



Lucy Beckham High School

For Immediate Release

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Media Release

Beckham graduating senior earns Math and Science Scholarship from Council of Great City Schools

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Principal

Washington, D.C. – Alyssa Almaguer of Lucy Beckham High School is one of four graduating high school seniors who were selected by the [Council of the Great City Schools](#) (CGCS) to receive the 2024 CGCS-Bernard Harris Math and Science Scholarship. The students were chosen from more than 300 applicants in big-city school districts across the nation for their academic performance, leadership qualities, and community involvement.

Now in its sixth year, the scholarship was created by former NASA astronaut Dr. Bernard A. Harris, Jr., the first African American to walk in space, and the Council to encourage and assist promising students of diverse backgrounds who plan to pursue science, technology, engineering, or math (STEM) studies after high school.

The awards were given to two African American and two Hispanic seniors from high schools in four of the 78 urban school districts represented by the Council.

“Encouraging students of diverse backgrounds to pursue careers in STEM has been a life-long goal for me, so I am grateful for the opportunity to support the educational journeys of these future STEM leaders,” said Dr. Harris. “These scholarships will make education more accessible for this year’s recipients, and I wish them all the best as they undergo their post-secondary studies.”

Each scholar will receive \$5,000 for continued education in a STEM-related field. In the fall, Almaguer will attend Clemson University Honors College and major in bioengineering.

This year’s scholarship program was generously funded by the [Peter Pharis Foundation](#), [Savvas Learning Company](#), and Dr. Harris.

“We thank the Peter Pharis Foundation, Savvas Learning Company, and Dr. Harris for their generosity and congratulate this year’s scholarship winners as they join the ranks of our past scholarship recipients,” said Council Executive Ray Hart. “It’s inspiring to witness the positive impact this scholarship has on their lives and

continue to support the next generation of urban students pursuing math and science-related degrees.”

Administration of the scholarship program, including the application process, pre-selection, and presentation of awards, is provided by CGCS. Dr. Harris makes the final selection of recipients.

The Council of the Great City Schools is the only national organization exclusively representing the needs of urban public schools. Composed of 78 large city school districts, its mission is to promote the cause of urban schools and to advocate for inner-city students through legislation, research, and media relations. The organization also provides a network for school districts sharing common problems to exchange information and collectively address new challenges as they emerge to deliver the best possible education for urban youth.

For more information about Alyssa Almaguer, contact Principal Anna Dassing at (843) 953-2900.

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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 50,000 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.