



For Immediate Release
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Media Release

AMHS Cheerleaders Selected to Perform in 2019 Citrus Bowl

**Academic Magnet High
School**

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North Charleston, SC — The Academic Magnet High School cheerleading squad will have to cut their Winter Break short this year. It's a good thing, though; they were invited to participate in the Citrus Bowl January 1, 2019 in Orlando, FL. The Raptors will take part in the on-field, pre-game festivities with other high school cheer and dance teams.

The Raptors earned this trip based on their performance and the accolades they earned this past June at Universal Cheer Champ (UCA) camp at Clemson University. These camps focus on proper safety techniques, entertainment of fans at games through cheers and dances, and traditional school leadership. Academic Magnet brought home first place trophies in both Cheer and Overall Performance, and earned the "Superior Squad" distinction along with several other honors and awards.

"This experience is a once in a life-time opportunity for the girls," said Raptors Head Coach Page Horschel. "Many of them will never have the opportunity to cheer at the collegiate level, so this is a way to see what that feels like."

The Citrus Bowl has been a college football tradition since 1947 and has recently hosted teams such as the University of South Carolina, LSU, Notre Dame, Georgia, and Michigan. The pre-game performance offers cheerleaders and dancers the opportunity to perform at the 7th oldest collegiate bowl in the country, in front of 60,000 fans at Camping World Stadium.

Fourteen Raptor cheerleaders are set to travel to Central Florida several days before the contest to rehearse, and to visit the Happiest Place on Earth, Walt Disney World® Resort. The team has already started working on fundraising efforts so they can be a part of this exclusive opportunity.

"They are doing all of this while cheering at football games, entering their competition season, performing community service, and of course, working hard on their studies," added Horschel. "Taking almost exclusively all honors and AP level coursework, no cheerleader has less than a 4.0 GPA at the state's top-ranked high school. This squad has an amazing group of young leaders who work hard to support their school and this Lowcountry community; please cheer them on and support this team to get to the Citrus Bowl!"

Varsity Spirit, the parent company of UCA, manages this program for elite cheer and dance teams around the country.

For more information about this opportunity for the AMHS cheerleading team, please contact Page Horschel at (843) 529-4990 ext. 26143 or carrie_horschel@charleston.k12.sc.us.

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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 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. 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.