



THE BENJAMIN SCHOOL

HEAD OF SCHOOL SEARCH

North Palm Beach and Palm Beach Gardens, Florida

Start date July 1, 2027
or July 1, 2028



BUILDING UPON A TRADITION OF EXCELLENCE

In 1960, amidst the tropical greenery of a North Palm Beach pineapple farm, Marshall and Nancy Benjamin opened the doors to a single-room schoolhouse with 24 kindergarteners and a transformative vision. Affectionately known as “Mr. and Mrs. B,” the founders believed that if they taught children the essential skills of how to learn, students would eventually take the lead in their own education. In those early years, the curriculum was a blend of fundamental readiness and character building, where lessons in reading and holding a pencil were balanced with the importance of taking turns and following directions.

As the school grew through the sixth grade, the Benjamins’ joint vision similarly expanded. They moved beyond basic academics to cultivate the whole child, introducing French, musical instruments, and a robust fine arts program. Athletics became a vital pillar of the community; Mr. Benjamin coached football while Mrs. Benjamin organized annual swim meets and track events. These weren’t just games, but opportunities to instill a lasting concern for decency, fairness, and justice through cooperative play.

By the 1970s, the school’s reputation for excellence prompted a move into secondary education. The institution officially became The Benjamin School in 1974, and by 1979, the campus celebrated a major milestone as the first class of 23 seniors crossed the commencement stage. The following decades saw a flurry of growth, from the remodeling of the Music Center to the preservation of the original Benjamin House, which was eventually moved and restored to serve as the Head of School’s office.

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of The Benjamin School is to provide a challenging college preparatory education to a diverse student body in a structured, nurturing community environment. The School motivates students to master the skills of learning, communicating and evaluating choices, and encourages them to grow intellectually, socially, morally, aesthetically, and physically to their fullest individual potential.

Benjamin inspires its students to develop a coherent set of values that includes love of learning, personal responsibility, self-motivation, concern for others and a commitment to serve society.

The turn of the 21st century marked the most ambitious chapter in the school's history. To meet the demands of a soaring enrollment, the Board of Trustees secured 50 acres of land in Palm Beach Gardens, just miles from the original campus. In April 2003, the school broke ground on a sprawling, state-of-the-art Upper School. Sixteen months later, nearly 400 students walked onto a picturesque new campus on Grandiflora Road.

The Benjamin School of today is one of the nation's premier independent day schools. From Early Childhood through Upper School (grades PK3 - 12), the school offers a wide range of possibilities for students across broad horizons.

With over 1,300 students enrolled on two campuses in North Palm Beach and Palm Beach Gardens, The Benjamin School offers students a comprehensive academic, athletic, and artistic experience. Through a wide range of courses, class trips and co-curricular clubs and sports, students learn to work both independently and collaboratively.

Valuing the Pursuit of Knowledge

At The Benjamin School, students begin a lifelong pursuit of understanding, embracing the excitement of learning, and realizing its unlimited power.

The Benjamin community is rooted in a shared commitment to excellence, achievement, and a strong sense of values. Students learn to balance confidence with humility, and competitiveness with collaboration to reveal their best selves—and to bring out the best in each other.

From their first day at Benjamin, students experience gratification through the pursuit of knowledge and learn to capitalize on its power.

Benjamin students become more than lifelong learners. They learn to recognize and appreciate the real value of knowledge as they begin a lifetime of turning what they know into meaningful, positive influence and outcomes.



At Benjamin,
they give you the tools
to help pursue your
passions. I'd like to start
my own architectural
firm in which I can
create affordable and
sustainable housing
in developing
countries.



- Nandini Patel '24



Lower School (PK3-5)

Nurturing a Love of Learning

Children begin their educational journey in Benjamin's Lower School (grades PK3-5). In core academic subjects, as well as in art, music, world languages, and physical education, faculty focus intensely on children's individual talents—encouraging them to be the best version of themselves. In the classroom and on the playground, students develop their individual voices so that they learn to advocate for themselves.

