Sheinin's article](#) in The Atlanta Journal-Constitution.

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