

NEWS RELEASE

Department of Communications and Community Outreach 6901 Charles Street Towson, MD 21204 443.809.5908 (English) 443.809.1250 (Español) www.bcps.org

FOR RELEASE: Oct. 19, 2023

CONTACT: Dept. of Communications/Community Outreach, 443.809.5908 BCPS press releases are available online

4 BCPS students named All-State Dancers

Students from 6 BCPS schools to participate in state dance showcase

Towson, MD – Four Baltimore County Public Schools students are among the 24 statewide who have been named as All-State Dancers for 2023-2024.

The BCPS students named All-State Dancers are junior Charlotte Bauermann of Hereford High School and seniors Nathan Harris, Nahyah Pack, and Ray-Nyizah Waller-Jones, all of George Washington Carver Center for Arts and Technology. It is the second year that both Harris and Pack have been named as All-State Dancers. Teachers for the honorees are Erin Norton at Hereford High School and Maria Royals and Stephanie Powell at Carver Center.

"The students selected as 2023-2024 All-State Dancers are wonderful representatives of their school's dance programs and embody a passion and love for the art form," said Sonia Synkowski, coordinator of the BCPS Office of Performing Arts. "Their achievement is a testament to both their own work ethic and also the continued dedication of their BCPS dance educators."

Students are nominated for the All-State Dance honor by their school dance teacher and selected by statewide audition, which took place on October 9 at the University of Maryland Baltimore County with 118 students nominated statewide for the audition.

As an All-State honoree, students also are eligible to participate in the BCPS All-County Honors Dance Ensemble.

The All-State Dance students will be recognized January 5, 2024, at the 34th Annual Maryland Public High School Dance Showcase at Goucher College. As All-State Dancers, they will also

have the opportunity to work with Peter Pucci, a former Pilobolus dancer and New York choreographer and current executive director of the Carole Drake Cascio Foundation. Pucci will work with the dancers on a piece for the Showcase as well as one for a 50th Anniversary Dance Concert for the Community College of Baltimore County scheduled for May 2024.

In addition, students from four other BCPS schools – Lansdowne and New Town high schools, Milford Mill Academy, and Patapsco High School and Center for the Arts – will join those from Hereford and Carver Center in participating or performing at the state Dance Showcase in January.

As part of the Showcase, students from all participating schools will take part in three master classes taught by local dance professionals. Additionally, participating schools may submit a dance piece to be adjudicated and selected for the evening gala performance.

###

<u>Baltimore County Public Schools</u>, the nation's 22nd largest school system, is focused on raising the bar and closing gaps to prepare our students for the future. Thanks to innovative and talented leaders, teachers, staff, and students, BCPS celebrates <u>many honors</u>.