THE CORAL GABLES MUSEUM

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CORAL GABLES MUSEUM RECEIVES VILLAGERS GRANT FOR EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

The Coral Gables Museum was recently awarded a grant by The Villagers for their collaboration with Miami-Dade County Public Schools' Museum Magnet Program. The pilot program, utilizing students from Shenandoah Middle School, features a HIP (Historically Important Places) HOP tour of significant structures in Coral Gables. Students are guided through venues and discuss issues relating to all aspects of place – cultural, environmental, historical and architectural. Participants are provided with cameras to photograph the venues. At the future site of the Museum, the Old Police and Fire Station, students interviewed two retired fire fighters, and were guided on a hard hat tour of the building.

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The Museum Magnet program at Shenandoah has been one of the most successful in the County. The program utilizes instructional strategies that allow students to develop flexible and rigorous thinking skills based on individual experiences and interactions with object-based learning resources. A class project based upon students' experiences is mandatory. The students, working with consultants and Museum Director Christine Rupp, are creating a coffee table book titled, "Building a Dream" which highlights the Coral Gables Museum and the elements involved in the project: architecture, historic preservation, green design and community planning. A book preview party is scheduled for mid-April.

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Photo attached:
With Shenandoah Middle Students, Museum Director Christine Rupp explains the architectural style of the future site of the Coral Gables Museum at 285 Aragon Avenue.