1047 Amsterdam Ave. at 112th Street New York, NY 10025 T (212) 316-7490 stjohndivine.org

#### **RELEASE**

For further information please call

Julie Robinson, Rubenstein Communications (212) 843-9341 / <a href="mailto:jrobinson@rubenstein.com">jrobinson@rubenstein.com</a>

Isadora Wilkenfeld, Cathedral of St. John the Divine (212) 316-7468 / <a href="mailto:iwilkenfeld@stjohndivine.org">iwilkenfeld@stjohndivine.org</a>

# ADVANCING THE COMMUNITY OF TOMORROW ANNOUNCES NEW LEARNING INITIATIVE AT THE CATHEDRAL OF ST. JOHN THE DIVINE

In-person classes will help support families during distanced learning



\*\*\*

September XX – Advancing the Community of Tomorrow (ACT), the Cathedral of St. John the Divine's renowned preschool, after-school, and summer camp program, is pleased to announce Safe Center for Online Learning (SCOL), a new initiative to support children in grades 2 through 6 with remote learning this school year.

Due to the ongoing coronavirus pandemic, New York City families are being asked to continually adapt their childcare plans to changing city schedules, and the ACT staff is here to provide consistency for children and parents. From 8 am - 1:30 pm each day, children will be offered remote learning support in a safe and fun environment. ACT staff will facilitate accessing distance learning platforms, keeping kids on track with their schedules while providing access to outdoor play and frequent focus breaks to help children stay moving and mindful.

From 1:30 – 6 pm, children in grades K through 6 will participate in ACT's well-respected afterschool program with arts, science, and team-building activities. Additionally, on days when schools are closed, ACT will offer Hangout Haven, a full day program for children in grades K

# through 6.

Strict safety protocols will be followed as determined by city and state guidelines. Children will be grouped according to pods, classes will take place either outdoors or in the Cathedral, and all children and teachers will be physically distanced and wearing masks.

With changes to public school schedules still in flux, the childcare burden for parents and families is particularly great. ACT's team of professional educators is here to step in and relieve some of the stress and uncertainty of this unprecedented time.

For more information, please visit this page.

## **About Advancing the Community of Tomorrow (ACT)**

Founded in 1971, ACT provides a safe haven where toddlers to teens from many faiths, cultures and economic backgrounds gather to learn, play and grow, as they participate in a broad range of programs among highly-trained and caring adults. ACT consistently provides children and their families with high quality services that sustain, support and enhance their ability to thrive in diverse communities. ACT offers year-round, affordable, reliable, nonsectarian and socially enriching educational programs and special events for families in and around the Cathedral of St. John the Divine, the world's largest Gothic cathedral.

### **About the Cathedral**

The Cathedral of St. John the Divine is the Cathedral of the Episcopal Diocese of New York. It is chartered as a house of prayer for all people and a unifying center of intellectual light and leadership.

People from many faiths and communities worship together in services held more than 30 times a week; the soup kitchen serves roughly 25,000 meals annually; social service outreach has an increasingly varied roster of programs; the distinguished Cathedral School prepares young students to be future leaders; Advancing the Community of Tomorrow (ACT), the renowned preschool, afterschool and summer program, offers diverse educational and nurturing experiences; the outstanding Textile Conservation Lab preserves world treasures; concerts, exhibitions, performances and civic gatherings allow conversation, celebration, reflection and remembrance—such is the joyfully busy life of this beloved and venerated Cathedral.

###