

# NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE CITY CONTROLLER

CHRIS HOLLINS, CITY CONTROLLER



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### Media Contact:

**Erin Gaddis, Director of Communications and Community Engagement,**

[Erin.Gaddis@houstontx.gov](mailto:Erin.Gaddis@houstontx.gov)

## Houston City Controller Chris Hollins Hosts HISD Students at City Hall for “Controller for a Day” Initiative

**HOUSTON, TX** — Last month, Houston City Controller Chris Hollins welcomed two Houston ISD students as part of the Controller for a Day initiative, a program designed to give young people firsthand exposure to public service, civic leadership, and financial accountability in city government.

Students were selected through an essay competition where winners earned the opportunity to shadow the City Controller for a day.

On February 4, Allison Krahenbuhl from Heights High School served as Controller for a Day, shadowing Controller Hollins during his Monthly Financial Report to Houston City Council. She observed how fiscal updates are presented to elected officials and the public and was offered a firsthand look at how financial oversight supports informed decision-making and accountability at City Hall.

On February 19, Nivre Graham from Sharpstown High School shadowed the Controller during the Controller’s Black History Month Celebration. During this experience, Nivre gained insight into how the Controller’s Office recognizes the contributions of Houston leaders and businesses while highlighting the role of equity, inclusion, and community engagement in public finance.

“As Houston’s chief financial officer, I strongly believe that young people should understand how public dollars are managed and how transparency builds trust in government,” said Controller Hollins. “The Controller for a Day program allows students to see themselves as future leaders and to understand that public service is a powerful way to make a real difference in their communities. City Hall belongs to the people of Houston, and this is just one way for us to make government accessible to our residents.”

The Controller for a Day initiative reflects the Controller’s Office’s ongoing commitment to civic education, youth engagement, and building the next generation of public-service leaders. By opening City Hall to students, the program helps demystify government operations and encourages young Houstonians to take an active role in shaping our city’s future.

**ABOUT CITY OF HOUSTON CONTROLLER'S OFFICE:** Established in 1903, the City of Houston Controller's Office is the cornerstone of financial oversight and accountability for America's fourth-largest city. With a mission to uphold Houston's fiscal integrity and protect residents' tax dollars, the office oversees a broad spectrum of the City's financial operations, including its budget, investments, and debts. Committed to transparency and fiscal responsibility, the Controller's Office is key to maintaining the economic vitality of Houston, contributing to its status as a thriving metropolis for its diverse community.

**ABOUT CONTROLLER CHRIS HOLLINS:** Chris Hollins, serving as Houston's City Controller since January 2024, brings a dynamic approach to City governance and financial management. With a rich background in legal practice and management consulting, coupled with innovative leadership as Harris County Clerk, Hollins is dedicated to enhancing the city's fiscal practices and community engagement. Educated at Morehouse College, Yale Law School, and Harvard Business School, Hollins's commitment to accountability and service excellence drives his mission to build a financially resilient Houston. Residing in the Third Ward with his family, his work is deeply informed by his strong community ties.

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