

CLASS OF 2020

ATLANTA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

# **Celebrating Excellence on the Journey of Transformation**



ATLANTA  
PUBLIC  
SCHOOLS









## Jason Esteves

**BOARD CHAIR, ATLANTA PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

Dear Valedictorians, Salutatorians and STAR Students:

As Chair of the Atlanta Board of Education and on behalf of my colleagues, I congratulate you for being shining examples in our community! Each of you are academic leaders and you have set the standard that all APS students strive for excellence. The dedication and hard work you gave to your studies has paid off, as you have been selected as 2020 Valedictorians, Salutatorians, or STAR Students of your respective schools.

Your outstanding academic achievements are laudable and the doors of opportunity are vast. As you begin the next chapter of your lives, stay focused and continue to learn from every challenge and experience – past, present, and future. As you look ahead to the future, remember your parents, friends, teachers, counselors, advisors, mentors, community leaders, and principals who played an important role in helping you get to this milestone in your lives. I charge you all to reach back and lift those who are following in your footsteps, as each of you have left an indelible mark on your school community. I also charge you to choose your paths wisely and surround yourself with positive people who will help you realize your dreams.

Take time to celebrate and enjoy these prestigious accomplishments and know that we are cheering on your continued success. Again, congratulations and best wishes to you all on your future endeavors.

Best,



## Meria J. Carstarphen

**SUPERINTENDENT, ATLANTA PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

Dear Valedictorians, Salutatorians and STAR Students:

Congratulations! As Valedictorians, Salutatorians and STAR Students of Atlanta Public Schools for the class of 2020, each of you has demonstrated the commitment to go far beyond the basic requirements for graduation and set new and higher standards for yourselves, your schools and your communities. As an educator and as your Superintendent, I am especially thrilled whenever I see our students challenging themselves, successfully pushing the limits of their abilities, as they embark on their pathways of lifelong learning and achievement.

What makes these accomplishments most impressive is that they required consistent high-achieving performance from each of you, throughout all four years of high school. These honors reflect the sacrifice, hard work, discipline and diligence you exhibited every day of your high school career, and foreshadow the persistence and continued commitment to excellence required for success in college and career.

You achieved these honors during unprecedented times as a pandemic engulfed the globe and diverted your final semester into uncharted waters. It breaks my heart that when we should be together in celebration, we must honor you during this period of separation. But know that through this period of challenge, you all have emerged stronger and smarter with the abilities, the maturity, and the determination to forge ahead despite any obstacles, challenges, or distractions.

Your journey, however, does not end here. It is only the beginning. I challenge you to continue your good work and find ways to engage in your community, city, and this great nation along the way.

For now, let's enjoy and celebrate your accomplishments! I offer to you the best wishes for success in all of your future endeavors.

Sincerely,

Meria Carstarphen



# Valedictorians and Salutatorians

The Atlanta Board of Education permits each high school to identify a senior as Valedictorian and one a Salutatorian in accordance with administrative regulations set forth by the Superintendent. They are chosen at the end of the first semester of the senior year. The eligible student must have been enrolled in the respective high school from which he or she graduates by the end of the first semester of the junior year.

The numerical grading system is used by Atlanta Public Schools as required by the State Board of Education. Class rank, as shown on the transcript, is calculated using numerical grades and is considered final and official once a student completes all graduation requirements. The averages of the valedictorians and salutatorians for the Class of 2020 are based on the weighted system listed in the numeric grade average summary at the end of the transcript.

# STAR Students

The Student Teacher Achievement Program (STAR) honors Georgia’s highest achieving high school seniors and the teachers who have been most instrumental in their academic development. Since its creation in 1958 by the Georgia Chamber of Commerce, the STAR program has honored STAR students, who have in turn chosen their STAR Teachers to share in this recognition. In 1994, The Professional Association of Georgia Educators (PAGE) Foundation was selected by the Georgia Chamber of Commerce and the State Department of Education to continue the tradition of recognizing Georgia’s future leaders and honoring the professional educators who have nurtured these scholars.

Every accredited high school in Georgia is eligible to participate in this student/teacher academic recognition. To obtain the STAR nomination for the Class of 2020, high school seniors must have the highest score on any single test date of the SAT taken through and including November 3, 2019, and be in the top 10 percent or top 10 students of their class based on grade point average. Nominees’ SAT scores must be equal to or higher than the 2018 national average scores on the Evidence Based Reading & Writing (538) and Math (531) sections of the SAT.

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# Jordan Jones

## VALEDICTORIAN AND STAR STUDENT

Jordan Jones was born in Atlanta, Georgia, to Elliott Jones and Alberta Willis. A scholar with a bright future, Jordan has used the knowledge and determination instilled in him by his parents to achieve success in academics. Jordan is a part of many organizations in and outside of school. They include, but are not limited to, Boy Scouts, Fencing, and Project ENGAGES.

One of his favorite quotes is by Albert Einstein: "Time is relative." This quote has taught him that even though some people may do things faster than you or slower than you, they all have their own pace. Even when it comes to being successful. Jordan's career goal is to become a software engineer and integrate solar panels in daily applications throughout the world.

### COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

Georgia Institute of Technology

### INTENDED MAJOR

Computer Science

### CAREER GOAL

Software Engineer

### AWARDS/RECOGNITION

Honor Roll

Valedictorian

National Honor Society

Star Student



STAR TEACHER Mr. Marlon Alfaro



# Rashad Whitehead

## SALUTATORIAN

Rashad Whitehead was born in Atlanta, Georgia to Rashawn Butler and Robert Whitehead. A academically inclined athlete with a radiant future whose mindset and perseverance has propelled him to striving academically and athletically. Rashad is an active member of B.E.S.T Boys Go Global. He plays multiple sports, including football "as the captain", basketball, and soccer.

One of his favorite quotes is by Maya Angelou: "You will face many defeats in life, but never let yourself be defeated." This quote taught him that there will be many obstacles that he'll face in life and to never let those obstacles get the best of him. Rashad plans on majoring in sports management. Rashad's career goal is to be a sports marketer.

### COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

Liberty University

### INTENDED MAJOR

Sports Management

### CAREER GOAL

Sports Marketer

### AWARDS/RECOGNITION

Honor Roll

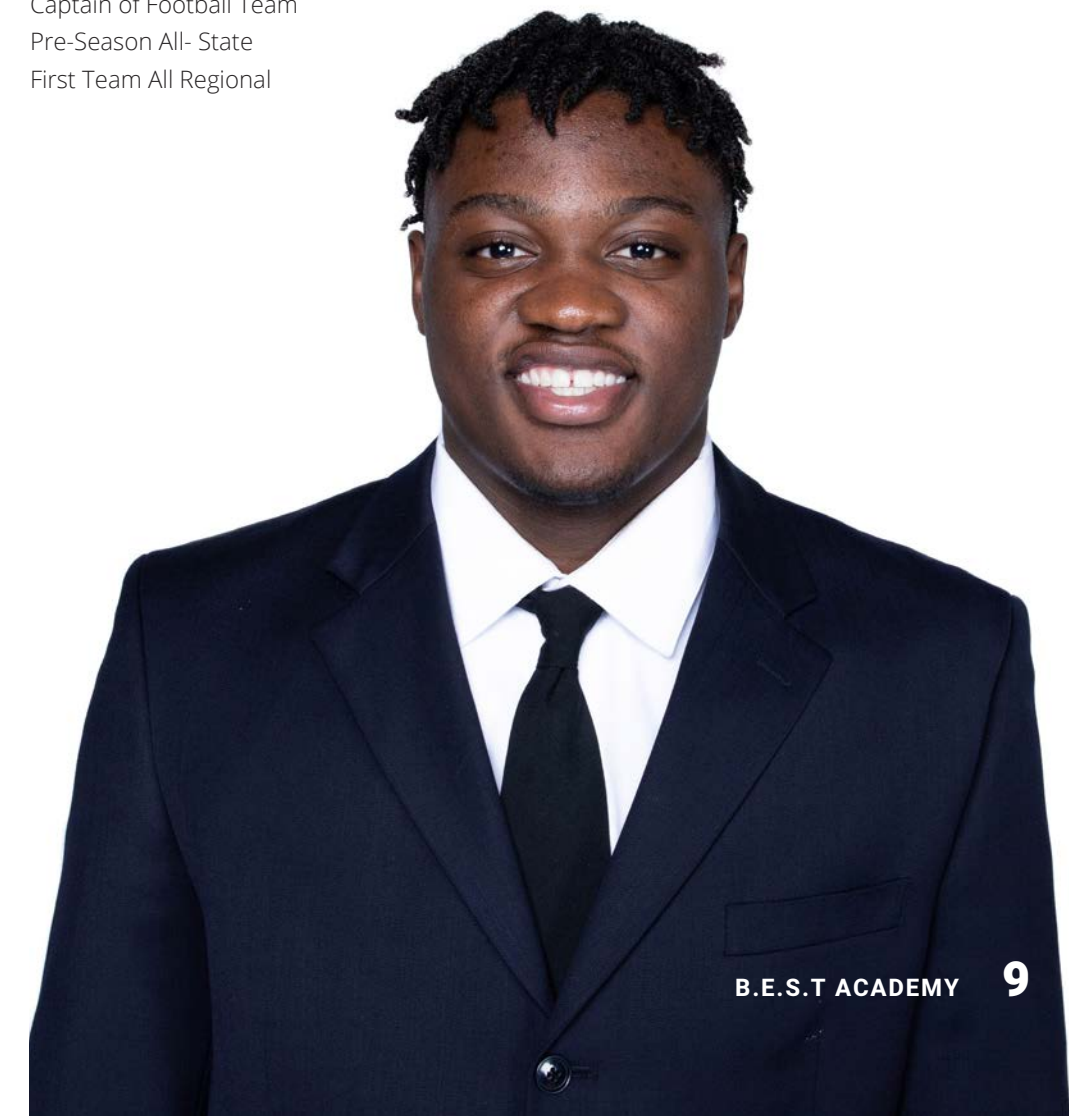
Top 3%, ELA Student Award

Spanish Student Award

Captain of Football Team

Pre-Season All- State

First Team All Regional





# Kacie Geter

## VALEDICTORIAN

Kacie Geter was born in Atlanta, Georgia to Ms. Wilena Davis and Mr. Nelson Geter. A passionate learner, Kacie finds importance in balancing academic triumphs with a multitude of creative outlets including fashion, design, and literature. Kacie is a member of both the National Honor Society and Student Government Association. She enjoys investing her time in fostering positive relationships with her peers through Elite Sisterhood Inc. and Girls XL. Kacie takes pride in positively representing her school through volleyball and soccer. While reading for pleasure, as she often does, Kacie stumbled upon a powerful quote by Jordan Lee Dooley: “I have to stop observing where others are if I have any hope of serving my purpose right where I am.” This quote has inspired Kacie to pursue her own experiences, working to determine her own path. Kacie’s career goal is to become a world-renowned fashion merchandiser, serving global corporations.

### COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

Undecided

### INTENDED MAJOR

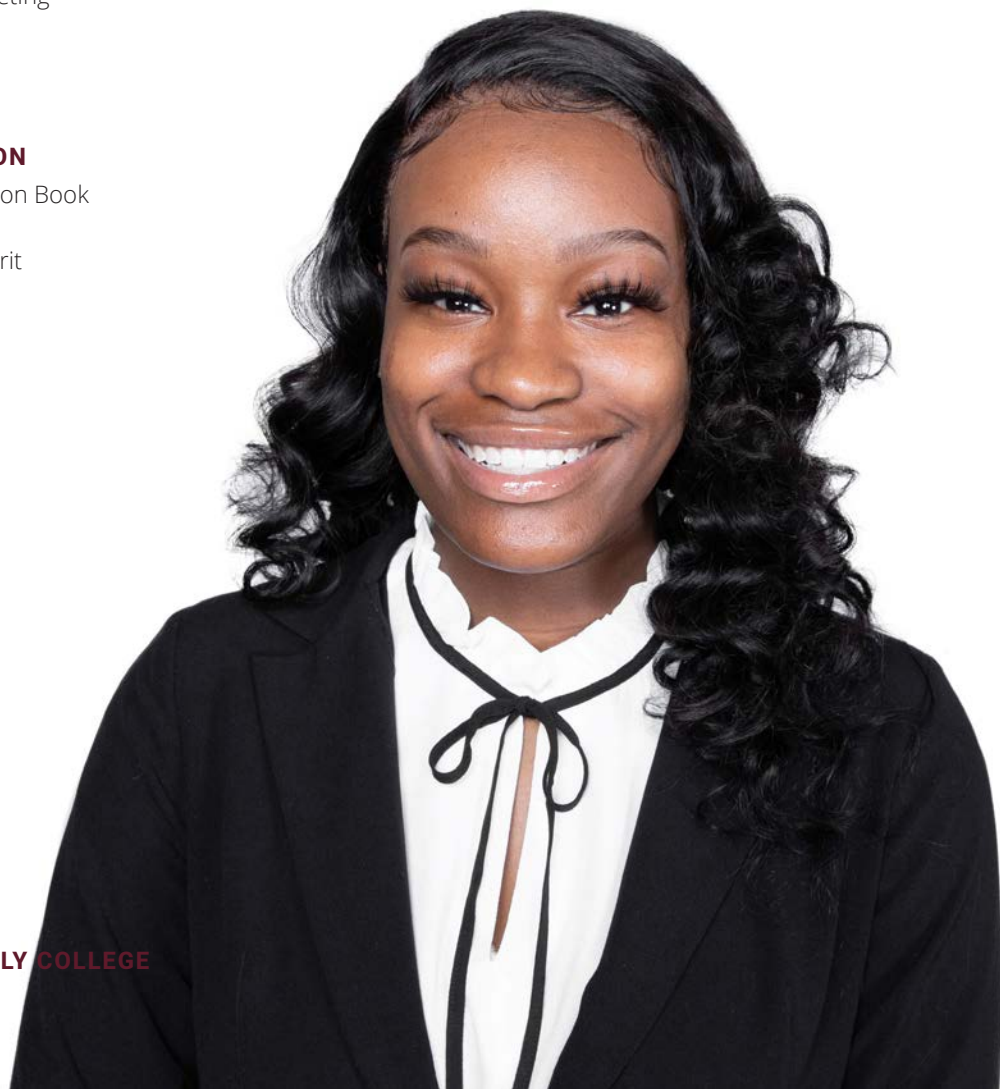
Business – Fashion Marketing

### CAREER GOAL

Fashion Merchandiser

### AWARDS/RECOGNITION

Harvard Alumni Association Book Award Recipient  
Georgia Certificate of Merit Recipient  
REACH Scholar  
AP Scholar  
National Honor Society



# Wahhad Allah

## SALUTATORIAN

Wahhad Allah was born in Atlanta, Georgia, to his parents, Wahidah and Karim Allah. Wahhad is an academic scholar at heart and an inspiring activist in his community. He is an avid reader who always carries a new and exciting book in his hands. His self-determination and intelligence have allowed him numerous educational opportunities, such as becoming an active member of the National Honor Society. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.’s quote, “The time is always right to do what is right,” inspires Wahhad to always be honest and true.

Wahhad’s highest aspiration is to become an environmental engineer who will shift communities to eco-friendly forms of energy. More importantly, he desires to learn about the African community and its challenges. He aspires to create social change in the African community by cultivating advocacy efforts in hopes of helping Africans, such as himself, achieve their desired success.

### COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

Georgia Institute of Technology

### INTENDED MAJOR

Environmental Engineering

### CAREER GOAL

Environmental Engineer

### AWARDS/RECOGNITION

AP Scholar  
National Honor Society  
Affiliated Teaching Certificate at Georgia State University  
Honor Roll





# Amari Mitchell

## STAR STUDENT

Amari Mitchell was born in Atlanta, Georgia to Mr. Demarco and Dr. LaEla Mitchell. An artist with high aspirations, Amari has drawn upon the encouragement of both his teachers and family to reach success in the arts throughout his educational journey. Amari is an active member of the National Honor Society and is a Ben Carson National Scholar. He has consistently achieved Honor Roll recognition for the entirety of his high school career. One of his favorite songs is by Nina Simone: "To Be Young, Gifted, and Black." Amari's favorite lyrics from the song is "When you're young, gifted and black, your soul's intact." This song has inspired him to cultivate a greater sense of both self-awareness and continued growth. Amari's career goal is to become an interior designer and ultimately open his own design firm.

### COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

Georgia Southern University

### INTENDED MAJOR

Interior Design

### CAREER GOAL

Designer – Interior Design

### AWARDS/RECOGNITION

Honor Roll

Top 10%

Ben Carson Scholar



**STAR TEACHER** Mr. Patrick Lee



# Cy'Riah Pearson

## VALEDICTORIAN

Cy'Riah Pearson was born in the city of Lakeland, Florida to Raymaal Pearson and Shambriel Manago. Her early passion for success, coupled with her promise to care for her grandmother, instilled the maturity, knowledge and determination that became Cy'Riah's catalyst for high achievement and passion to remove social barriers to adequate women's healthcare. She is the Student Government Association President, ambassador for Morehouse School of Medicine's HIV/AIDS Prevention Program for Youth (HAPPY), and completing her third year of Emory's School of Medicine Pipeline Collaborative (EPiC) program.

She is the model student-athlete; playing varsity basketball and volleyball, all while partaking in several enrichment programs and remaining #1 in her class. "Determine your place in life, do not allow life to determine it for you" is the mantra that embodies her resiliency and belief that she will forever overcome and achieve. Cy'Riah's career goal is becoming an obstetrician and inaugurating a women's health clinic.

### COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

Undecided

### INTENDED MAJOR

Biology (Pre-Medicine)

### CAREER GOAL

Obstetrician

### AWARDS/RECOGNITION

POSSE Scholarship Semi-Finalist

Student Athlete Scholarship

Student Government  
Association President

Principal's Award

Emory University Pipeline  
Collaborative

AP Scholar

National Honors Society





# Daijha Sankey

## SALUTATORIAN

Daijha Sankey was born in Ypsilanti, Michigan, to Damon Sankey and Takea Cowans. An exceptionally ambitious scholar, Daijha uses adversity as a motivator for success. Daijha is a member of COR's Food Distribution and Youth Awareness Program, as well as an ambassador for Trees Atlanta, a non-profit organization. As a member of Juma Ventures, Daijha donates her time completing many hours of community service, participates in financial seminars, and advances her employment skills through the mentorship received by business executives.

For the past two summers, she held a prestigious internship, working for Atlanta City Hall. Stephen R. Covey's quote, "I am not a product of my circumstances; I am a product of my decisions," reminds her that her future is not determined by her past hardships, but by her future choices. Her favorite subject is science, so it's not surprising that Daijha's career goal is becoming an astrophysicist for NASA.

### COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

Undecided

### INTENDED MAJOR

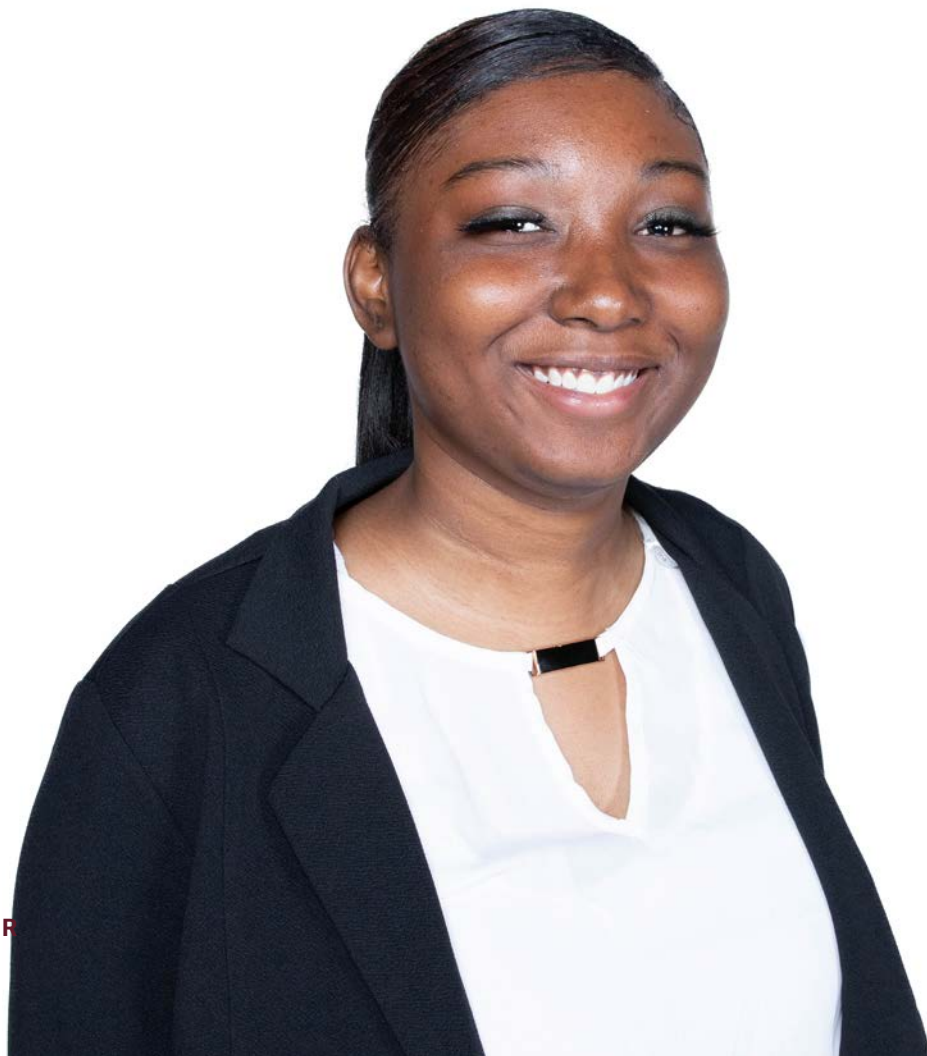
Physics

### CAREER GOAL

Astrophysicist

### AWARDS/RECOGNITION

Purpose Built Determination Award  
AP scholar  
Community Sustainability Enterprises Award  
Financial Literacy Award  
Three Category Carver STEAM PRIDE recognition winner for Respect, Determination, and Excellence, Top 10%



# Edward Porter III

## VALEDICTORIAN

Edward Lamar Porter III, the son of Ashanti Porter and Edward Lamar Porter Jr., is a student athlete with a bright future ahead of him. Edward has used the knowledge and determination instilled in him by his parents to achieve success in academia and sports. He participated in various clubs and organizations, including the garden club, vice president of the National Beta Club, National Honor Society and has served as an active member of the Student Government Association. Edward plays multiple varsity sports, including basketball, Track & Field and Cross Country.

One of his favorite quotes is by Fuegoleon Vermillion: "There isn't any shame in being weak, the shame is in staying weak." This quote has taught Edward to never give up on his goals and to always strive for greatness as a student-athlete. Edward's career goal is to either become a Screenwriter, Novelist, or English College Professor. In the future, he plans to create a program for low-income children who love to write without the burden of having to pay for it.

### COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

Undecided

### INTENDED MAJOR

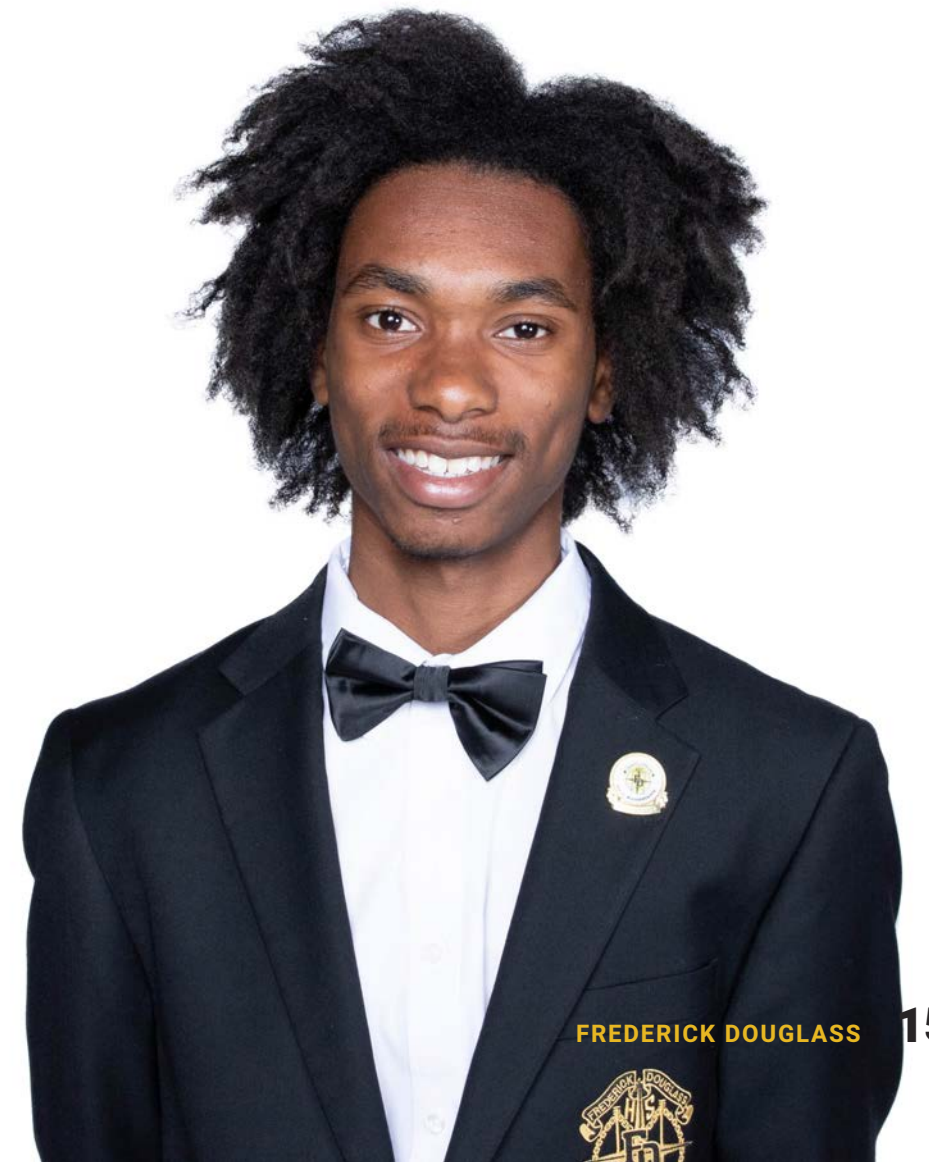
Creative Writing or English

### CAREER GOAL

Screenwriter, Novelist, or English College Professor

### AWARDS/RECOGNITION

Posse Finalist, Georgia Certificate of Merit  
Best Distance Runner  
Outstanding Academic Achievement  
1st Place Medalist - Region 6AA Track Meet 3200M





# Makilah Clay

## SALUTATORIAN

Makilah Nechei Clay, daughter of Martine Clay and the late Alfred Person, was born in Atlanta, Georgia on June 24, 2002. Makilah serves as president of the Beta Club and is an astonishing leader of the Astros Varsity Cheer Team. Makilah has also been a part of the DIAMONDS mentoring program, the Say Anything Anonymously, the National Honors Society, and the Social and Emotional Learning Peer Mentoring Group. Her life quote is, "The woman who wins success may have been counted out before. She wins because she never gives up."

In the fall of 2020, she plans to attend Alabama State University majoring in forensic psychology. Her career goal is to become a forensic psychologist. Some of Makilah's most memorable awards and recognitions during her high school journey are the Georgia's Merit Scholar Award, Alabama State University's Presidential Award, Miss Sophomore, and Miss Black and Gold.

### COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

Alabama State University

### INTENDED MAJOR

Forensic

### CAREER GOAL

Forensic Psychology

### AWARDS/RECOGNITION

Principal's List, Georgia's Merit Scholar Award  
Scholar Athlete of the Year (2018)  
Miss Sophomore  
Miss Academic Decathlon  
Miss Black and Gold  
Alabama State University Presidential Academic Scholarship  
5 Strong Scholar



# Selena Pacheco

## STAR STUDENT

Selena Vasquez Pacheco was born in Atlanta, Georgia to Martha Pacheco. She is a really smart student who puts her best in everything she does. She has used what has been taught to her by her parents, Martha Pacheco and Zenon Barragan and tries to put it in practice. She is a member of the National Honors Society and a member of the National Beta Club. Selena is a good flute player and although she is not the best, she tries to do the best she can. Her favorite quote is from Luke 12:48 in the Bible; "For unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall much be required."

She likes this quote because her parents left so much for her just so she could have a good education and a better life. She has to be grateful enough not to let them down and instead make them proud. Selena's career goal is to become an engineer in either the civil or mechanical industry. She would like to make her surroundings a better place to live in.

### COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

Georgia State University

### INTENDED MAJOR

Mathematics

### CAREER GOAL

Engineering

### AWARDS/RECOGNITION

Georgia Certificate of Merit  
Top 10%  
Honor Roll  
Principal's Award  
Star Student



STAR TEACHER Ms. Tremetrice Wheeler





# Kavi Jakes

VALEDICTORIAN AND STAR STUDENT

Kavi Jakes was born in Atlanta, Georgia to Dhruti and Ronnie Jakes. His loving younger sister, Sahana, is the prime inspiration behind his success, as he always looks to set a strong example of hard work and determination for her. Kavi has run cross country for all four years of high school and is also a captain for the Grady Gauntlet ultimate Frisbee team, president of the Grady Math Club, and treasurer for his school's chapter of the National Honors Society.

Attributed to notable American figures such as Muhammad Ali, Satchel Paige, and Mark Twain, Kavi's favorite quote is "Mind over matter. If you don't mind it, it doesn't matter." Kavi holds this phrase close to persevere through obstacles that may at first appear daunting. He intends to major in applied mathematics and pursue a career as a statistician.

