

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE :

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**5<sup>TH</sup> Annual**  
**Chicago ELITE Classic**

**December 2, 2016**  
GAME TIMES:  
4:30 pm - 9:00 pm

**December 3, 2016**  
GAME TIMES:  
10:30 am - 9:00 pm

**AT UIC Pavilion**  
525 South Racine, Chicago

Tickets available at  
Ticketmaster, UIC Pavilion  
and participating schools

[www.chicagoeliteclassic.com](http://www.chicagoeliteclassic.com)

(Chicago) - November 10, 2016 - The state of Illinois and the city of Chicago have a long and storied basketball history which is why everyone is excited about the **Fifth Annual Chicago Elite Classic Basketball Tournament!** Chicago Elite Classic is an unique and ground-breaking showcase which will add to the basketball lore and bring a family-oriented community event to the city of Chicago. We recognize that basketball is a vehicle to engage, motivate, inspire, and provide a safe and supportive environment that gives students an outlet.

Whitney Young and Simeon currently the two most powerful high school programs in the state of Illinois collaborated to form the **Chicago Elite Classic**. The event has the support of the Honorable Mayor Rahm Emanuel, several elected officials, business, faith based and community leaders and partners. The highly anticipated showcase will be held on **Friday, Dec. 2 and Saturday Dec. 3, 2016 at the UIC Pavilion**. The Chicago Elite Classic will feature some of the best high school basketball teams from the Chicagoland area as well as a collection of powerhouse nationally ranked high school basketball teams from Georgia, South Carolina, Florida, Missouri, Kansas, and Washington, DC.

Among those participating in the event are 10 Top 100 ESPN high school basketball players, including the #1 Illinois ranked 2017 Jeremiah Tilmon, East St. Louis. There are many Chicago neighborhoods and suburban communities that will be represented at the **Chicago Elite Classic** event with the following high school participating teams. Whitney Young, Evanston, Joliet West, Oak Park River Forest, Simeon, Uplift, Fenwick, North Lawndale, University of Chicago Lab, Kenwood, Curie, Loyola, East St. Louis, Orr, Notre Dame, and Hyde Park.

There will be many reasons to ensure the success of this unprecedented basketball event. In 2015 at the fourth annual **Chicago Elite Classic** event approximately 11,000 people were in attendance. This year many individuals will be donating their time throughout the CEC weekend including more than 260 student-athletes and coaches. Having a safe, successful and fun event will be a focal point. The excitement is brewing among coaches and past CEC alumni players including **Jabari Parker (Simeon) Milwaukee Bucks** who states, “**Being able to play in the Chicago Elite Classic was one of the most intense experiences for me. To have all the best teams across the country play against our hometown high schools gave me a sense of pride for Chicago basketball. I was so happy to be able to be apart of such a great event.**”

According to **Jahlil Okafor (Whitney Young) Philadelphia 76ers**, “**The CEC was easily one of the most exciting times of the year for me because of the buzz going around the city that Chicago was playing some of the best teams in the country! I trained all summer knowing this would be the stage to show off my ability to the country. It’s a time to represent Chicago in a positive light and test your talents against top players/teams in the nation. Bring your A game and show what you and your team are made of.**”

### **Chicago Elite Classic Schedule of Events**

- \* **December 1, 2016** - Tip Off Reception for sponsors and VIP’s at the Chicago Urban League
- \* **December 2, 2016** - Session 1 Games UIC Pavilion 4:30pm-9:00pm ( 3 games)
- \* **December 3, 2016** - “Champions in Life” Breakfast at Hyatt Regency Chicago, Crystal BallRoom from 8:30am-10:30am featuring Arne Duncan, Marty Nesbitt, and Father Pfleger just to name a few for players, coaches, sponsors, and invited guests.
  
- \* **December 3, 2016** - Session 2 Games UIC Pavilion 10:30am-9:00pm (8 games)
  
- \* For more information regarding the event visit [www.chicagoeliteclassic.com](http://www.chicagoeliteclassic.com)
  
- \* Tickets sold at Ticketmaster, UIC Box Office, and participating schools  
(General and Floor Seating Available)

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