



CONTACT:

Miranda Connelly, Communications Associate
 Connelly.m@harrisburgacademy.org, (717) 763-7811
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Class of 2017 Continues Harrisburg Academy Success with International Baccalaureate Diploma

WORMLEYSBURG, PA – Harrisburg Academy is proud to recognize its seven recent graduates who received an International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma this summer. The success of the Class of 2017 brings Harrisburg Academy’s total IB Diplomas earned to 75 (in nine years). The school congratulates:

- **Amber Hilbish '17** – Hollins University, Very Competitive according to Barron’s Profiles of American Colleges*
- **Markus Lervik '17** – Returning to Norway to complete required military service prior to college entrance
- **Nisha Momin '17** – Boston College, Most Competitive
- **DoYeun “Jenny” Oh '17** – Michigan State University, Very Competitive
- **Jonathon Pastor '17** – Georgia Institute of Technology, Most Competitive
- **Sara Safiullah '17** – University of Pittsburgh, Highly Competitive
- **James Thompson '17** – University of Alabama, Competitive

Harrisburg Academy’s average grade and points score for students who pursued the Diploma and passed continues to measure higher than worldwide averages in five of the six subject areas. Additionally, the cumulative Academy Diploma average pass rate of 77% exceeds the worldwide average of 70.9% (Nov. 2016).

2017 IB Success at Harrisburg Academy		
	Harrisburg Academy	Worldwide
Average IB Grade of Students who Pursued the Diploma and Passed	4.68	4.6
<p><i>*Harrisburg Academy IB Diploma recipients earned 8 scores of six or seven on individual subject tests. All seven Academy IB Diploma recipients earned at least two scores of five or higher on individual subjects, with a grand total of 17 scores of five.</i></p> <p><i>*The highest grade possible for each subject test is seven.</i></p> <p><i>*Scoring a five is comparable to scoring a four on AP exams; scoring a six or seven is rare.</i></p>		
Average IB Points Score of Students who Pursued the Diploma and Passed	30	28.9
<p><i>*The total points possible is 45.</i></p> <p><i>*Based on the most recent five-year IB statistics available (Nov. 2016).</i></p>		
<p>Individual Merit: Class Valedictorian James Thompson '17 Earned an Individual Points Score of 36</p> <p><i>*James earned one score of 7, two scores of 6, and three of 5.</i></p> <p><i>*Based on the most recent available IB statistics (Nov. 2016), a score of 36 places James in the top third of all IB Diploma recipients worldwide.</i></p>		

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Success with International Baccalaureate Diploma**

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“Seeing our students achieve success on a global scale is exciting and rewarding,” said Keo Oura Kounlavong-Sabath, director of college counseling and IB CAS coordinator. “The students’ two year dedication to a very challenging academic program, with the support of their teachers, demonstrates their readiness for college and beyond. The IB program’s focus on educating the whole child to be a life-long learner who is curious about the world and is motivated to positively change the larger community is one all global citizens should possess. I am proud these students will be arriving on their respective college campuses this fall ready to learn and lead.”

**Competitive rankings are determined annually by “Barron’s Profiles of American Colleges,” an industry-standard tool for comparing the selectivity of colleges and universities. Barron’s ranks all colleges and universities on a scale comprised of seven levels of selectivity, based on difficulty of acceptance and strength of accepted-student SAT scores (the higher a school is rated, the more difficult it is for a student to gain acceptance). Barron’s scale is as follows, beginning with the top classification: Most Competitive, Highly Competitive, Very Competitive, Competitive, Less Competitive, Non-Competitive, and Special (including exclusive music conservatories and art schools).*

About Harrisburg Academy

Established in 1784, Harrisburg Academy is the 17th oldest non-public school in the nation and Harrisburg’s only independent school. Our coed, diverse school community inspires students from age three through 12th grade by providing an academically challenging and globally minded liberal arts education focused on dynamic classroom experiences, strong student outcomes, and a commitment to character development. The Academy proudly stands as the first school in the greater Harrisburg area to offer the International Baccalaureate Diploma Program and merit scholarship.

For more information about Harrisburg Academy please visit our website or contact Miranda Connelly at 717-763-7811 or via email at connelly.m@harrisburgacademy.org.

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