Building Fundamental Skills

The program emphasizes foundational skills in reading, writing, and mathematics, interwoven with sophisticated (and fun!) learning experiences. One of the most-anticipated events each year is the Lower School Olympics, where each classroom adopts a country and delves into its culture, literature, and customs—even connecting via video links with schoolchildren in that country. Through the experience, students gain an appreciation for a variety of traditions around the world.

World Languages

Since its founding, The Benjamin School has emphasized the study of world languages from a young age. Beginning in PK3 classrooms, students learn Mandarin Chinese, French, and Spanish through games, music and stories. As they advance through Lower School, students eventually choose to focus their study on one language, but not before they have developed an appreciation for all.

Nature as Teacher

South Florida's climate lends itself to outdoor activity, and the school capitalizes on this in the Lower School. Students spend part of each day outside for free play and for learning. Science classes, for example, use nature as a classroom, giving students the opportunity to explore the world around them. All classes eat lunch outdoors and enjoy two sessions of recess that provide an invaluable outlet for young children's exuberant energy.

Learn more about Benjamin's Lower School program [here](#).





Middle School (6-8)

Inspiring Student Success

From the moment middle school students arrive on campus, they are guided by a community of supportive educators passionate about teaching the early adolescent. These exceptionally skillful and creative teachers are characterized by their commitment to the academic success of the individual student. The engaging and challenging learning environment is designed to foster confidence, self-esteem, global understanding, personal and civic responsibility, and a love for learning.

Every student in the middle school is individually paired with a teacher/advisor to serve as his/her nurturing advocate throughout the academic year. A preventative and responsive Student Services Department provides students with consistent social and emotional support through an age-appropriate Character Education program. Community service initiatives instill the value of caring and helping others.

The Middle School challenges students to explore, to create, to make responsible decisions, and to actively participate in their learning. An interdisciplinary focus rich in technology provides students the tools to apply newly acquired knowledge. A rigorous core curriculum reinforces basic skills, and innovative course electives introduce students to a wealth of novel and meaningful information. Project-based, hands-on learning that connects to real world situations complements the learning environment.

AT A GLANCE

- Founded: 1960
- Grades: PK3 - 12; 1,300 students
- 8:1 Student-faculty ratio across all divisions
- Project-based STEM Curriculum in all 3 divisions
- 23 Advanced Placement (AP) and 15 honors courses
- World language studies, including Mandarin, beginning in PK3
- More than 90 co-curricular clubs and organizations
- Average over 20% of graduates play collegiate athletics
- 2 state-of-the-art campuses on 60 acres
- State-of-the-art 850-seat performing arts center





A vibrant visual and performing arts program encourages self-expression and creativity, while participation in team sports and co-curricular activities furthers the social and physical well-being of the students. Upon completion of the middle school program, students depart as confident, maturing teens well prepared for a successful learning experience in Upper School.

Learn more about Benjamin's Middle school program [here](#).

