

THE STINGER

Irmo High School's Student Newspaper

Graduation 2020/Issue #4



The
Future
is
Yours



Congratulations!

The administrators, faculty, staff, and students of Irmo High School proudly celebrate our Class of 2020.

Our seniors have shown flexibility, resilience, and persistence, remotely completing all the requirements for their great achievement.

Along with your family and friends, we honor and celebrate this great milestone and achievement in your lives. We will continue to support you as you reach for your dreams and aspirations.

Graduation 2020

Irmo High School's commencement ceremony was held in the open air of W. C. Hawkins Stadium. The decision to hold the ceremony outdoors was made in consideration of the desire to have an in-person celebration while following social distancing guidelines. Seniors and their parents were surveyed for their suggestions, and the goal became reality on June 5, 2020.



Sometimes you will never know the value of a moment until it becomes a memory.

~ Dr. Seuss



*From right to left.
From student to graduate.*





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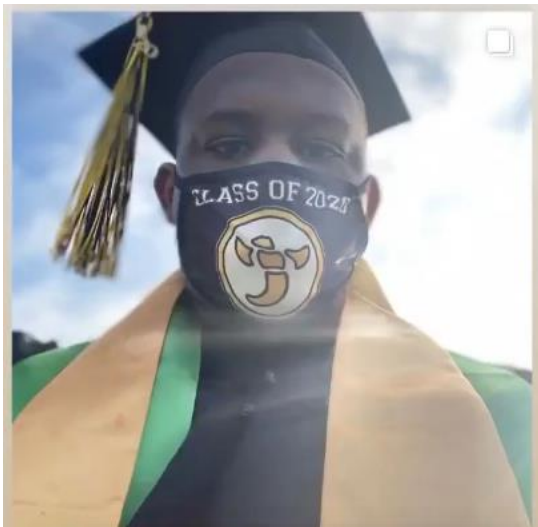


The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams. ~ Eleanor Roosevelt



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Success is no accident. It is hard work, perseverance, learning, studying, sacrifice and most of all, love of what you are doing or learning to do. ~ Pele





For 2020 grads, the final months of their senior year were tumultuous, as COVID-19 upended their plans. These students overcame, and had these messages to share. BY JESSICA KOSCIELNIAK / MCCLATCHY



Shoot for the moon. Even if you miss, you'll land among the stars. ~ Norman Vincent Peale

International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Program Graduates

Dr. Diane Padula, Director

The Mission of the IB Diploma Programme is to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect.

Irmo High School's IB program draws students from throughout District 5. Students in the IB program complete six rigorous IB courses over two years and complete the IB core components: Theory of Knowledge, the Extended Essay, and an 18-month engagement in Creativity, Activity, and Service (CAS). Congratulations to the 24 students who completed the prestigious program this year.

Sofi Abouassali
Ryan Barker
Katarina Blake
Caitlin Boisture
Sara Butch
Megan Cipolla
Sean Ellsworth
JoAnn Ford
Terrance Hardnett
Taleah Holt
Shruti Jadhav
Rachel Lofurno
Jailah McDaniels
Liana Negron
Rebecca Olson
Ryan Olson
James Ostergaard
Amari Rice
Cody Russell
William Salter
Mark Sheldon
Rachel Stephens
Damon Terry
Trinh Tran



Serving Our Country

We offer our congratulations and gratitude to graduates who have chosen to serve our country in the military.



