



# Press Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Media Contact:

Lisa Murray

617.856.8509

lmurray@brownrudnick.com

### **The Brown Rudnick Charitable Foundation Awards *Community Grant* to The Urban Institute of Mathematics in the Bronx, New York**

*Grant provides a fresh coat of paint to a school with a fresh perspective on education*

**Boston, MA, July 8, 2008** – The Brown Rudnick Charitable Foundation Corp., a nonprofit, tax-exempt entity established by attorneys from Brown Rudnick LLP, today announced that it has awarded one of its Community Grants to **The Urban Institute of Mathematics** in the Bronx, New York. The grant will be used to support a school refurbishment project, in which old classrooms in the newly formed middle school will be painted.

A neighborhood school, Urban Institute's curriculum brings math skills into all subjects. The importance of attending college is also emphasized throughout the school, and students can expect to attend at least eight college tours by the time they graduate from eighth grade. Classrooms are named after each teacher's college alma mater. As part of the school refurbishment project, Urban Institute will paint classrooms the colors of the college that each teacher attended.

According to Jennifer Joynt, Founding Principal, The Urban Institute of Mathematics, "We believe that environment has a direct impact on education, and by providing a welcoming setting, students will be more eager to learn. Even though we are located in an old building, we want our décor to reflect our school identity. Unfortunately, classroom aesthetics are often sacrificed because there is insufficient funding or time to redecorate. We are delighted that Brown Rudnick could help us achieve our goal."

Albert W. Wallis, executive director of the Brown Rudnick Charitable Foundation Corp., commented, "The Urban Institute's attendance rate was 94.5% this year, which can, in part, be attributed to the culture and community that the educators have established. Enhancing the school's environment will further encourage students to embrace education and stay in school. This aligns with the Foundation's mission by helping to reduce public school absenteeism and drop-put rates. We are pleased to help the school maintain its exemplary record of achievement."

Created to support front-line educators who often do not have a voice in funding decisions, the *Community Grants* subsidize small, concrete projects, which will improve inner-city education within Boston, Hartford, Providence or New York within the coming year. The Foundation will generally consider grant applications monthly and award grants in an amount totaling not more



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than \$2000 in any one month. The grant applications and an explanation of the program can be found at <http://www.brownrudnickcenter.com/foundation/communitygrant.asp>.

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