

## **Headmaster's Trophy Speech - *Joseph Seivold***

The Headmaster's Trophy was given to the school by an anonymous donor to be presented annually to "that student who best represents the true spirit of Berkeley." The Headmaster's Trophy is the most distinguished award given to a Berkeley student. For this reason, the selection process involves the entire Berkeley community—from student nominations to faculty and administration voting.

When asking for nominations, we suggest to students that they consider which of their peers has been the most instrumental in creating the community we all enjoy; the student whose absence would make a noticeable difference in the life of our school.

John Quincy Adams wrote: "If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader." This quote encapsulates this year's recipient of the Headmaster's Trophy. This student is a true servant leader—genuine, authentic, passionate and inspirational, and has had a wide-reaching and ever lasting impact on our community. A four-year member of Berkeley's Upper Division Band program, this year's recipient has fostered a spirit of collaboration and dedication amongst his peers. Ever committed to the legacy of the program, this student has used his leadership role to enact a new mentorship program for incoming freshman joining Band – ensuring that all members feel supported and have the opportunity to grow. This student composed an original Victory Tune for Berkeley, leading to its inaugural performance in our opening all-school convocation this year, demonstrating that his enthusiasm and love for our community is undeniable.

This year's recipient also spear-headed the establishment of the Islamic Cultural Club, co-founding the organization in his junior year. His goal was to create a safe space for those who practice Islam, and to engage the entire community in learning more about Islamic culture. This student's passion for history has no bounds, and he has fearlessly

led our History Bowl trivia tournaments. He developed a vision, delegated tasks, engaged our faculty, facilitated the competition and impressively and effectively led the execution of this cherished Upper Division event.

A recipient last year of the UNC Chapel Hill Book Award, our recipient was recognized by Berkeley's faculty and staff as exhibiting enthusiasm and school spirit, while excelling in all aspects of the Berkeley experience. He is deeply and authentically passionate and enthusiastic; traits that have allowed him to make an indelible mark on our community.

In co-leading our Upper Division Convocations, this student has brought his love of history to all of you weekly—putting his unique stamp on our gatherings and bringing pure enthusiasm and joy to our community. So, I share with you today's fact: today in history, because of excellence in all he does, it is a pleasure to recognize the 2023 recipient of the Headmaster's Trophy: Adam Kasti