

## MEDIA RELEASE

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<u>Contact</u>: Ashley Epperson Communications Specialist <u>aepperson@erskinecharters.org</u> (803) 995-0527

## <u>Charter Institute at Erskine announces Gray Collegiate Academy as 2021-2022 Gold School of Excellence Recipient</u>

**COLUMBIA, SC**— Gray Collegiate Academy has been named one of the Charter Institute at Erskine's 2021-2022 Gold Schools of Excellence. The Charter Institute at Erskine staff celebrated the accomplishments of Gray Collegiate Academy with a presentation on December 1 at the school, where they awarded the school with a commemorative banner.

Gray Collegiate Academy (GCA) scored in the top 25% of all South Carolina Department of Education high schools in both English and Algebra End of Course exam scores, placing GCA in the Gold category of the Charter Institute at Erskine's Schools of Excellence. GCA had no average end-of-course exam scores below the 25<sup>th</sup> percentile, making them one of the highest performing high schools in the Institute's portfolio. The Institute's other Schools of Excellence categories are Diamond, Platinum, and Gold.

"We have tasked our schools with creating high academic outcomes for students, and Gray is doing just that," says Mr. Cameron Runyan, Superintendent of the Charter Institute at Erskine.

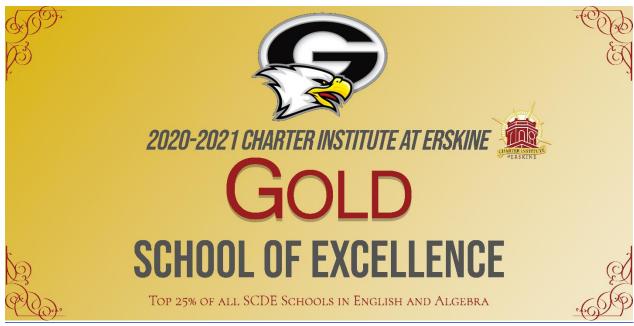
Gray Collegiate Academy is a public charter school located in West Columbia, SC. The school's curriculum features an innovative model where students can attend classes for one half of the school day and devote the other half to athletics, a job, or other extracurricular activities. GCA is renowned for its dual enrollment program, which allows students to earn up to 2 years of college credit while still onsite in high school at no cost to students or families.

"I'm excited to accept this award on behalf of the hard work from our faculty, staff, students, and administration. I'm excited to serve as Principal to watch this growth firsthand," said Dr. Brian Newsome, school leader at Gray Collegiate Academy. "Our future is bright, and I look forward to continued success in the future."

For more information about the Charter Institute at Erskine and their School of Excellence Awards, visit erskinecharters.org or @ErskineCharters on Facebook.

## **About The Charter Institute at Erskine**

The Charter Institute at Erskine is the fastest-growing charter school authorizer in South Carolina. Serving 26 schools and 24,000 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 <a href="https://www.erskinecharters.org">www.erskinecharters.org</a>.



<u>1</u>The banner awarded to Gray Collegiate Academy.



2Superintendent of the Institute Cameron Runyan addresses the students and staff of GCA as they receive their award.



<u>3</u>Dr. Brian Newsome, school leader at GCA, speaks to his students and staff to congratulate them on the award.



4The adminstration at Gray and the Charter Institute at Erskine's leadership and Accountability team pose with the students at Gray.



 $\underline{5}Dr$ . Brian Newsome (School Leader - GCA), Superintendent Cameron Runyan (Charter Institute at Erskine) and Mr. Vamshi Rudrapati (Director - Charter Institute at Erskine) award Gray with the Gold School of Excellence award.