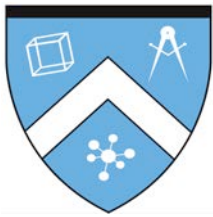


# Columbia Secondary School Newsletter

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M362 - CSS

Columbia Secondary School for Math, Science & Engineering  
425 W. 123<sup>rd</sup> St., 5<sup>th</sup> Fl., New York, NY 10027  
[www.columbiasecondary.org](http://www.columbiasecondary.org)



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## CSS middle school students win D5 Spelling Bee

CSS middle school students participated in the District 5 spelling bee at Riverbank State Park on June 7. Owen Harris, pictured below, won the 8<sup>th</sup> grade trophy, and 6<sup>th</sup> grader Milan Ndjiki took the top prize for her grade. Owen was also 6<sup>th</sup> grade champ in 2015.



*CSS wishes you a wonderful summer!*

All the best to our graduating class and their families, and see the rest of you on the first day of school, Thursday, September 7.

## Congratulations to the class of 2017!

Under the guidance of CSS college counselors Carla Shere and Kiri Patel, all 94 members of the class of 2017 applied to and were accepted at a 2- or 4-year college/university. One student is joining the Navy and the others will attend the following schools:

*Bard College*  
*Columbia University\**  
*CUNY (City University of New York)*  
*Baruch\*, BMCC, City\*, Hunter\*, John Jay, Laguardia, Lehman\*, Macaulay Honors\**  
*Goucher College*  
*Howard University\**  
*Ithaca College*  
*Johns Hopkins University*  
*Lafayette College*  
*Manhattan College*  
*Muhlenberg College*  
*New York Institute of Technology*  
*New York University\**  
*Northeastern University*  
*Pace University*  
*Politecnico di Milano*  
*St. Bonaventure University*

*St. Mary's College of California*  
*St. Olaf College*  
*St. Thomas Aquinas*  
*SUNY (State University of New York)*  
*Albany, Binghamton\*, Buffalo\*, Cobleskill, College of Environmental Studies and Forestry, New Paltz*  
*Syracuse University\**  
*The College of St. Rose*  
*The New School*  
*Tufts University*  
*(United States Navy)*  
*University of Delaware*  
*University of California, Santa Cruz*  
*University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign*  
*University of Massachusetts, Amherst\**  
*University of Pennsylvania*  
*University of Rochester*  
*University of Southern California*  
*University of Texas, Austin*  
*Wake Forest University*  
*Washington University - St. Louis*  
*Wesleyan University*  
*Yale University\**

Note: A star (\*) indicates that more than one student has enrolled.

## Senior Abby Castillo heads West

The academic, extracurricular and family experiences of Abigail ("Abby") Castillo (class of 2017) led her on a psychology career path that will continue on the campus of the prestigious University of Southern California (USC).

When Abby was in middle school. Yes *Scholars* introduced her to mental health professionals, and a sister's mental health condition led the family to therapy, which was a positive experience. During high school, Abby took a CSS psychology elective, a Columbia University psychology class, and a four-week psychology program last summer at USC.

Abby loved the USC campus, weather,

and "experiencing a different culture." She returned home with USC shirts for her parents and her first choice school, which accepted her in April.

Abby feels CSS has prepared her well for college. "We often complain about the workload, but I've taken classes at Columbia, NYU and USC with college students and have felt completely on their level," she said. Her advice to future college applicants: "New York City isn't going anywhere. Be open to new places and experiences."

Abby isn't the only California-bound senior. Marcus Miller Moore will attend St. Mary's College in the Bay Area and Eleanor Prickett-Morgan has enrolled at the University of California, Santa Cruz.