Off to College

The class of 2020 will be spread out among 57 different colleges and universities. Here is where you might find them:

Albany State University

Allen University

AMD College of Performing Arts

Anderson University

Bethune Cookman

Claflin University

Clemson University

Coker College

College of Charleston

Columbia College

ECPI University

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University

Florida A&M University

Francis Marion University

Full Sail University

Gardner-Webb University

Greenville Technical College

John A. Gupton College

Johnson and Wales University -
Charlotte Campus

University of Kansas

Kennesaw State University

Lander University

Livingstone College

Lorain County Community College

Midland Technical College

Missouri Western State University

Newberry College

North Carolina A&T State University

North Carolina State University

North Greenville University

Oberlin Conservatory

Palm Beach Atlantic University

Paul Mitchell Cosmetology School

Pennsylvania College of Technology

Piedmont Technical College

Ringling College of Art and Design

South Carolina State University

Southern Mississippi University

Spartanburg Methodist College

The Citadel Military College

Trident Technical College

University of North Carolina-Charlotte

University of South Carolina Honors
College

University of South Carolina

University of South Carolina Upstate

University of Toronto

Voorhees College

Wichita Technical College

Winthrop University

Winston-Salem State University

Xavier University of Louisiana

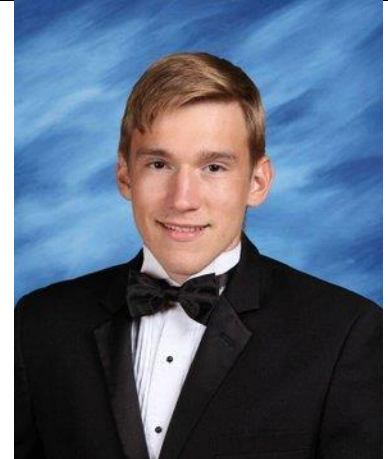
York Technical College



Senior Awards

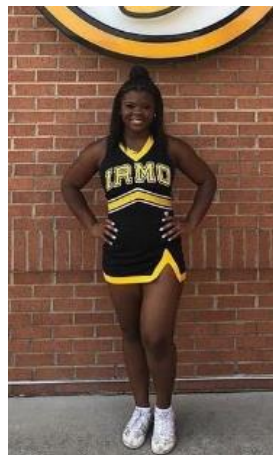
In case you missed it on Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram, here are our seniors who have won academic and athletic awards in several categories. Thanks to Ms. Ostergaard. Congratulations to all!

Cathrine Hall: Courtney Shealy Hart Award, in recognition of the Top Female Senior Athlete who excels in the classroom, community and on the playing fields.



Sean Ellsworth: Joe Turbeville Award, in recognition of the Top Male Senior Athlete who excels in the classroom, community and on the playing fields! Irmo Education Foundation Scholarship.

Makenzie McFadden: Yellow Jacket Scholarship for athletics and academics.



Jabari Avery: Yellow Jacket Scholarship for athletics and academics.



Alyssa Tucker: Yellow Jacket Scholarship for athletics and academics.



Jack Ostergaard: Yellow Jacket Scholarship for athletics and academics. Most Improved English Award, awarded in recognition of a senior who exhibited the most improvement.



Caitlyn Boisture: Renaissance Artist Award, selected by the Visual and Performing Arts faculty for excellence in multiple arts disciplines.



Cameron Ciriello: Outstanding Percussion Award, presented to the Top Senior Performer in the Irmo High School Band's Percussion.

Amari Rice: Choral Student of the Year Award, presented to a graduating senior who embodies the passion for choral music in the Choral Program through leadership, discipline and attitude.



Mark Sheldon: Outstanding Band Award, presented to the Top Senior Performer for the Irmo High School Band. Irmo High School Education Foundation Scholarship.

Zachary Schellinger: Outstanding Orchestra Performance Award and Capt. Daniel McCollum Scholarship recipient.



Tanvi Singh: Outstanding Orchestra Performance Award.



Art enables us to find ourselves and lose ourselves at the same time. ~ Thomas Merton

Destiney Brown-Sanders and Kyle Mason: Triple Threat in Theatre – Students who excelled in dance, singing, and acting



Katherine Bannister: Affectionately titled Art Nerd Award, awarded to a senior Visual Arts student who excelled in a wide variety of Visual Arts classes at Irmo High School.

