



Lucy Beckham High School
Anna Dassing, Principal
 1560 Mathis Ferry Road
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 (843) 953-2900

Media Release

Beckham Orchestra Earns SCMEA Outstanding Performance Award

Mount Pleasant, SC (May 19, 2026) — The orchestra program at Lucy Beckham High School, led by director Melissa Martin, earned the South Carolina Music Education Association (SCMEA) Outstanding Performance Award (Senior Gold) for the 2025-2026 school year.

The Outstanding Performance Award (OPA) is the highest achievement awarded to orchestra programs in South Carolina. Only 20 schools statewide qualified for the Senior level award this year, making the recognition a significant accomplishment for the Beckham orchestra program.

Martin will be recognized and presented with a trophy during the SCMEA Fall Business Meeting at the start of the upcoming school year.

To earn the award, the Beckham orchestra program demonstrated exceptional achievement and musicianship across multiple areas of performance and evaluation. Points were accumulated through success in Region and All-State Orchestra participation, Concert Performance Assessment results, and Solo & Ensemble performances.

“This recognition reflects the tremendous dedication, talent, and hard work of our student musicians,” said Melissa Martin, orchestra director at Lucy Beckham High School. “I am especially proud of the way each student contributed their time, effort, and commitment to the success of the entire orchestra.”

The award highlights the program’s commitment to musical excellence and continued success in performance, preparation, and student achievement.

“We are very proud of our orchestra and how hard our musicians have worked under the tutelage of Ms. Martin,” Principal Anna Dassing added. “Music education is pivotal for student success, and they have proven what hard work and persistence can create. Ms. Martin is a phenomenal instructor and mentor for our students and community.”

The Lucy Beckham orchestra program continues to provide students with opportunities to grow as musicians through high-level performance experiences, collaboration, and excellence in music education.

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SCHOOL DISTRICT

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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.



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