

**For Immediate Release**

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## Media Release

### "Sailing to Excellence"

*Gifted & Talented Program at Jerry Zucker Middle School  
Challenges Students to Achieve In and Out of the  
Classroom*

**Jerry Zucker Middle School**

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**Gerrita Postlewait, Ed.D.**  
Superintendent of Schools

**Louis Martin**  
Associate Superintendent

**Jacob Perlmutter**  
Principal

North Charleston—

Scholars in the Gifted & Talented SAIL (*Students Academically Inclined for Learning*) program at Jerry Zucker Middle School are doing great things both in and out of the classroom.

According to Mrs. Erika Gilly, Gifted & Talented teacher, "The SAIL scholars have been challenged and pushed to learn about different topics and to synthesize and create various forms of art to resemble their learning."

This year, Zucker Middle's SAIL scholars submitted many pieces to both local and national competitions. The results of the national competitions are not yet in, but scholars excelled in several local competitions including the Southeastern Wildlife Expo, the Earth Day Poster Competition, and the Holocaust Remembrance Competition. Eighth grader Jemiell Laguitao won 1st place in Creative Writing at the Southeastern Wildlife Expo. Eighth grader Kyla Wright won 3rd place in the Earth Day Poster Competition. Seventh graders A'Lanna Ellison and Amaris Riley won 2nd and 3rd place respectively for Creative Writing in the Holocaust Remembrance Competition. Seventh grader Joel Orellana won 2nd place for Creative Art in the Holocaust Remembrance Competition, and seventh grader Jan Patterson received an honorable mention for Multimedia in the Holocaust Remembrance Competition.

SAIL scholars also give back to their community. This year, the sixth grade SAIL scholars made warming bags for the Charleston Animal Society around the winter holiday. The warming bags were for animals who have been operated on. They put the bags around them after the operations so the animals don't lose their warmth and die. Scholars also participated in the Clean Cities Sweep. They added more plants to Zucker's butterfly garden and picked up garbage around the school.

For more information regarding this event, please contact Principal Jacob Perlmutter or librarian Miranda Cary at (843) 767-8383.

**About the Charleston County School District**

Charleston County School District (CCSD) is the second largest school system in South Carolina representing a unique blend of urban, suburban, and rural schools that span 1,000 square miles along the coast. CCSD serves more than 50,000 students in 86 schools and several specialized programs. With approximately 6,100 employees district-wide, CCSD is the fourth largest employer in the region.

CCSD offers a diverse, expanding portfolio of options and specialized programs, delivered through neighborhood, charter, magnet, IB (international baccalaureate), and Montessori schools, and is divided into three Learning Communities led by associate superintendents. Options include specialized programs in science, engineering and mathematics; liberal arts; music and other creative and performing arts; career and technical preparation programs; and military and other public service enterprises.