

**For Immediate Release**

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# Media Release

## **Fourteen CCSD schools recognized by Jostens for yearbook quality**

Office of Communications

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**Charleston, SC** – [Jostens](#), the leading producer of yearbooks and student-created content, recently announced that 14 schools in Charleston County School District (CCSD) earned 2024 National Yearbook Program of Excellence awards. Jostens' National Yearbook Program of Excellence recognizes engaging yearbooks that reflect a broad representation of the student body while helping students develop 21<sup>st</sup> century skills such as communication, collaboration, and information and communication technologies literacy.

The following CCSD schools picked up Gold, Silver, or Bronze level awards:

### **Gold**

Buist Academy  
Lucy Beckham High School  
Moultrie Middle School  
Orange Grove Charter School

### **Silver**

Charles Pinckney Elementary School

### **Bronze**

Belle Hall Elementary School  
C.E. Williams Middle School – North Campus  
C.E. Williams Middle School – South Campus  
Camp Road Middle School  
Carolina Park Elementary School  
Charleston County School of the Arts  
Jennie Moore Elementary School  
R.B. Stall High School  
Mamie P. Whitesides Elementary School

Buist Academy's award-winning yearbook program is under the direction of Jill Chandler. There are 87 students on the yearbook staff from fifth through eighth grade.

"I am extremely proud of this staff," said Chandler. "They have worked hard and deserve this award. Their ideas and input helped make the book special and meaningful."

Lucy Beckham's yearbook, *The Ambush*, is fully designed and created by 30 students in grades 10-12 under the guidance of advisor Lauren Lyon.

"Our students worked hard beginning in the spring of 2023 to come up with a theme to represent the 2023-2024 school year," said Lyon. "I'm extremely proud of the way my staff has woven that theme through all of the photography, writing, and design in the book in a way that represents the students at our school and tells the story of their experiences."

The achievements of Moultrie's Yearbook Club are due in part to the guidance of teacher advisor John Hall, as well as the combined talents of the following students: editors Blake Lanfersiek and Ava Lee, photographers Lexi Rodriguez and Moriah Brown, and reporter Reese Mello.

"Their passion and dedication were instrumental in turning Moultrie's stories into a beautiful, lasting treasure, especially during our momentous 50th anniversary year," Hall explained. "I extend my heartfelt thanks to this wonderful team of students for helping make this year's yearbook such a success."

Orange Grove earned the Gold honor for the third year in a row. The Tigers' award-winning yearbook program is under the direction of Clary Mock and Meghan Ward, with the following group of teacher editors: Katherine Best, Frances Bowman, Tracey Chiodo, Elizabeth Dover, Laura Patrick, Lisa Schaffer, Kira Shipley, Haley Webster, and Kortney Wilson.

"This incredible achievement is a testament to the dedication, creativity, and hard work of every single member of our team," Ward explained. "Their expertise and commitment have truly made this yearbook shine. I also wanted to give a huge shout out to our talented middle school student editors for their hard work and fresh perspective. This Gold Award is evidence of our collective passion and dedication. I am extremely proud of our team."

Jostens' National Yearbook Program of Excellence Awards are presented twice a year, in spring and in fall based on the yearbook's arrival date at the school. The awards are based on the schools' yearbooks achieving defined criteria in between one and three of the following categories: creating an inclusive yearbook, generating school engagement, and successfully managing the yearbook creation process.

"Jostens is proud to recognize those individuals who have created an exceptional yearbook for their school and community," said Tammy Whitaker, Jostens VP and COO Yearbook Division. "These schools did an exceptional job on multiple levels."

Yearbooks are a critical part of capturing and telling a school's story, and Jostens is dedicated to supporting yearbook staff members as they do their important work."

Founded in 1897, Jostens has produced school yearbooks for over 60 years. Schools rely on Jostens and their local Jostens representatives to provide a combination of journalism education and technology tools to deliver a learning experience that helps students develop 21<sup>st</sup> century skills in journalism, photography, writing and design, leadership and business while creating the permanent record of the school year. Jostens invests in state-of-the-art technology, best in class service, educational curriculum and award-winning print manufacturing platforms to plan, design, build and produce yearbooks.

For more information, contact the Office of Communications at (843) 937-6303.

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#### **About the Charleston County School District**

Charleston County School District (CCSD) is a nationally accredited school district committed to providing equitable and quality educational opportunities for all its students. CCSD is the second-largest school system in South Carolina and represents a unique blend of urban, suburban, and rural schools spanning 1,300 square miles along the coast. CCSD serves approximately 50,000 students in 88 schools and specialized programs.

CCSD offers a diverse portfolio of educational options and specialized programs delivered to the students of CCSD through neighborhood, magnet, IB (international baccalaureate), Montessori, and charter schools and programs. Rich educational opportunities for students include programs in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM); music and other creative and performing arts; career and technical preparation programs; military; dual credit; and many more.