Skyla Francis: Irmo Theatre Company's Senior Student of the Year for her unwavering commitment and dedication to the Irmo Theatre Company.



Alena Brown: Irmo Dance Company's Senior Student of the Year.

Emily Osment: English Creative Writing Award, awarded in recognition of a senior who exhibited excellence in creative writing



I regard the theatre as the greatest of all art forms, the most immediate way in which a human being can share with another the sense of what it is to be a human being.

~ Oscar Wilde

Banci Patel: Outstanding Achievement in Science Award Best All Around Social Studies Award.

Wyatt Robinson: Outstanding Achievement in Science Award.



Shruti Jadhav: Outstanding work in German

Esra Buckson: Outstanding work in Spanish



Amari Rice: Outstanding work in French.

Trinh Tran: Outstanding work in Chinese.



Kenyaz Boston and Jason Black: Captain Daniel McCollum Scholarship recipients, awarded to the JROTC cadets to most typify core values of Integrity First, Service Before Self, and Excellence in all we do.



James Hayes III: Captain Daniel McCollum Scholarship recipient, awarded to the JROTC cadets to most typify core values of Integrity First, Service Before Self, and Excellence in all we do. Congressman Joe Wilson congressional History Award.
Logan Shealy: Captain Daniel McCollum Scholarship recipient.



Sydney Worth and Zach Schellinger: Captain Daniel McCollum Scholarship recipients, awarded to the JROTC cadets to most typify core values of Integrity First, Service Before Self, and Excellence in all we do.



Rebecca Olson and William (Lee) Salter: Exemplary International Baccalaureate Diploma students.



Katie Little and Trevor Jones: Margaret Ann Butler Irmo Spirit Award



Nykia Miller: Congressman
Joe Wilson congressional
History Award



Student Council Recognized

Congratulations to Irmo High School International School for the Arts for receiving the recognition Projects and Activities Award from the Student Council Coalition.



IHS Faculty and Staff Recognition



Congratulations to teacher, Mr. Blankenship-Brown! Mr. BB, as he is affectionately known, is the recipient of the 2020 Francis Allen Award for excellence in teaching.



Thank You and Adieu

With love and gratitude, we bid a fond farewell to Mrs. Judith Head and Mrs. Allison Smith who retired at the end of the school year. Mrs. Head has been with Irmo High for 19 years, and she was our awesome media specialist (aka head librarian). Mrs. Smith taught science at Irmo High for 18 years and has been named Teacher of the Year twice. We wish them both well in their new adventures.



Senior Superlatives

<i>Category</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Male</i>
Most Likely to be Late to Graduation	Dallas Bess	Kenyaz Boston
Biggest Class Clown	Taleah Holt	Eric Gamble
Best Dressed	D'Avion Deas	Angelo Addison
Best Personality	Emma Bassett	James Hayes III
Most Likely to Win a Dance Battle	Alena Brown	Ryan Olsen
Most Athletic	Jayla Lovett	Sean Ellsworth
Best Smile	Shakyrah Rush	Kobe Taylor
Most Likely to Succeed	Shruti Jadhav	Mark Sheldon
Loudest	Izzy Rhodes	Trevor Jones
Most Likely to be Instagram Famous	Savannah Kitchens	Jack Ostergaard
Best Hair	LaQuandra Johnson	CJ Washington
Cutest Couple	Liana Negron	Lyndon Johnson
Best Friends for Life	Chloe Bebbington Autumn Boykin	
Best Bromance		Khari Felder Trey McCrae

On behalf of the senior class, we thank everyone who made our graduation ceremony possible and amazing. Special thanks to Ms. Whipple who worked tirelessly to make it all happen!



Irmo High School Alma Mater

*Our Alma Mater, great and true
Loyal Praise we sing to you;
And to Thee ever, shall we stress
All our love and gratefulness.
We treasure dear, our school days there;
For Irmo High, we breathe a prayer.
We'll ever call our memories back
Hail to our dear Gold and Black!*

