

**For Immediate Release**

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# Media Release

## **Jostens honors 20 CCSD schools for excellence**

### Office of Communications

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**Charleston, SC** – [Jostens](#), the leading producer of yearbooks and student-created content, recently announced that 20 schools in Charleston County School District (CCSD) earned 2023 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  
Orange Grove Charter School

### **Silver**

Academic Magnet High School  
Ashley River Creative Arts Elementary School  
Jennie Moore Elementary School  
C.E. Williams Middle School – North Campus  
Charleston County School of the Arts  
North Charleston Creative Arts Elementary School

### **Bronze**

Belle Hall Elementary School  
Camp Road Middle School  
Carolina Voyager Charter School  
Charles Pinckney Elementary School  
East Cooper Montessori Charter School  
James Island Charter High School  
Laing Middle School  
Mamie P. Whitesides Elementary School  
Moultrie Middle School  
Mount Pleasant Academy  
Thomas C. Cario Middle School

Buist Academy's award-winning yearbook program is led by staff consisting of fifth through eighth grade students under the direction of Jill Chandler, Buist Academy's yearbook adviser.

"We are honored to achieve The National Yearbook Program of Excellence Award at the Gold Level awarded by Jostens," said Chandler. "The students on staff have worked diligently to cover all students and all events in our book. I am so proud of their efforts this past year."

Volume III of Lucy Beckham's yearbook, *The Ambush*, was produced by a staff of 31 tenth through twelfth grade students, including editors-in-chief Isabella Flynn, Frances Neal, and Reagan Wells.

"I'm so proud of this year's staff for achieving gold-level award status, the first in the history of our school," said Beckham yearbook adviser Lauren Lyon. "The editorial, photography, writing, design, and marketing staffs worked hard to produce a quality book that promotes inclusivity of all students and our school community in a timely manner."

Clary Mock and Meghan Ward serves as the yearbook advisers at Orange Grove. The staff also includes Kortney Wilson, Lisa Schaffer, Elizabeth Dover, Tracey Chiodo, and Katherine Best. Wilson works with a group of middle schooler students to put together the middle school section of the yearbook.

"We are honored to be recognized by Jostens with gold level for the second year in a row," Ward said. "Our yearbook staff has worked hard to produce a beautiful yearbook."

"Jostens is proud to recognize those individuals who have created an exceptional yearbook for their school and community," said Tammy Whitaker, Jostens Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, Yearbook Division. "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 of 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 49,000 students in 88 schools and specialized programs.

CCSD offers a diverse, expanding portfolio of options and specialized programs, delivered through neighborhood, magnet, IB (international baccalaureate), Montessori, and charter schools. Options include programs in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM); music and other creative and performing arts; career and technical preparation programs; and military.