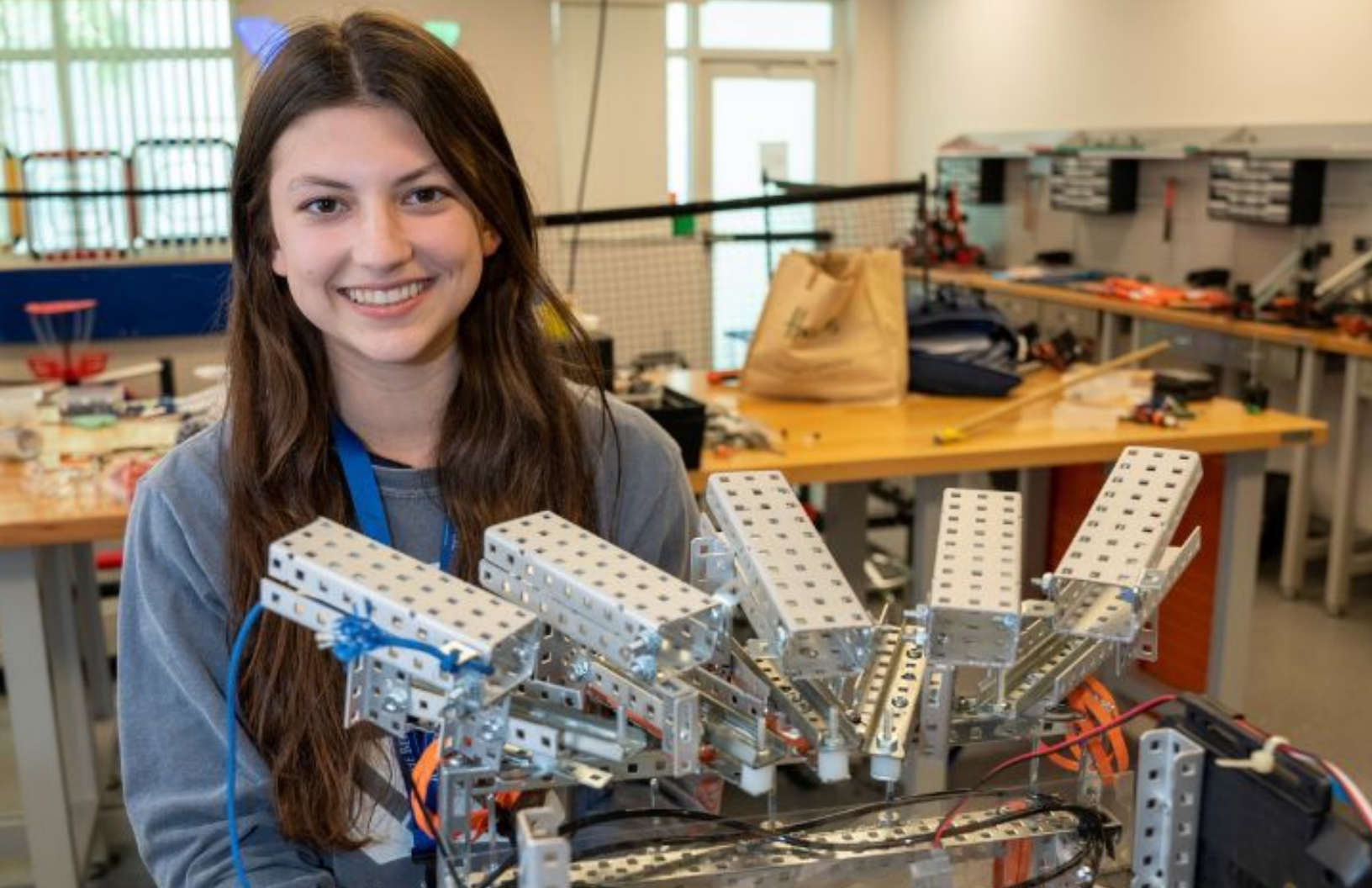
Upper School (9-12)

Creating Globally Competent Citizens

An expansive 50-acre campus serving students in grades nine through 12 in an inviting 21st century liberal arts community distinguishes the Upper School. With 23 Advanced Placement courses and more than a dozen Honors courses, the faculty challenges the brightest of thinkers in all subject areas. Rigorous work is deemed an opportunity by gifted and dynamic teachers who impart academic challenge with clear expectations and support.

The faculty starts from the premise that success happens in different ways for different students, focusing their efforts individually to ensure every student has the opportunity to attain significant academic achievement. Teachers work alongside students, asking more questions than they answer, arbitrating the classroom dynamics of curious minds unleashed.

Teachers inspire students to develop a set of values that includes a love of learning, personal responsibility, self-motivation, concern for others, and a commitment to serve society. They do this every day in what they teach, in how students treat each other, and through community service initiatives. Character Education is implicit in all that is done, and students adhere to the School's Honor Code with respect and courtesy central to the learning experience. Twice-weekly advisory meetings where faculty serve as advocates for their advisees assist in furthering the personal growth of upper school students.