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

Undecided

INTENDED MAJOR

Applied Mathematics

CAREER GOAL

Statistician

AWARDS/RECOGNITION

2019 All-State Cross Country

2018 High School National Invite  
Champion

2018 State Social Studies Fair  
Qualifier

2018 MathCON National Qualifier

2017-2019 National Latin Exam  
Summa Cum Laude



STAR TEACHER Mrs. Amy Leonard



# Clarice Hill

SALUTATORIAN

Clarice Hill was born in Atlanta, Georgia to Julie and James Hill. Encouraged by her parents to read and explore the world, she has had the opportunity to thrive in many fields. Clarice is a longtime Grady book club member, now president, as well as a member of City Dance company. She is a Girl Scout and a founding member of a new female Boy Scouts of America (BSA) troop working towards Eagle, the highest award, and works at a BSA camp as a STEM teacher and climbing instructor.

One of her favorite quotes, "to conquer oneself is a greater victory than to conquer thousands in battle" from the Dalai Lama reminds her to push herself to the limits of her potential and measure success by herself only. Clarice hopes to work and travel as a structural engineer not only creating buildings for function but also as interactive pieces of art.

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

Undecided

INTENDED MAJOR

Civil/Environmental Engineering

CAREER GOAL

Structural Engineer

AWARDS/RECOGNITION

National AP Scholar

Capstone Diploma

Girl Scouts Bronze and Silver  
Award

Founding BSA Female  
Troop 29 Member

GA Seal of Bi-literacy: Spanish





# Ethan Heyns

VALEDICTORIAN AND STAR STUDENT

Ethan Heyns was born in Atlanta, Georgia, to Terri and Loren Heyns. Inspired by his family, teachers, coaches, and by fictional characters, Ethan has aspired to achieve his goals and improve his abilities. Ethan is captain of the cross-country and track teams and a co-captain of the robotics team. Ethan always tries to exceed limitations and break records to leave a memorable legacy.

He loves movies and he could recite thousands of quotes, but one of his favorites is from Yoda: "The greatest teacher failure is." He has learned to not fear failure, and by doing so, he has become relaxed in his pursuit of goals. One of these goals is to develop technology that will have a major influence on the world, and to do so, Ethan plans to pursue aerospace engineering.

**COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY**

Georgia Institute of Technology

**INTENDED MAJOR**

Engineering, Aerospace

**CAREER GOAL**

Aerospace

**AWARDS/RECOGNITION**

Varsity Cross Country, 3-year MVP and School Record for 5K/3 mile; Varsity Track, School Record for 1600 and 3200 meters; Academic Decathlon, 6 Medals at District Competition; Social Studies Fair State Competition, 1st place in Anthropology; State of GA Day One Challenge, 1st Place Video and 2nd Place Overall



STAR TEACHER Mr. John Murray



# Ari Renai

SALUTATORIAN

Ari Renai was born in Louisiana to Quynh Trinh and Jason Renai. A scholar with a passion for diversity and acceptance, Ari has been inspired by his parents to explore endeavors both locally and internationally. Ari is a principal character in the Maynard Jackson Theater Department, a dancer in the Maynard Jackson Dance Department, and an athlete in Cross Country and Track and Field. He was also selected for the 2018 Georgia Governor's Honors Program for World Languages (Mandarin Chinese).

His favorite quote is by Theodor Geisel: "Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It's not." This quote has taught him to stand by his own principles, regardless of the viewpoints of others. Ari plans to double major in marketing and international relations at Tulane University while still remaining involved in performing arts.

**COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY**

Tulane University

**INTENDED MAJOR**

International Relations, Marketing

**CAREER GOAL**

U.S. Ambassador

**AWARDS/RECOGNITION**

2018 Georgia Governor's Honors Program Recipient  
AP Scholar  
Principal's List  
National Honor Society  
Georgia Certificate of Merit





# Joseph Vatalaro

## STAR STUDENT

Joe Vatalaro was born in New York City to Rachel Flood and Kristian Vatalaro. As an athlete and a scholar throughout high school, Joe gained inspiration from his parents and teachers, who implanted a sense of diligence and curiosity from a young age. Joe has played baseball for four years, and is currently a captain on the team. He participated in cross-country for three years. In 2018, Joe led the region in Earned Run Average, and helped his team make the state playoffs for the first time in their history.

Joe is a member of the National Honor Society and has been on the Principal's List each semester of high school. One of his favorite quotes, said by the Buddha, is "Holding on to anger is like grasping a hot coal with the intent of throwing it at someone else; you are the one who gets burned." This quote has taught him to be patient and understanding. Joe's goals include getting a PhD in statistics and to be a data scientist for a political campaign.

### COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

Georgia Institute of Technology

### INTENDED MAJOR

Mathematics

### CAREER GOAL

Data Scientist for a Political Campaign

### AWARDS/RECOGNITION

Principal's List

Top 10%

L.E.A.D. Ambassador

National Honor Society



**STAR TEACHER** Mrs. Jacqueline Keeler



# Lauren Hester

## VALEDICTORIAN

Lauren Marie Hester was born to Phyllis Henson and Lamar Hester. Through self-motivation and dogged perseverance, Lauren gives her absolute best effort in everything she attempts. She is constantly inspired by her mother to strive in the face of adversity and her Assistant Principal, Mrs. Sharonda Murrell, who has taught her the importance of not making excuses. In addition to excelling academically, Lauren has participated in myriad programs that police her well-rounded persona including: Project ENGAGES program at Georgia Tech, Dance Theater, the Student Government Association, homecoming court, and the marching band dance team.

Her favorite quote is "She believed she could, so she did," because she continuously pushes herself to achieve and grow, even in the face of adversity. Lauren aspires to become a Public Health analyst at the Centers for Disease Control in the department of mental health, in order to increase awareness and understanding, particularly in African-American communities.

### COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

Undecided

### INTENDED MAJOR

Public Health/Health Science

### CAREER GOAL

Public Health Analyst

### AWARDS/RECOGNITION

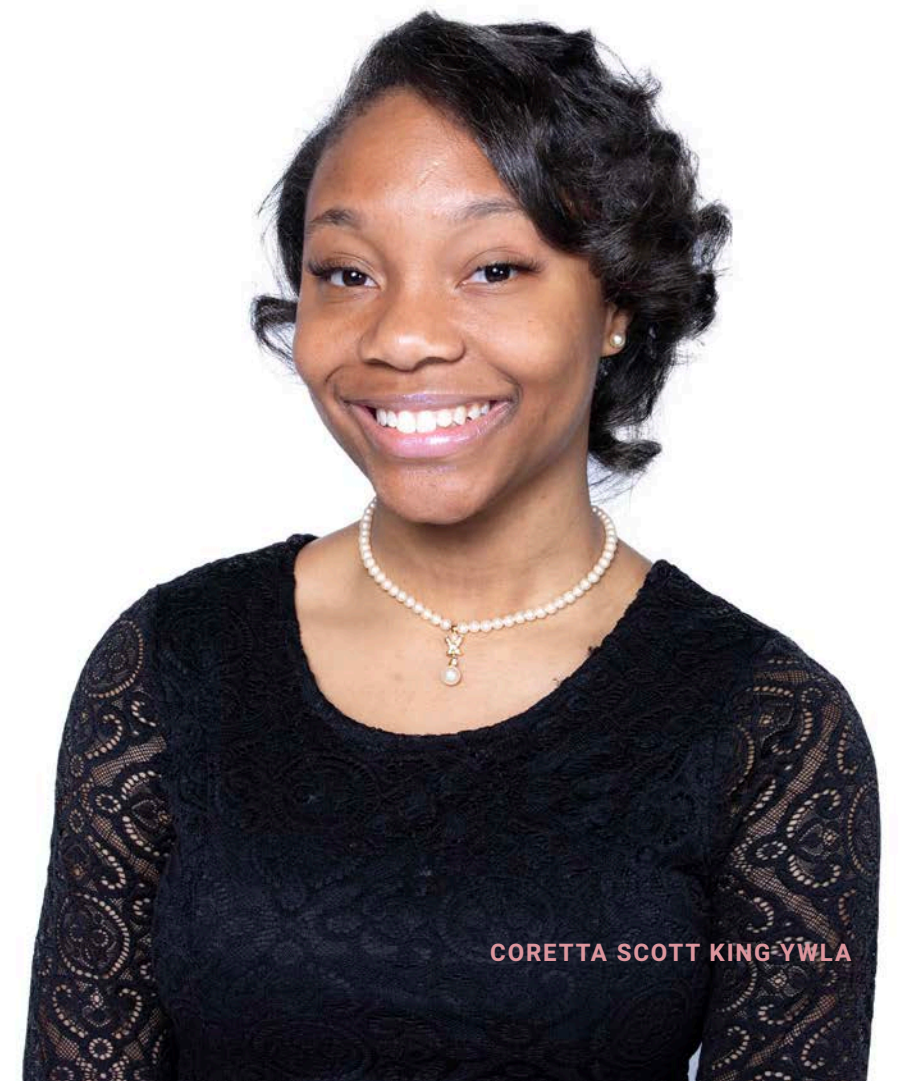
Regeneron Science Talent Search Scholar

Harvard Book Award

National Honor Society

Top 10%, 2019-2020

Miss Coretta Scott King Young Women's Leadership Academy





# Lauren Jones

SALUTATORIAN AND STAR STUDENT

Lauren Brielle Jones was born in Atlanta, Georgia, the second daughter to Pamela Jones and Harold Dwayne Jones. Bestowed with an innate sense of independence, Lauren has used her knowledge to achieve success in academia and research. Lauren is a proud member of the National Honor Society, the Senior Beta Club, Future Business Leaders of America, and Mu Alpha Theta. She has serviced her community by volunteering at events such as the Empty Stocking Fund and Veterans Day Parade since her 9th grade year. Additionally, Lauren is a member of the Project ENGAGES research program housed at the Georgia Institute of Technology.

A notable quote that Lauren enjoys is by Andy Warhol: "They always say time changes things, but you actually have to change them yourself." This quote has taught Lauren to become the change that she wishes she sees. After graduating this May, Lauren plans to attend the Georgia Institute of Technology and begin her career in software development.

