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***FINDING DC'S NEXT YOUTH SOCCER STAR***

***100+ PLAYERS EXPECTED TO ATTEND FREE D.C. UNITED ACADEMY TRYOUT SUNDAY***

**[Washington, DC] – [December 1, 2017]** –This Sunday, more than 100 soccer players from over a dozen DC Public Schools are expected to attend a free, one-of-a-kind tryout for [DC United's youth academy](#) where the club's program could find the District's next youth soccer star.

The tryout is organized by [Open Goal Project](#), a DC soccer nonprofit dedicated to connecting talented young players from low-income families in the District with high-level developmental soccer experiences and empowering them to overcome the costs and obstacles that go into America's pay-to-play youth system. With the United States missing out on the World Cup, the issues of pay-to-play and accessibility for talented players from low-income families in our country's inner cities has come to the forefront.

Working with Open Goal is their fiscal sponsor organization [DC SCORES](#), which put the word out about the tryout to coaches and players at schools all over the city. During three sessions, players from 4th grade to 12th grade will have the chance to play in front of and potentially be identified by coaches for D.C. United Academy selection. This tryout presents an opportunity unlike any these players have had before. It should be an incredibly visual event to cover!

DATE: Sunday, December 3

TIMES: 10 a.m.-11:15 a.m.: 4th, 5th or 6th grade tryout

11:30 a.m.-12:45 p.m.: 7th, 8th or 9th grade tryout

1 p.m.-2:15 p.m.: 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> tryout

LOCATION: D.C. United's Auxiliary field located at [279 Oklahoma Ave., NE](#).

We ask that you RSVP for coverage by emailing your name and outlet to [simon@opengoalproject.org](mailto:simon@opengoalproject.org).

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**[About Open Goal Project](#)**

Through financial and logistical support, Open Goal Project is a non-profit that identifies and aides talented youth soccer players from low-income families to overcome costs and lack of resources to make the most of their potential on and off the field. Since launching in 2015, Open Goal has helped register more than a dozen local players for travel soccer teams, has covered registration and costs for numerous players to attend summer and ID camps and provided free clinics and high-level training for dozens of youth players in DC. Learn more about our mission to open goals: <http://www.opengoalproject.org/>