Partner Profile: Florecer Community School

On'Draya Morris, Founder and CEO

On'Draya Morris is an educator whose classroom career has taken her from Kentucky, Georgia, New York and Massachusetts to Birmingham, where she taught middle school English language arts. She later served as Dean of Culture and Instruction at Alabama Aerospace and Aviation High School. Driven by a commitment to educational equity, she founded Florecer so students across Alabama can build a brighter future through rigorous academics and language immersion.



Opening Fall 2028 in Ensley

Approved by the Alabama Public Charter School Commission in May 2026, Florecer Community School will open in Fall 2028 as Alabama's first dual-language immersion charter school. Ahead of opening, Florecer is building its founding families through Yo Soy Bilingüe: Spanish Around the World, a proposed six-week summer program pairing small-group reading and math with Spanish cooking, gardening, music, dance and art.

Florecer Mission

Florecer Community School is a K–8 dual language immersion school that provides a culturally diverse and rigorous global learning experience. It prepares all students to flourish as multilingual, multiliterate, high-achieving changemakers while sustaining audacious joy and a commitment to building an international community.

Target Demographics

Families across the Birmingham metro area, opening with kindergarten through second grade and growing to K–8. Yo Soy Bilingüe serves about 40 rising K–3rd graders in small groups.

Core Pillars

Multilingualism
Students learn to read, write and speak in both English and Spanish through daily immersion.

Community-Centered Innovation
Florecer is built with its community, alongside local partners like Fountain Heights Farms, Rooted in Ensley and Renew Birmingham.

Global Pathways
A global learning experience prepares students to lead with empathy and curiosity as resilient changemakers.

Yo Soy Bilingüe Highlights

Cocina: Weekly cooking that brings each region's culture to the table.

Jardín: Garden time that connects language to the natural world.

Música y Baile: Music and dance from across the Spanish-speaking world.

Arte: Art projects that celebrate each week's region.

Familia: Saturday family playdates, Cafecito Chats and a family showcase.

Lectura: ¡WEPA! dual-language home-library kits for every family.

How You Can Help

Your support helps Florecer earn the trust of its founding families before its doors open. Gifts put dual-language books in homes, fund Friday field trips to McWane Science Center, the Birmingham Museum of Art and the Botanical Gardens, and bring bilingual teachers and teaching artists into every small group. Through its partnership, Mattison Hall Group supports Florecer with staffing and payroll for certified lead teachers and bilingual aides, a staff training week, MHG Labs bilingual lesson binders, family literacy kits and events, and data, compliance and ALSDE reporting.