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

Georgia Institute of Technology

INTENDED MAJOR

Computer Science

CAREER GOAL

Software Developer

AWARDS/RECOGNITION

AP Scholar

Top 10%

National Honor Society

Salutarian

STAR Student



STAR TEACHER Ms. Dana Johnson



# Jazmari Moreno-Gutierrez

VALEDICTORIAN

Jazmari Moreno-Gutierrez was born in Orlando, Florida to Elsa Gutierrez and Carlos Moreno. A young lady with a humble upbringing, Jazmari was taught to care about her academics in order to achieve success. Jazmari serves as the vice president for the National Beta Club, cadet battalion commander of the Raider Battalion, and partakes in activities within the Homeless Pet Club. She's very active within the JROTC department, serving as the drill team commander and color guard commander.

One of her favorite quotes is actually a Japanese proverb: "Fall down seven times, get up eight." This quote has taught her that your successes will always outnumber your failures. Jazmari's career goal is to become an environmental engineer. In the future, she plans to be a part of the process to save the world.

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

Georgia Institute of Technology

INTENDED MAJOR

Environmental Engineering

CAREER GOAL

Environmental Engineer

AWARDS/RECOGNITION

Distinguished Scholar

Top 10%

Principal's List

National Honor Society

National Beta Club





# Alexis Grady

## SALUTATORIAN

Alexis Grady was born in Atlanta, Georgia to Sherri and Alan Grady. She will be attending the illustrious North Carolina A&T State University as a chemical engineering major. After completing her undergraduate studies, she will attend graduate school to attain her master's degree then Physician Assistant school to become an orthopedic physician assistant. She is a well diverse instrumentalist who plays percussion and mellophone in the marching band and wind symphony. Not only is she a great musician, she is a superb athlete who plays tennis.

Alexis' leadership skills are showcased as treasurer of the Student Government Association and the Homeless Pet Club, president of National Beta Club, and a participant of Maynard Jackson Youth Foundation Leadership Program. One of her favorite quotes is by Dr. Benjamin Elijah Mays: "Failure isn't in not reaching your goal but in having no goal to reach." Living by this quote motivates her to achieve extraordinary accomplishments throughout life.

### COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University

### INTENDED MAJOR

Chemical Engineering

### CAREER GOAL

Orthopedic Physician Assistant

### AWARDS/RECOGNITION

Top 10%  
Science National Honor Society  
National Honor Society  
Carter G. Woodson Legacy Scholar



# Joshua Pickens

## STAR STUDENT

Joshua Pickens was born September 20, 2001 in Atlanta, Georgia to Jacqueline and Josip Pickens Senior. Joshua's success stems from the expectations of what an exceptional individual is being not only placed by his parents but by himself as well. Joshua is a part of the National Honor Society, Beta Club, Science National Honor Society, and Mu Alpha Theta. He is also a part of the JROTC program and holds the rank of second lieutenant.

"Don't worry what others are doing. Do you!" This is a mantra that Joshua lives by and can be seen as a perfect example of what it means. It shows the determination and focus that he has in order to stand out academically and become an outstanding student. Joshua intends on majoring in biology in hopes of one day becoming a general pediatrician.

### COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

Undecided

### INTENDED MAJOR

Biology

### CAREER GOAL

Pediatrician

### AWARDS/RECOGNITION

Honor Roll  
Top 10%  
National Honor Society  
Science National Honor Society  
Beta Club



STAR TEACHER Mr. Antrell Banes





# Emily Song

VALEDICTORIAN

Emily Song was born in Palo Alto, California to Hanjoon Mike Song and Jaeryung Lee. A diligent and ambitious student, Emily has been continually inspired and pushed by the brilliance and curiosity of her surrounding community, family and friends. Emily serves as the captain of the debate team, the president of National Honor Society, and the president of her own 501c3 organization, "Groceries on Wheels." Further, she is a member of the Academic Decathlon team and involved with both art and music.

Her favorite quote is: "I seek strength, not to be greater than others, but to fight my greatest enemy, the doubts within myself," from P.C. CastIn. It reminds her that one should never doubt their abilities, because it hinders them from performing to their greatest level. In the future, she hopes to pursue the field of medicine, continually fueling her passion for the sciences.

## COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

Harvard University

## INTENDED MAJOR

Biological Sciences

## CAREER GOAL

Medical Doctor

## AWARDS/RECOGNITION

Harvard Book Award  
UGA Certificate of Merit  
American Legion Oratorical  
Contest Winner (2017, 2018)  
Mu Alpha Theta Mathematics  
Honor Society



# Soleil Golden

SALUTATORIAN

Soleil Golden was born in Atlanta, Georgia to her parents Rita Thomas Golden and Sherman Golden Jr. As an aspiring neurologist, Soleil has devoted the better part of her educational journey to exploring the fields of science and mathematics, while remaining grounded in her underlying love for the arts. Currently a member of North Atlanta's Philharmonic orchestra, Soleil is a violinist of over 8 years and has performed at New York's esteemed Carnegie Hall twice.

She is the current president of North Atlanta's Environmental Club and Model United Nations team as well as Co-President of the French Honors Society and a member of the Varsity Academic Bowl Team. As an avid debater, Soleil is an alum of the nationally victorious Harvard Debate Council Diversity Project. Soleil has always been inspired by Mahatma Gandhi's words, "Be the change you wish to see in the world" and this vision has been reflected in each of the actions that facilitated her success at the end of her high school career.

## COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

Harvard University

## INTENDED MAJOR

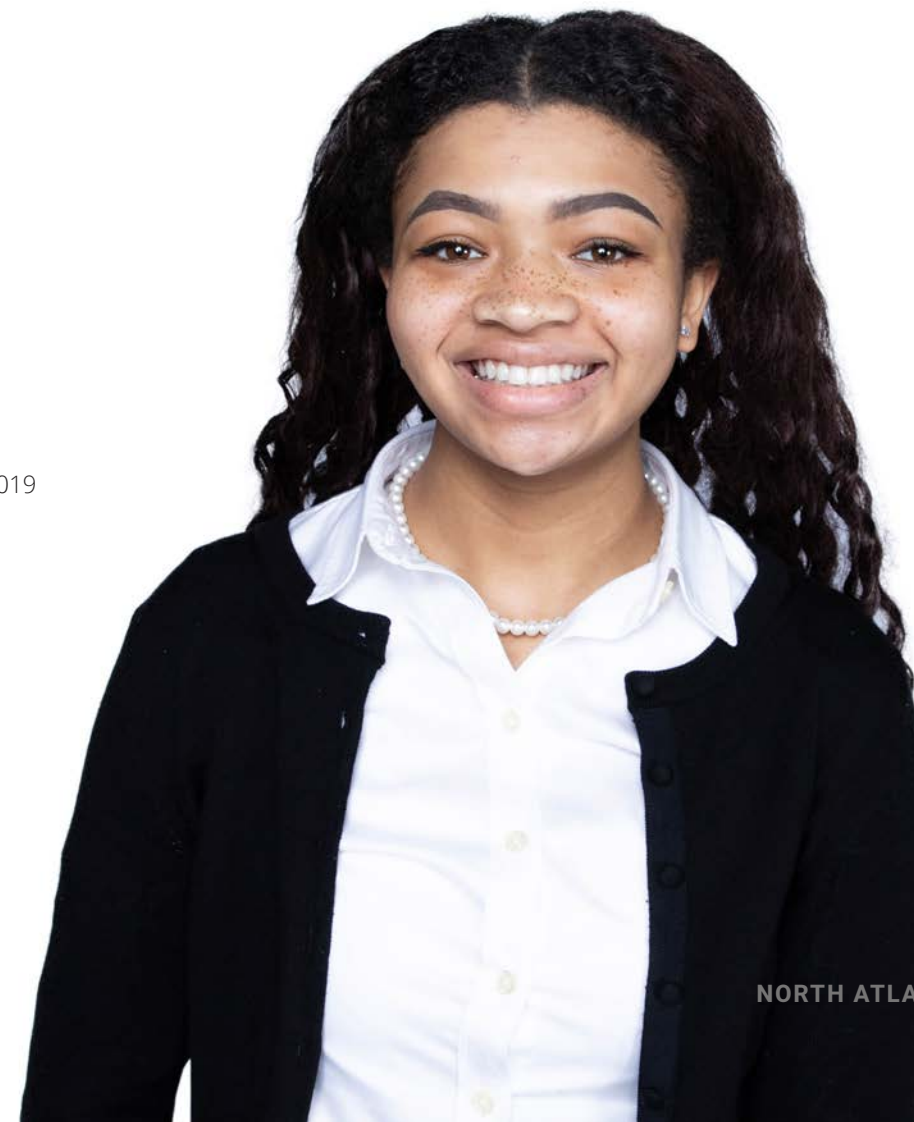
Neuroscience

## CAREER GOAL

Neurologist

## AWARDS/RECOGNITION

2x Carnegie Hall Performer  
Highest GPA 2017-2018 and  
2018-2019  
Most Outstanding IB Learner  
2016-2017  
Phi Beta Kappa Book Award 2019  
AP Scholar with Distinction





# Ezra Midkiff

STAR STUDENT

Ezra Midkiff was born in Columbus, Ohio to Stephanie and Christopher Midkiff. He has lived in Columbus, Dubai, and Houston before Atlanta. Ezra has always valued his education and has made an effort over the years to take advantage of his opportunities. Ezra works on the student news broadcast 11 Stories and is a member of the social studies honor society, Rho Kappa. Ezra enjoys going to camp in Northern Minnesota during the summer where he has gone on many wilderness trips, including a three-week canoe trip to the Hudson Bay.

His favorite quote is by W.E.B. DuBois, "Believe in life! Always human beings will live and progress to greater, broader, and fuller life." This quote inspires him to believe in the importance of hope and a brighter future.

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

Undecided

INTENDED MAJOR

Undecided

CAREER GOAL

Undecided

AWARDS/RECOGNITION

Principal's List

Rho Kappa Member

GHP District Nominee

11 Stories (School News) Chief Editor

Georgia Boys State Graduate

AP Scholar With Distinction

NOCTI certification in Graphic Design



STAR TEACHER Ms. Erica Hiers



# Shaniya Longino

VALEDICTORIAN

Shaniya Longino was born in Atlanta, Georgia to Shanita Knowlton. Inspired by an episode of "The Suite life of Zack and Cody," Shaniya chose to emulate the academic success of "Brenda," who plays the school's Valedictorian. Shaniya excels in the most rigorous courses offered at her school. She was a Governor's Honors Social Studies Finalist for 2019.

