



MEDIA RELEASE

March 28, 2022

Contact:

Coco Papy

Director of Public Policy and Communications

912.231.7387

coco@deepcenter.org

**Georgia Youth Silenced by Legislators Speak Out on HB 1084 in
Press Conference at Georgia State Capitol**

HB 1084 defines race and racism as “divisive concepts” and bans discussion from Georgia K-12 classrooms. Students from all across Georgia were denied testimony in the public hearing.

(March 28, 2022) – Deep Center youth will join students from Clayton County, Gwinnett County, as well as advocacy organizations and elected officials **to host a press conference on Tuesday, March 29, 2022, at 10AM ET on the 2nd floor south stairs of the Georgia Capitol (206 Washington St. SW) in response to the Senate Youth and Education hearing on House Bill 1084.**

Deep Center will be joined by The Georgia Youth Justice Coalition, Intercultural Development Research Association (IDRA), CASA, The Black College Firm, Senator Elena Parent, Representative Bee Nguyen, Senator Lester Jackson, Representative Edna Jackson, and Representative Derek Mallow, to stand in solidarity alongside Georgia students who were denied their right to public testimony when the Senate Education Committee chose to suppress the voices of students who were present to speak up for their educational rights. The [video can be seen here.](#)

“This was not democratic” said Deep Center youth Harrison Tran. “We will not be silenced.”

“I was appalled when my colleagues on the Senate Education and Youth Committee refused testimony from students who drove from across the state in opposition to HB 1084” said Senator Elena Parent, member of the Senate Youth and Education committee. “I’m determined that their voices be heard.”

“It’s instrumental that students get their chance to weigh in on decisions that directly impact them.” Representative Bee Nguyen said.

While Georgia students were silenced when they stood against House Bill 1084, on Tuesday March 29th, they will make their voices heard alongside allies in calling for truth in education, culturally sustaining schools, fully funded public education, and elected officials who serve every single Georgia family.

The press conference will take place on **Tuesday, March 29, 2022, at 10AM ET on the 2nd floor south stairs of the Georgia Capitol (206 Washington St. SW) Press are encouraged to attend and interview directly impacted students.**

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Deep Center is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit that empowers Savannah's young people to thrive as learners, community leaders, and agents of change. Through creative writing, cultural production, and art, Deep creates platforms for the city's youth and the village of support around them, including their families and adult allies, to share stories, engage in debates, and make Savannah a more just and equitable place.

Deep Center receives funding and support in part by the Annie E. Casey Foundation, Chatham County Blueprint, Chatham County Juvenile Courts, Chatham Foundation, City of Savannah, Courtney Knight Gaines Foundation, Economic Analysis and Research Network (EARN) at the Economic Policy Institute Ford Foundation, Forsyth Farmers' Market/Farm Truck 912, Forward Promise, Foxy Loxy, Georgia Council for the Arts, Georgia Department of Education, Gulfstream Aerospace Corporation, Hawkins Project, Heising-Simons Foundation, The Hodge Foundation, Johanna Anderson Trueblood Foundation, The Kresge Foundation, Leadership Conference for Civil and Human Rights, Literary Arts Emergency Relief Fund, Louisa Porter Fund, Mary Reynolds Babcock Foundation, National Endowment For the Arts, National Public Education Support Fund, The Poetry Foundation, Public Welfare Foundation, Publix Super Markets Charities, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, The Sapelo Foundation, Savannah Chatham County Public School System, Savannah Community Foundation, Southern Center for Human Rights, Susan W. Thompson Charitable Fund, Suwyn Family Foundation, Telfair Museums: Jepson Center for the Arts, United Way of the Coastal Empire, Vera Institute of Justice, Wells Fargo, William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, and many other generous institutions and individuals.

Learn more at <http://deepcenter.org>

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