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 Aug. 3, 2016

**Thirteen Harrisburg Academy Class of 2016 Grads Add to their Success with IB Diploma**

WORMLEYSBURG, PA – Harrisburg Academy is proud to recognize its 13 recent graduates who received an International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma this summer. The success of the Class of 2016 brings Harrisburg Academy’s total IB Diplomas earned to 68 (in eight years). The school congratulates:

- **Acklynn Byamugisha '16** – Providence College, Highly Competitive according to Barron’s Profiles of American Colleges\*
- **Austin Dean '16** – Columbia University, Most Competitive
- **Louise Gebauer '16** – Pepperdine University, Highly Competitive
- **Carola Hintz '16** – University of Innsbruck, Austria
- **Delna Kapadia '16** – Smith College, Most Competitive
- **Claire Mackin '16** – Washington and Lee University, Most Competitive
- **David May '16** – Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Most Competitive
- **CJ Porterfield '16** – Elon University, Highly Competitive
- **Matthew Reichwein '16** – Haverford College, Most Competitive
- **Hannah Roberts '16** – Rice University, Most Competitive
- **Wesley Sheker '16** – University of Pennsylvania, Most Competitive
- **Sarah Trindell '16** – American University, Highly Competitive
- **Suning Yang '16** – University of Southern California, Most Competitive

Harrisburg Academy’s pass rate in 2016 was a staggering 93 percent — far surpassing the worldwide average pass rate of 80.79 percent according to data from the most recent IB annual review and IB Diploma Programme Statistical Bulletin. The Academy’s average grade and points score for students who pursued the Diploma and passed also continue to measure higher than worldwide averages.

<b>2016 IB Success at Harrisburg Academy</b>	
<b>Average IB Grade of Students who Pursued the Diploma and Passed</b>	4.88
<p><i>*Harrisburg Academy IB Diploma recipients earned <b>23 scores of six or seven</b> on individual subject tests. <b>All 13 Academy IB Diploma recipients earned at least two scores of five or higher</b> on individual subjects, with a grand total of <b>30 scores of five</b>.</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>	
<b>Average IB Points Score of Students who Pursued the Diploma and Passed</b>	31
<p><i>*The total points possible is 45.</i></p> <p><i>*Based on the most recent five-year IB statistics available (2016 IB press release).</i></p>	

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**Individual Merit:**

**Class Valedictorian Wesley Sheker '16 Earned an Individual Points Score of 41**

*\*Based on the most recent available IB statistics (May 2015), a score of 41 places Wesley in the top 1.8 percent of all IB Diploma recipients worldwide.*

*\*Wesley only earned scores of 7 and 6 on his six individual subject tests (three scores of 7 and three scores of 6).*

**Individual Merit:**

**Class Salutatorian Matthew Reichwein '16 Earned an Individual Points Score of 35**

*\*Based on the most recent available IB statistics (May 2015), a score of 35 places Matthew in the top 4.7 percent of all IB Diploma recipients worldwide.*

*\*Five of Matthew's six individual subject test scores were 7, 6, or 5.*

*\*Matthew earned an A on his Extended Essay, written about sports exercise and health science.*

*According to the most recent available IB statistics (May 2015), only 12 percent of all IB Diploma candidates earned an A on the Extended Essay component of the Diploma.*

"Participating in the IB program at Harrisburg Academy exposes students to a rich global context that supplements a challenging academic program, personalized college counseling experience, and daily interactions with caring teachers that exude passion in their subjects," said John Binnert, head of Middle and Upper Schools and IB coordinator. "As part of the IB program, students work hard to engage in scholarly research, serve the various communities we can societally define, maintain a focus on physical health and wellness, participate in insightful epistemological discussions, and connect their coursework to the aforementioned wider global context."

"We are confident that our graduates are exceedingly well-prepared for the collegiate and career pursuits and leadership opportunities which await them in the near future," he added.

*\*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 12<sup>th</sup> 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 Kristina A. Pae at 717-763-7811 or via email at pae.k@harrisburgacademy.org.

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