Bolstered by state-of-the-art technology and resources, students are stretched not only academically, but in the art studios, the music rooms, on stage, on the playing fields, and in their service to the community. A comprehensive selection of electives, curricular and co-curricular sports, art programs, over 40 clubs and activities, and more, enable students to discover a broad range of opportunities and achievement.

While the curriculum prepares students for the most selective colleges and universities in the nation, the College Counseling Office works closely with students to target institutions that best satisfy their individual interests and aspirations. A brief introduction to the college process begins in eighth grade, and then the emphasis ramps up each year, culminating in intensive, family-based sessions with counselors during senior year. It is the school's goal that no matter which college or university graduates attend, they carry with them habits of mind and an ambition of the heart that the teachers strive to model every day.

Learn more about Benjamin's Upper School program [here](#).

Unlocking Potential, Shaping Futures

The Benjamin School builds on a tradition of timeless education that evolves to meet modern needs. Its graduates develop balanced qualities—confidence with humility, competitiveness with collaboration, and critical thinking with emotional intelligence—guided by strong moral values. Benjamin empowers students to aim higher, advocate for what matters, and apply their knowledge and talents in meaningful ways, instilling a lasting sense of purpose and fulfillment beyond academic achievement.

Athletics

At The Benjamin School, athletics are a vibrant and integral part of student life, offering a wide range of competitive opportunities from middle school through Upper School. The Benjamin Buccaneers participate in the Florida High School Athletic Association (FHSAA) and field teams in sports such as baseball, basketball, cross country, cheerleading, football, golf, lacrosse, soccer, softball, swimming, tennis, track and field, volleyball, and wrestling. In middle school, students also have access to conference-level competition, and the school has accumulated multiple conference championships in sports such as girls' volleyball, boys' and girls' lacrosse, and baseball, reflecting a strong culture of teamwork and athletic achievement.

The athletic program emphasizes both excellence and personal development, encouraging students to balance competitive drive with character growth. The school's facilities include a multipurpose athletic complex with fields, courts, and training spaces to support year-round practice and competition, and a notable percentage of graduates go on to compete in collegiate athletics. Additionally, summer sports camps provide younger students with opportunities to build skills and confidence in specific sports like basketball, soccer, golf, tennis, and volleyball, helping foster passion and proficiency long before high school competition begins.

Arts Program

The Benjamin School's arts program is broad, rich, and designed to engage students from early childhood through Upper School in visual and performing arts. Creativity is considered central to student development, with coursework and co-curricular options that include drawing, visual design, photography, computer graphics, dance, drama, vocal and instrumental music, and multimedia production. These classes are supported by dedicated facilities such as visual arts studios, music rooms, dance spaces, and a state-of-the-art performing arts center called Benjamin Hall, which seats hundreds and serves as the centerpiece for large productions.