As a Law Pathway Completer, she won numerous "Best Attorney" awards in Mock Trial and represented Georgia for the National SkillsUSA competition in Prepared Speech; she placed third in the country. Her proudest moment during her high school tenure is being selected as a LEDA Cohort 15 Scholar. Shaniya lives by the adage, "Let your success speak for you." She intends to double major in Africana Studies and Creative Writing. Shaniya hopes her work with major production companies will expand the narratives of marginalized minorities in television.

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

Undecided

INTENDED MAJOR

Africana Studies and Creative Writing

CAREER GOAL

Creative Director for Major Production Companies

AWARDS/RECOGNITION

County Court of Superior and Magistrate Court Intern

SkillsUSA State Prepared Speech Gold Medalist

SkillsUSA National Prepared Speech Bronze Medalist

Leadership Enterprise for A

Diverse America Cohort 15 Scholar  
Governor's Honors Social Studies Finalist

Mock Trial District Best Attorney  
South Atlanta 2020 Valedictorian





# Jacauri Jones

## SALUTATORIAN AND STAR STUDENT

Jacauri Jones was born in Atlanta, Georgia to Maceyania Jones. Known for his ability to quickly grasp concepts and skills, his academic acumen proves him to be an extremely well- rounded individual. Jacauri participates in a plethora of extra-curricular activities including Beta Club, National Honor Society, Technology Student Association, Upward Bound, True Colors Theatre, and The Dukes Foundation. For the past three years, he has served as the drum major for South Atlanta's Marching Band.

In addition, he is a Private First Class in the Georgia Army National Guard and a part-time team member at Chick-Fil-A. Jacauri's inspiration comes from Proverbs 19:21: "Many are the plans in a person's heart, but it is the Lord's purpose that prevails." This scripture taught him not to stress, but to let God have his way. Jacauri's career goal is to become an internationally licensed architect and to design dream homes.

### COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

Southern University  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

### INTENDED MAJOR

Mechanical Engineering

### CAREER GOAL

Internationally Licensed  
Architect/Interior Designer

### AWARDS/RECOGNITION

1st Attendant to Mr. South Atlanta  
Georgia Certificate of Merit Scholar  
Governor's Honors Program  
District Finalist



**STAR TEACHER** Dr. Natasha Lyles



# Ta'Destiny Geiger

## VALEDICTORIAN

Ta'Destiny Geiger is the eldest of four children and was born in Atlanta, Georgia to Thelma Geiger and Antonio Conley. Aside from her academics, Ta'Destiny is the captain of D.M. Therrell High School's "THS Purrfection" dance team and serves as an active member of the National Honor Society and Beta Club. One of her favorite quotes is "Today you are You, that is truer than true. There is no one alive who is Youer than You," by Dr. Seuss. This quote is a daily reminder that she is special and one of a kind. She believes people should be themselves and open up to the world around them. Ta'Destiny's primary goal in life at the moment is to achieve her Ph.D. in Mathematics and continue to learn about the world and people around her.

### COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

Undecided

### INTENDED MAJOR

Mathematics

### CAREER GOAL

Analytical Researcher for NASA

### AWARDS/RECOGNITION

Principal's Award  
National Honors Society  
National Beta Club  
FBLA Award  
Georgia Merit Award  
Future Business Leaders of  
America





# Efe Ajueyitsi

**SALUTATORIAN AND STAR STUDENT**

Efe Ajueyitsi was born in Knoxville, Tennessee to David and Bridget Ajueyitsi. She is motivated to succeed due to the lessons instilled by her parents and support from friends. In her four years in high school, Efe indulged in various extracurricular activities, such as D.M. Therrell High School's marching band, Beta Club, National Honor Society, HOSA, Varsity Track, Varsity Cross Country and mock trial, of which she was the team captain.

In her spare time, Efe enjoys volunteering at Children's Healthcare of Atlanta and engaging children in activities that lift their spirits. Efe's favorite quote is from Elvis Presley: "If you let your head get too big, it'll break your neck." This quote captures her perception of life as she often listens to constructive criticism and accepts others' opinions with an open mind. In college, Efe plans to major in biology to become a pediatrician. In the future, she aspires to open her own pediatric clinic.

**COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY**

Undecided

**INTENDED MAJOR**

Biology

**CAREER GOAL**

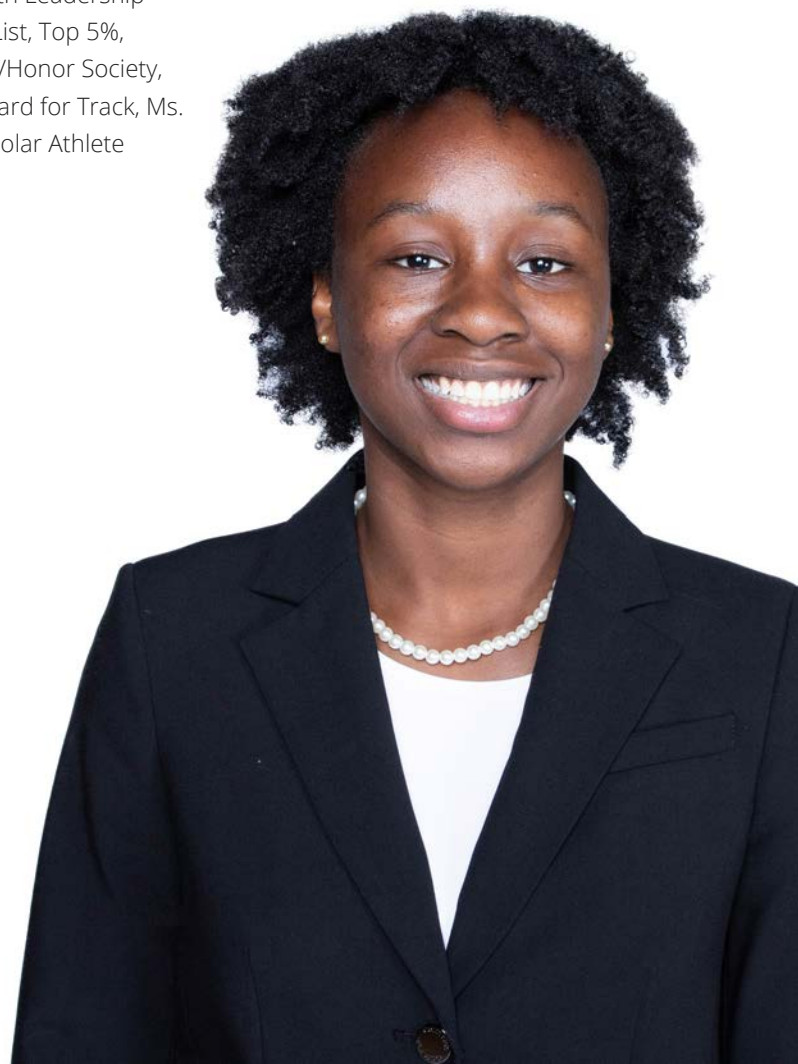
Pediatrician

**AWARDS/RECOGNITION**

Outstanding Attorney Award in Mock Trial, President's List at Georgia State, Youth Leadership Award, Principal's List, Top 5%, National Beta Club/Honor Society, Coach's/Varsity Award for Track, Ms. Cross Country, Scholar Athlete



**STAR TEACHER** Mrs. Mariechien Starks



# Mahlon West

**VALEDICTORIAN**

Mahlon West was born in Atlanta, Georgia to Jelina Diah and Melesse West. He grew up on the westside of Atlanta as the eldest of six in a single-parent household. As a leader in the community, the classroom, and on the football field, Mahlon has used his love for learning and his innate leadership abilities to thrive, not only in academics but in athletics as well. Mahlon is a Washington football team captain, a member of HOSA, Project Excel, American Explorers, Health Careers Opportunities Program and named Booker T. Washington's Mr. Washington. He also is the founding member of Bulldog's Closet, a prom donation program offering clothing assistance to students.

Mahlon is now a full-time college student at Georgia State University and will graduate with over 35 college credits. Mahlon has held many leadership roles in his high school tenure, but the one of which he is most proud is the development of his school's first debate team. Mahlon lives by the following mantra, "The dream is free, but the hustle is sold separately." This quote has inspired Mahlon's drive for success throughout his life and has helped guide him through tough times. In the future, Mahlon plans to graduate with a degree in health management and eventually establish clinics and hospitals in underrepresented communities.

**COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY**

Howard University

**INTENDED MAJOR**

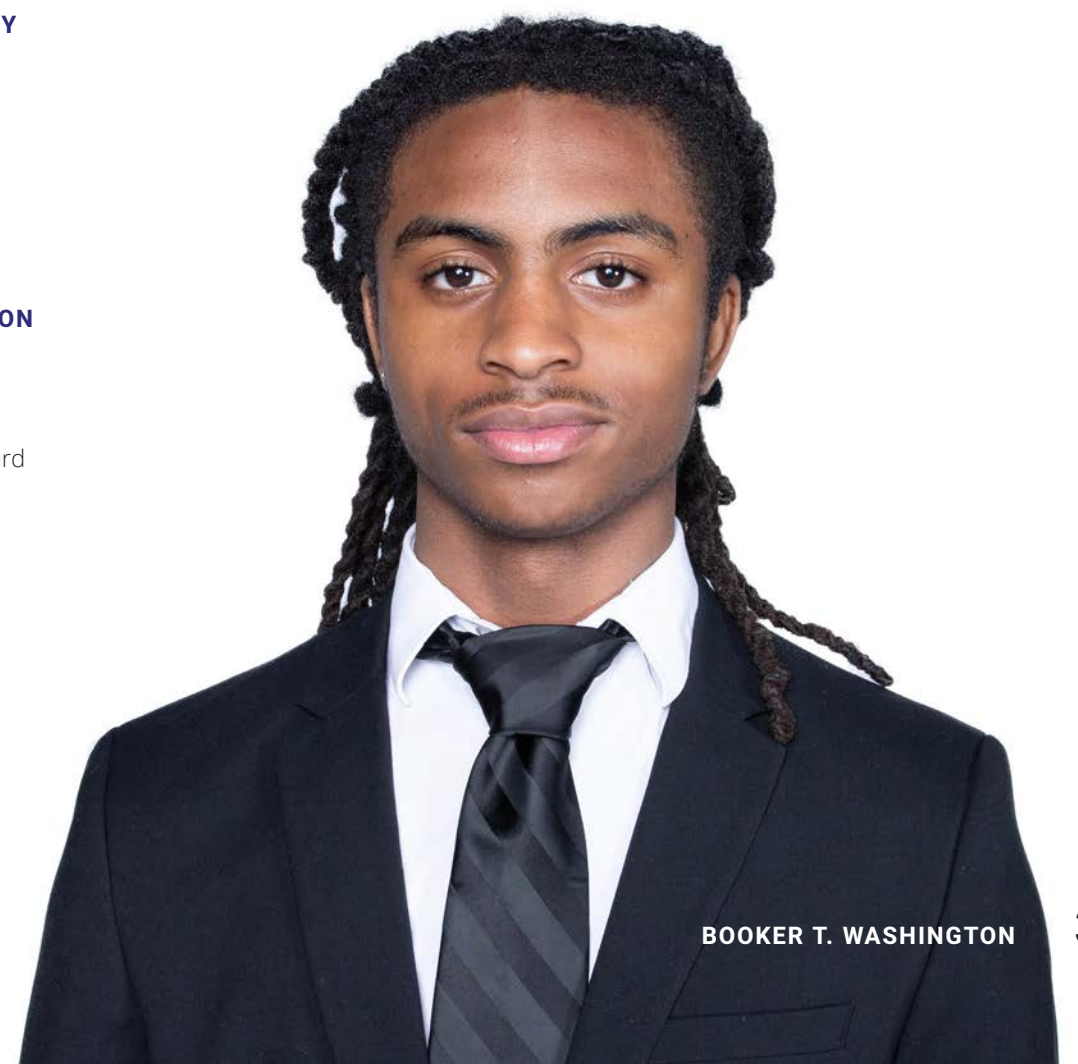
Health Administration

**CAREER GOAL**

Hospital CEO

**AWARDS/RECOGNITION**

AP Scholar  
2x Dean's List at Georgia State University  
Top 10%, Principal's Award  
National Honor Society





# Miriam Olajide

## SALUTATORIAN

Miriam Olajide was born in Decatur, Georgia to Carolyn Olajide and Samson Olajide. A scholar with a shining future, Miriam’s parents have always seen signs of brightness since she was a little girl and knew she would amount to something great. The determination instilled in her by her parents encouraged her to achieve success in her academics and extracurricular activities. Miriam is an active member of the National Honor Society, Beta Club, and Academic Decathlon.

She has also been part of the Art Club, Morehouse’s Health Career Opportunity Program, and the “These Halls Can Talk” Oral History Project at Washington. One of her favorite quotes is by Maya Angelou: “You may encounter many defeats, but you must not be defeated.” This quote has taught her to keep going through adversity. Miriam’s career goal is to become a Health Nutritionist. In the future she plans to help people in her community achieve greater health.

### COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

Spelman or the University of Georgia

### INTENDED MAJOR

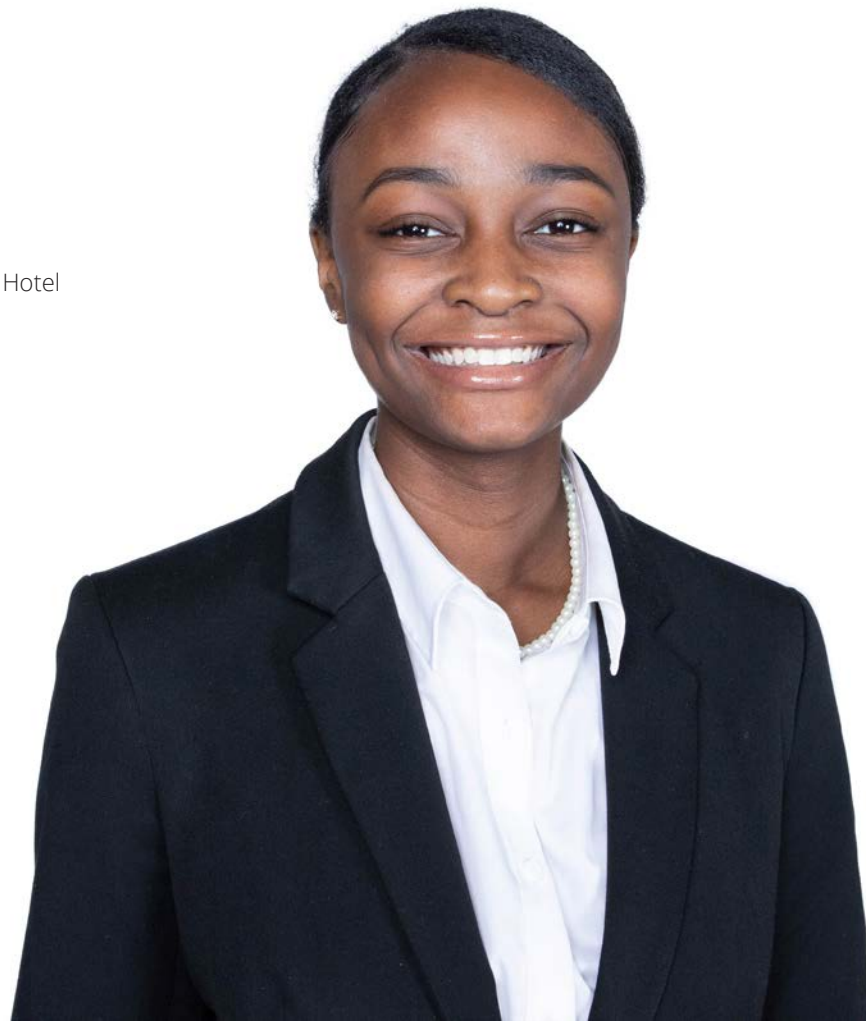
Nutrition

### CAREER GOAL

Health Nutritionist

### AWARDS/RECOGNITION

Georgia Certificate of Merit  
Honor Roll, Principal’s Award  
3rd Place for Artwork  
Artwork placed in Four Seasons Hotel



# Blair Cunningham

## STAR STUDENT

Blair Cunningham was born in McDonough, Georgia to Darria Cunningham and Emerson Cunningham. Blair was instilled with curiosity and a love of learning by her parents from a young age, which pushed her toward success in her academic goals. Blair is an early college student at Atlanta Metropolitan State College, vice president of the Beta Club, member of the National Honor Society, and a member of Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society.

She is also involved in the robotics club. One of her favorite quotes is, “Stuff your eyes with wonder, ... See the world. It’s more fantastic than any dream made or paid for in factories,” from Fahrenheit 451 by Ray Bradbury. This quote motivates her to continue learning all she can and do it with enthusiasm. Blair’s career goal is to become a mechanical engineer. In the future, she plans to attend graduate school and use her skills to do volunteer relief aid.

### COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

Undecided

### INTENDED MAJOR

Mechanical Engineering

### CAREER GOAL

Mechanical Design  
Engineer

### AWARDS/RECOGNITION

Top 10%  
National Honor Society  
Early College Scholar  
Dean’s List (AMSC)  
Phi Theta Kappa  
Honor Society



STAR TEACHER Mr. Mark Perez





# Charlotte Taylor

VALEDICTORIAN AND STAR STUDENT

Charlotte Taylor was born in Atlanta, Georgia to Allen and Gillian Taylor. Having gone to a small charter school for the past six years, she credits her academic success to her teachers who cultivated her love of learning and served as her mentors and motivators. Charlotte is president of Key Club, co-consul of the Quintilian Honor Society, co-editor of the yearbook, and youth leader at her local church. She plays multiple varsity sports, including cross country, basketball, and soccer.

One of her favorite quotes is from Emily Dickinson: "Hope is the thing with feathers - that perches in the soul - and sings the tunes without the words - and never stops at all." This quote has inspired Charlotte to maintain optimism and a desire to persevere in all she does. She has always loved art and science, and hopes to pursue a career in art restoration, combining these two interests.

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

Undecided

INTENDED MAJOR

Double Major in Chemistry and Art History

CAREER GOAL

Art Restorer or Conservator

AWARDS/RECOGNITION

National Merit Scholar Finalist  
National Honor Society  
Mu Alpha Theta Society  
Magna Cum Laude National Latin Exam Recipient  
High Honor Roll



STAR TEACHER Dr. Kevin Roth



# Lucy Eagleson

SALUTATORIAN

Lucy Sturges Eagleson was born in Atlanta, Georgia to John and Bowen Eagleson. Focus and determination are the hallmarks of Lucy's high school career where she has excelled in both the classroom and as a student athlete. Lucy served as captain of the Varsity Girls Basketball team in both her junior and senior years, an honor bestowed upon her by her teammates. In addition, she is currently captain of the Varsity Girls soccer team as well as Vice President of Key Club. Guided by the belief that kindness and generosity of spirit are all that truly matter, Lucy is inspired by the words of Sir Winston Churchill: "We make a living by what we get. We make a life by what we give." Lucy hopes to pursue a career in medicine.

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

Undecided

INTENDED MAJOR

Undecided

CAREER GOAL

Medical Professional

AWARDS/RECOGNITION

High Honor Roll  
National Honor Society  
Coach's Award in Basketball





# Solomon Adams

## VALEDICTORIAN AND STAR STUDENT

Solomon Michael Adams was born in Atlanta, Georgia to Sonia Adams and Dr. Shawn Adams. After facing career-ending basketball injuries, Solomon realized that it's how you overcome adversity that defines success. Now, he aspires to achieve greatness as an entrepreneur, integrating business and computer science. His affinity for commerce and computer science was sparked by his passion for math and problem solving through his participation in programs such as a python coding camp at Tech Square Labs and Mu Alpha Theta.

