



Academic Magnet High School

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Media Release

NHS Member and Advisor attend "Trailblazing Leadership Week" in Washington D.C.

Charleston, SC – We are so proud of Harry Ding who made history for the AMHS National Honor Society this year and represented us at the national level. As an NHS Scholarship finalist, Harry was invited to DC over spring break to accept the award and participate in the NASSP "Trailblazing Leadership Conference," with 24 other finalists, their advisors, and the state assistant principals of the year. The theme of this year's conference was "Cultivating Courageous Leaders: Stronger Together," taking place at the historic Willard InterContinental Hotel April 3-6, 2024. The week was full of workshops and productive cross-generational dialogues on topics such as inclusive leadership, climate, and impacting your community.

Participants were also invited to the White House's Dwight D. Eisenhower executive building where they heard directly from education advisors to the President about federal school initiatives relating to student mental health and safety.

From Harry's own words, "...the scholarship week was really about meeting and engaging with scholars from all across the country working on their individual passions and learning their unique stories. It was an amazing experience to hear directly from the federal policy makers that deal with education and being able to ask questions."

NHS co-advisor, Ms Kristen Vann, reflected saying, "It was incredible to be surrounded by so many individuals who are focused and passionate about shaping our future. We were all inspired to take action and celebrate what's right in the world!"

While the conference was jam-packed with sessions and little down-time, the students and advisors enjoyed walking around DC, playing some mini-golf, and visiting the Smithsonian National Portrait gallery, and many connections were made. The week ended with the Gala of Excellence award ceremony where

finalists were formally recognized. Check out more pictures from this special evening and the White House visit on our AMHS social media pages.