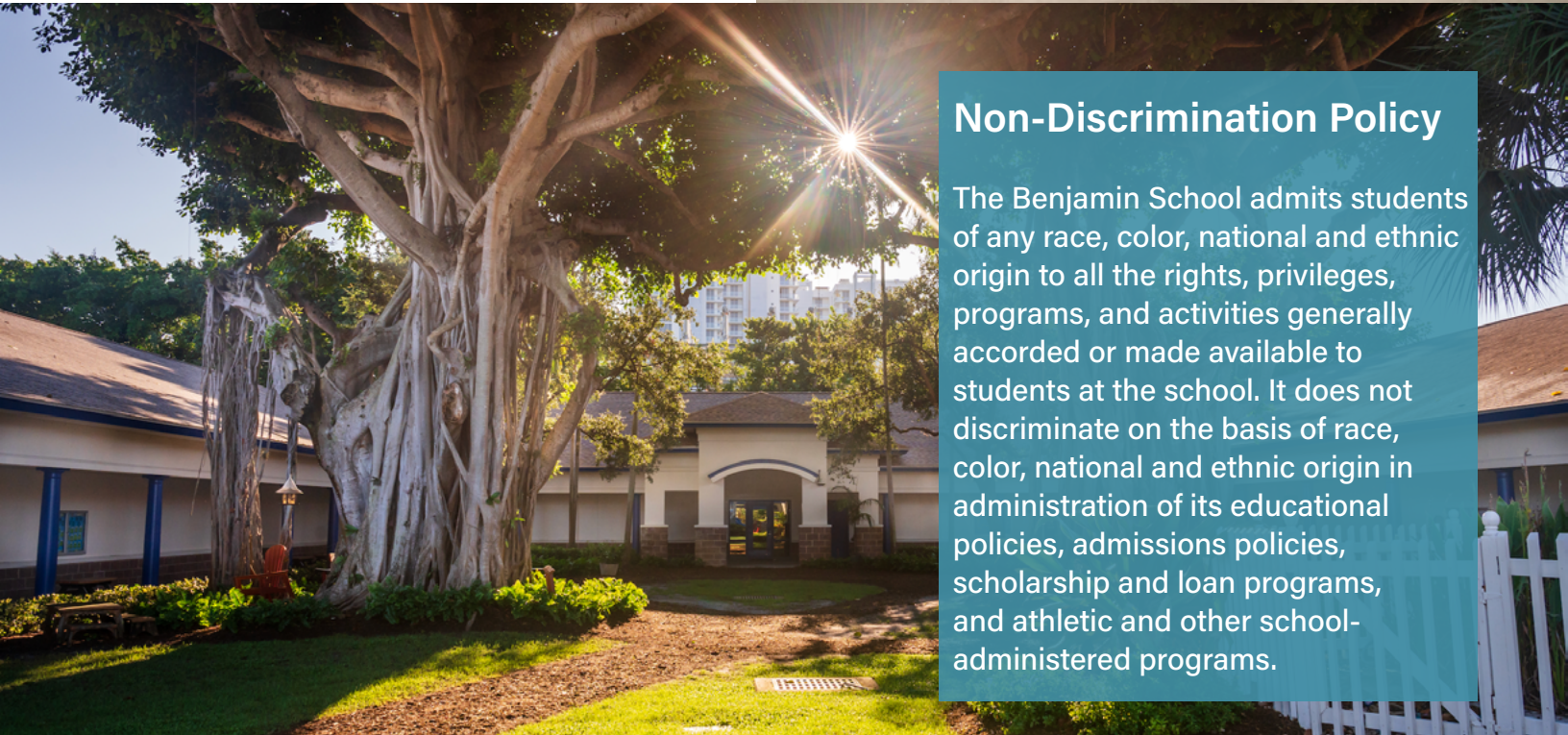
12 Values That Guide the Mission



Beyond the classroom, students have numerous avenues to showcase and extend their artistic talents. The school stages a variety of art exhibits, concerts, theatre productions, and informal performances throughout the year, giving students opportunities to perform and present works both on and off campus. Whether participating in band and choir, joining drama or dance groups, or engaging in informal creative events, Benjamin students are encouraged to explore their artistic interests deeply, build confidence, and contribute to the school's cultural life.

To learn more about The Benjamin School click on the links below:

- [Fine Arts](#)
- [Athletics](#)
- [College Counseling](#)
- [Library&Learning Commons](#)
- [Technology](#)
- [Academic Support](#)
- [Community Service](#)
- [Clubs and Activities](#)



Non-Discrimination Policy

The Benjamin School admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school-administered programs.



CAMPUS

A welcoming and accepting culture built upon the [12 Benjamin Values](#) permeates the School community across each of the campuses. The 10-acre Lower/Middle School Campus, located across from the Intracoastal Waterway in North Palm Beach, Florida, serves students in grades PK3 through eight. A sprawling 50-acre site in Palm Beach Gardens, Florida, is home to the state-of-the-art Upper School Campus, serving students in grades nine through twelve.