As the son of two pastors, Solomon has always valued service and dedicated himself to organizing a mission trip in Kenya and coordinating volunteer programming through the National Beta Club. Like Andrew Carnegie, Solomon believes it is the role of entrepreneurs to improve society through innovation and philanthropy. As he looks toward his next steps, Solomon is excited to leverage his own education toward the betterment of humanity.

### COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

Undecided

### INTENDED MAJOR

Business Administration and Computer Science

### CAREER GOAL

Entrepreneur

### AWARDS/RECOGNITION

AP Scholar

Georgia Certificate of Merit

University of Pennsylvania Book Award

2x Debate State Champion

Duke TiP Scholar

National Beta Club

National Honor Society

Mu Alpha Theta

Varsity Letter in Basketball

Highest Honor Roll



**STAR TEACHER** Mrs. Leslie Schaffer



# Gary Sheppard

## SALUTATORIAN

Gary Sheppard was born in Atlanta, Georgia to Ms. Kedria Sheppard and the late Mr. Gary Sheppard. Gary's mother instilled the value of being diligent and inquisitive, and Gary strives to embody these qualities in his everyday life. In school, Gary is the co-founder of the Biology Mentoring Program and member of the Beta Club, Math Mentorship Program and Student Government Association. Outside of school, he is a dedicated technology assistant at his local church, a Human Resources Intern at Atlanta Public Schools, and a freelance videographer.

A powerful quote that guides Gary's passion for justice and integrity is "An eye for an eye makes the whole world blind," by Mahatma Gandhi. Gary extends sincere kindness and altruism to all who cross his path. Gary aspires to become a video game developer and freelance videographer, hoping to someday push the boundaries of the gaming industry.

### COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

Georgia Institute of Technology

### INTENDED MAJOR

Computer Science

### CAREER GOAL

Video Game Developer/Filmmaker

### AWARDS/RECOGNITION

Highest Honor Roll

John Hopkins University Book Award

Horatio Alger Scholar

Georgia Certificate of Merit

Global Seal of Bi-literacy

National Honor Society





# Kadija Marshall

## VALEDICTORIAN AND STAR STUDENT

Kadija Marshall was born in West Palm Beach, Florida to Ceretha (Hollis) Stephens and Keith Marshall. A scholar-athlete with a promising and encouraging future, Kadija has bestowed the knowledge, steadfastness, and confidence to attain and effectuate academic and athletic success. Kadija is an active member of the National Beta Club, National Honor Society, National Spanish Honor Society, National Math Honor Society, National English Honor Society, and Arthur M. Blank's American Explorers and Westside Ambassador programs. In addition to her extracurricular activities, Kadija also serves as the 2019-2020 Miss KIPP Atlanta Collegiate. She participates in varsity and competition cheerleading.

One of her favorite quotes is from Winston Churchill: "Success is not final, failure is not fatal: it is the courage to continue that counts." This quote has taught her to humble herself during victories and persevere through adversities. Kadija's career goal is to become a medical doctor with a specialty in neurosurgery.

### COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

Undecided

### INTENDED MAJOR

Neuroscience

### CAREER GOAL

Neurosurgeon

### AWARDS/RECOGNITION

STAR Student  
Miss KAC  
Dean's List at Georgia State University  
Top 10%



**STAR TEACHER** Mr. Gerald Kosoff



# Jordan Campbell

## SALUTATORIAN

Jordan Campbell was born in Atlanta, Georgia to Anthony and Lawana Campbell. As a determined student-athlete, she has managed to become a state award winning athlete while maintaining a 4.1 GPA. She has placed in state rankings for both cross country and track and field. She also serves as the treasurer of SGA, a member of the National Honor Society and National Beta Club. The completion of her Girl Scout Silver Award exemplifies her passion for volunteering in an effort to give back to the youth in her community.

She lives by this Angela Davis quote, "I am no longer accepting the things that I cannot change. I am changing the things I cannot accept." As she matriculates through life, she plans on becoming a pediatric anesthesiologist so that she can combine her love for chemistry and passion for children to do her part in making the world a better place.

### COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

Xavier University of Louisiana

### INTENDED MAJOR

Chemistry

### CAREER GOAL

Pediatric Anesthesiologist

### AWARDS/RECOGNITION

National Honor Society  
Top 10%  
5th Place in State for the 400m Run  
Mu Alpha Theta  
Girls Scouts Silver Award





# Tabius McCoy

## SALUTATORIAN

Tabius McCoy was born in 2002 to Henry Tabius McCoy and Ashley H. McCoy in Atlanta, Georgia. As a scholar-athlete, Tabius takes pride in service and looks to change the stigma surrounding mental illness among African-Americans. As a member of the National Honor Society, National Beta Club, a Horatio Alger Scholar, captain of the varsity baseball team, and a Zoo Atlanta volunteer, Tabius continues to show resilience.

After overcoming a season-ending injury, he started a YouTube channel to inspire and motivate people facing challenges. Tabius relies on his faith to overcome adversity and looks to the New Testament, the Gospel of Luke, Chapter 1 verse 37, "For with God, nothing is impossible" for inspiration. Once Tabius completes his bachelor's degree in Literature, Media and Communication at the Georgia Institute of Technology, he aspires to play Major League Baseball and pursue a career in broadcasting as an award-winning journalist.

### COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

Georgia Institute of Technology

### INTENDED MAJOR

Literature, Media and Communication

### CAREER GOAL

Professional Baseball Player and Global Television News Anchor & Reporter

### AWARDS/RECOGNITION

Honor Roll, Top 10%, Principal's Award, National Honor Society, National Beta Club, Spanish Honor Society, Mu Alpha Theta (Math) Honor Society, English Honor Society Gates Scholarship Finalist, Horatio Alger Scholar, National Beta Club Scholar, All Region Defensive Baseball Player of The Year



# Menelik Tavares

## VALEDICTORIAN

Menelik Ajani Tavares was born in Atlanta, Georgia to David "Minister Server" Tavares and Shawwna Hayes Tavares. A deaf intellectual student with a bright future, Menelik has used his knowledge, leadership, and determination implanted in him by his strongly-educated and compassionate parents to achieve success in academics, sports, and community. At the Atlanta Area School for the Deaf, he established an empowerment club, Black Student Union and introduced the concept of Black American Sign Language. He is currently president of the Black Student Union, former president of Jr. NAD, former president of Sports Club, and was one of few students from around the country to be selected to go to the Youth Leadership Camp and Youth Empowerment Summit.

He has played multiple sports, including basketball, soccer, and baseball. One of his favorite quotes is by Barack Obama, "We did not come to fear the future. We came here to shape it." This quote has taught him to have determination in his abilities and always observe a way to help his communities. It also taught him to be an inspiration to young black and deaf kids. Menelik's career goal is to become a civil rights lawyer and open his own law firm in the Atlanta area that fosters an inclusive work environment.

### COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

Gallaudet

### INTENDED MAJOR

Accounting

### CAREER GOAL

Civil Rights Lawyer

### AWARDS/RECOGNITION

AP Scholar  
Honor Roll  
Top 10%, Principal's Award  
National Honor Society





# Principals

**B.E.S.T. Academy**  
Dr. Timothy Jones

**George Washington Carver Early College**  
Ms. Marcene Thornton

**George Washington Carver**  
Mr. Yusef Muhammad

**Alonzo A. Crom Open Campus**  
Dr. Evelyn Mobley

**Frederick Douglass**  
Dr. Ellis Duncan

**Henry W. Grady**  
Dr. Betsy Bockman

**Maynard Holbrook Jackson**  
Dr. Adam Danser

**Coretta Scott King YWLA**  
Ms. Eulonda Washington

**Benjamin E. Mays**  
Dr. Mulanta Clark-Wilkins

**North Atlanta**  
Mr. Curtis Douglass

**South Atlanta**  
Dr. Patricia Ford

**Daniel M. Therrell**  
Ms. Shelly Powell

**Booker T. Washington**  
Dr. Angela Coaxum-Young

**Atlanta Classical Academy**  
Mr. Chris Knowles

**Charles R. Drew**  
Mr. Kendrick Myers

**Kipp Atlanta Collegiate**  
Ms. Chanika Perry

# Office of Schools and Academics

**Dr. Dan A. Sims**  
Associate Superintendent of Schools (6-12)

**Dr. Danielle Battle**  
Chief of Schools and Academics

**Ms. Yolonda Brown**  
Associate Superintendent of Schools (K-8)

**Dr. Emily Massey**  
Associate Superintendent of Schools (K-8)

**Mr. Tommy Usher**  
Associate Superintendent of Schools (K-8)

**Dr. Olivine Roberts**  
Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning

**Dr. Katika Lovett**  
Assistant Superintendent of Student Services

**Mr. Matthew Underwood**  
Executive Director, Office of Innovation

# Atlanta Board of Education

**Mr. Jason Esteves**  
Board Chair | At- Large (Seat 9)

**Ms. Eshè P. Collins**  
Vice Chair | Educational District 6

**Ms. Leslie Grant**  
Educational District 1

**Ms. Aretta L. Baldon**  
Educational District 2

**Ms. Michelle D. Olympiadis**  
Educational District 3

**Ms. Nancy M. Meister**  
Educational District 4

**Ms. Erika Y. Mitchell**  
Educational District 5

**Ms. Kandis Wood Jackson**  
At-Large (Seat 7)

**Ms. Cynthia Briscoe Brown**  
At-Large (Seat 8)

# Senior Executive Leadership Team

**Dr. Meria J. Carstarphen**  
Superintendent

**Ms. Lisa Bracken**  
Chief Financial Officer

**Mr. Bill Caritj**  
Chief Accountability and Information Officer

**Ms. Skye Duckett**  
Chief Human Resources Officer

**Ms. Nina Gupta**  
General Counsel

**Mr. Larry Hoskins**  
Chief Operating Officer

**Dr. Angela King Smith**  
Chief Engagement Officer

**Ms. Erica Long**  
Senior Advisor





# Georgia Power Congratulates Atlanta's Shining Stars

We believe a solid education is key to empowering our communities and energizing our nation. We proudly support Atlanta Public Schools and salute this year's valedictorians, salutatorians, STAR students and STAR teachers for your commitment to academic excellence.

Congratulations to the 2020

**"Vals and Sals Breakfast"** honorees!



Georgia Power