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### **Clayton County To Host The 12<sup>th</sup> Annual HBCU National Tennis Championships**

*Morehouse College and Clark Atlanta University are slated to participate along with other top Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) throughout the country*

JONESBORO, GA – For the second consecutive year organizers of the 12<sup>th</sup> annual HBCU National Tennis Championships have selected Clayton County to host this outstanding competition, which will be held on September 27-29, 2012, at The Clayton County Tennis Center at International Park, 2300 Highway 138 in Jonesboro, Georgia. The event is free and open to the public (see 2012 Schedule pg 2).

Recognized as one of Clayton County's most popular landmarks, International Park is also known for its state-of-the-art tennis facility that has 17 hard courts, a pro shop and professional staff providing an array of services including tennis lessons.

Tennis enthusiasts will experience 70 matches per day during this three day competition, and 140 of the best talents representing NCAA division I, II and NAIA tennis programs from Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) inclusive of Morehouse College and Clark Atlanta University. Also participating will be five time defending champions, Florida A & M University's men's team and Southern University's Lady Jaguars who will be seeking their fourth consecutive championship. Participants will be competing for National Championship titles, covenant trophies and \$1,000 for their respective schools. A prize package will be awarded to a team from the men's and women's division.

"Once again, Clayton County is pleased to host the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual HBCU National Tennis Championships, and we hope to maintain the relationship for years to come," said Clayton County Commissioner Sonna Singleton. "The amenities offered at International Park provide an opportunity to attract this type of world class event," she said.

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## 12<sup>th</sup> Annual National HBCU Tennis Championships/Add One

Carl Goodman, Florida A & M University's Head Tennis Coach, established the HBCU National Tennis Championships in 2000. "The Clayton County Tennis Center at International Park is a great venue, and we are looking forward to another successful year," said Goodman. "Clayton County has and continues to be very accommodating, and the 12<sup>th</sup> annual National HBCU Tennis Championships is being well received by the community," he said.

Sponsors of this year's National Tennis Championships are Clayton County Convention and Visitor Bureau, the USTA Diversity and Inclusion, USTA Southern and USTA Florida, COAN Tennis Association Inc., Rainbow Tennis League, Goody4U Inc. and the Williams Property Group.

For more information please visit [www.HBCUtennis.com](http://www.HBCUtennis.com) or contact at (850) 321-3363.

### 2012 National HBCU Tennis Championships Schedule

<b>Thursday, September 27<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>⇒ Daily Match Play – begins at 9:00 a.m.</b> <b>⇒ Opening Reception – 6:00 p.m.</b>
<b>Friday, September 28<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>⇒ Daily Match Play – begins at 9:00 a.m.</b> <b>⇒ College Pro-Am Fundraiser/Round Robin – 6:30 to 9:00 p.m.</b>
<b>Saturday, September 29<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>⇒ Junior Clinic (youth ages 12 to 18) – 8:30 to 11:30 a.m.</b> <b>⇒ Final Rounds of Tournament Play – begins at 9:00 a.m.</b> <i>*Team Awards Championship Presentation to be held at the conclusion of all matches</i>

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*Clayton County is approximately 143 miles with a population of over 250,000, which makes it one of the most densely populated urbanized counties in Georgia, and the fifth most populous in the 10-county Atlanta region. Just 10 minutes south of downtown Atlanta, this suburban community offers an attractive lifestyle while possessing many great attributes including a nationally acclaimed wastewater treatment system, the world's busiest airport, Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport, a four-year public collegiate institution, Clayton State University, and the only co-located state and national Archives facilities in the United States. For more information visit [www.claytoncountyga.gov](http://www.claytoncountyga.gov).*