



MEDIA RELEASE

For Release – December 4, 2023

Contact: Jessica Bellflower
Principal
Berkeley Preparatory Academy
jbelleflower@berkeleyprepacademy.org
(843) 832-7921

Ashley Epperson
Chief of Communications
Charter Institute at Erskine
aepperson@erskinecharters.org
(803) 995-0527

Berkeley Preparatory Academy earns recognition, awards at statewide Academic Showcase

SUMMERVILLE, SC – Berkeley Preparatory Academy earned four different awards in recognition of their outstanding academic performance in the 2022-2023 school year at the Charter Institute at Erskine's Academic Showcase on Friday, November 3, 2023.

Berkeley Preparatory's Middle School earned a variety of awards, both from the Institute and the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE). From the Institute, the middle school program was named a Platinum School of Excellence for performing in the top 25% of South Carolina middle schools in English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics.

Additionally, they earned a Gold School of Distinction award for outperforming the local district and demonstrating above average growth in ELA and Mathematics.

Berkeley Preparatory's Middle School was also honored for receiving two awards from the SCDE – an "Excellent" rating on the South Carolina School Report Card, and a Palmetto Gold Award.

"Our staff has worked hard to implement our innovative community model for each and every one of our students," said school leader, Ms. Jessica Bellflower. "We really owe all of this to the teachers in our building."

At the showcase, charter schools from around the state were celebrated for their academic achievement and outstanding growth. Berkeley Preparatory was one of 14 schools recognized at the event and were asked to present their strategies for academic growth with their peers.

Berkeley Preparatory Academy is located in Summerville, South Carolina, and serves grades K-8. The school offers an innovative learning academy with community villages that consist of high-quality teachers who offer small group instruction, and robust activities and learning experiences that aid in the preparation of career and college readiness skills. Enrollment is currently open at Berkeley Preparatory Academy – visit <https://berkeleyprepacademy.org/> to learn more.

###

The Charter Institute at Erskine is the fastest-growing school district in South Carolina. Serving 27 schools and 26,000 students across the state, the Charter Institute at Erskine is committed to innovative, creative, high-quality methods of education. For more information about the Institute, please visit www.erskinecharters.org.



Berkeley School Leader, Jessica Bellflower, shares key strategies that led to Berkeley's success with charter school leaders from around the state.



Berkeley staff members are recognized by Charter Institute at Erskine leadership at 2023 Academic Showcase. From left to right: Superintendent Cameron Runyan (Institute), Mr. Jordan Coward (Berkeley), Ms. Jessica Bellflower (Berkeley), Ms. Susan Gibson (Charter Schools USA), Dr. Steve Adamson (Erskine College & Institute Board Chair).