



Military Magnet Academy
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Media Release

Military Magnet Academy Cadets Take Flight on C-17 at Joint Base Charleston

Charleston, SC (August 27, 2025) - Cadets from Military Magnet Academy had the rare opportunity to experience a hands-on aviation training mission aboard a C-17 Globemaster III aircraft at Joint Base Charleston on Wednesday, August 27, 2025.

During the flight, cadets witnessed a series of practice landing maneuvers on the training runway, providing them with real-world insight into the precision and skill required of U.S. Air Force pilots. The experience was highlighted by the opportunity for several cadets to visit the cockpit during flight, where they observed pilots in action as they navigated the massive cargo aircraft.

The opportunity was especially significant, as more than 128 schools applied for this unique program - yet only one school per month is selected to participate. This month, Military Magnet Academy was chosen for the honor.

Student cadet leaders, recognized by their black shirts, proudly represented the academy during this experience. Among them was Cadet Regimental Commander Luz Malpica, a 12th grader, who led her cadet leadership staff on the trip.

“This was an unforgettable experience,” said Malpica. “Being able to fly in a C-17 and even step inside the cockpit gave me a new perspective on leadership, responsibility, and the kind of teamwork it takes to succeed in the military. It motivates me and my fellow cadets to keep pushing ourselves toward excellence.”

“This was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for our cadets,” added Assistant Principal Herbert Singleton. “Being able to witness military aviation operations firsthand gives our students not only a deeper appreciation of service but also inspires them to aim high in their own educational and career paths.”

The Military Magnet Academy JROTC program emphasizes leadership, citizenship, and character development. Opportunities like this C-17 flight allow cadets to connect classroom learning to real-world experiences while strengthening ties with the military community.

For more information, please 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.