On September 18, 2025, The Benjamin School announced the launch of [Boundless: The Campaign for The Benjamin School](#), highlighted by the construction kickoff of The Jenkins Family Lower School Office and new Green Dot carline. This project is the first of six major facility upgrades planned as part of the campaign.

Over the coming years, the campaign will add more than 30 state-of-the-art classrooms across both campuses, including a new Middle School, dining and community spaces, and a redesigned upper school stadium. The goal of *Boundless* is to enhance learning environments, expand resources, and strengthen faculty and curriculum support, ensuring students can learn and thrive without limits.

For construction updates, click [here](#).



LEADERSHIP PROFILE

The next Head of School will have the opportunity to lead a highly respected school into its next chapter of excellence. Mission-driven, with robust enrollment, strong financial resources, highly engaged students and parents, and dedicated faculty and staff, Benjamin's strong foundation offers an outstanding opportunity for a strategic, relational leader—and exceptional communicator who lives the Benjamin values—to shape the future. With ample opportunity to guide innovation and curricular evolution, strengthen the identity of the school across two campuses, continue to broaden community engagement, and build upon the successes of the past, the ability to impact the future is significant.

The successful candidate will be a strategic leader and thought partner to the highly engaged Board of Trustees. Board members bring deep professional expertise and have worked tirelessly to improve facilities and advance opportunities on campus.

Challenges and Opportunities for the Next Head of The Benjamin School

- Maintaining the Benjamin culture centered on the *12 Benjamin Values*
- Advancing academic innovation and signature programs in STEM, arts, and interdisciplinary learning
- Leveraging new facilities to enhance teaching and student life
- Supporting the college counseling function, expectations, and outcomes
- Enhancing the school's robust fundraising efforts and continuing the development of a culture of philanthropy
- Continuing to strengthen the school's identity to reinforce its position as a leading independent school in an area experiencing demographic change



- Building Benjamin's growing national profile and reputation
- Managing the operational challenges of two campuses
- Balancing growth, financial sustainability, and excellence in programming
- Maintaining strength in teacher recruitment, development, and retention
- Maintaining a strong sense of community and shared values in a changing population

Experience of the Next Benjamin Leader

- Significant senior leadership experience in a PK-12 independent school
- Experience communicating clearly and effectively to a diverse group of stakeholders
- Deep understanding of 21st Century learning, assessment and instructional practice
- A demonstrated ability to effectively lead and inspire faculty and staff, encourage professional growth, and sustain a culture of high expectations
- Experience working effectively with boards, developing donor relationships, and engaging with parents as a partner in their child's education
- The ability to represent The Benjamin School in the broader community and continue to build and nurture partnerships
- A demonstrated commitment to an inclusive, values-centered school culture
- Experience in a community committed to high academic performance and accompanying expectations regarding college placement
- Sound financial stewardship and budgeting for long-term sustainability

Personal Attributes And Leadership Qualities Desired In The Next Head Of School

- An adaptable leader who will earn the trust of the community and inspire all to live the *12 Benjamin Values*
- A consensus builder who can navigate complexity with clarity, presence, and trust
- Exceptional communication and listening skills
- Deep relational grounding, approachable, highly visible, and engaged
- The ability to articulate a vision for the school's future that honors the strong foundation of the past while thoughtfully leading change to achieve the highest level of excellence

TO APPLY

Candidates interested in the position should submit the following materials in a **single merged PDF document**:

- EC Candidate Summary Sheet (contact consultants for this document)
- Letter of Interest, addressed to the Search Committee
- Current résumé
- Statement of Educational Leadership
- A list of five or more references with contact information (including phone numbers and email addresses)
- EC Disclosure Form (contact consultants for this document)

Please Address Inquiries to:

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