

**From:** Douglas OFlaherty <doug@scrla.org>  
**To:** Danny Varat DannyVarat@scstatehouse.gov  
**Date:** 5/10/2017 4:44:38 PM  
**Subject:** Re: Anderson Students coming to the State House

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Thanks! We will see you tomorrow

Douglas OFlaherty, IOM | Vice President | South Carolina Restaurant and Lodging Association  
PO Box 7577, Columbia, SC 29202 | Phone: (803) 765-9000 | doug@scrla.org | www.scrla.org



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**From:** Danny Varat <DannyVarat@scstatehouse.gov>  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 10, 2017 at 3:34 PM  
**To:** Douglas OFlaherty <doug@scrla.org>  
**Subject:** Re: Anderson Students coming to the State House

Book it.

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**From:** Douglas OFlaherty <doug@scrla.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 10, 2017 3:13 PM  
**To:** Lily Cogdill  
**Cc:** 'John Durst'; Katie Montgomery; Danny Varat  
**Subject:** Anderson Students coming to the State House

Good afternoon Lily,

I wanted to bring you up-to-speed on where we are with the Anderson Career and Technology Students coming to Columbia. I received confirmation that they are able to come to Columbia tomorrow (5/11). The plan is for them to meet me here in our office on Lady Street between 9:30-9:45am and then we will walk to the State House by 10am.

I can bring the students by your office and we can go from there since everything is kind of in the air for you tomorrow. If at all possible, it would be wonderful if the Lt. Governor could take a picture with the students and make mention that students from Anderson are visiting.

Students attend the Anderson Career and Technology Center for their ProStart class. Their home schools are Wren High School, Palmetto High School, Powdersville High School, Belton-Honea Path High School and Powdersville High School. There are eight students total and they are being escorted by Hollie Harrell, the director of the career center. Katie and I will also be with them. I have attached a team photo that was taken following the awards ceremony.

Our legislative liaisons are working on the House side with their representatives to also have them introduced as well.

To help with talking point for the Lt. Governor here are a few keys items:

ProStart is a nationwide program that introduces restaurant management culinary arts to high school students. There are

more than 150,000 students enrolled each year around the country and on DOD bases around the world. South Carolina has 63 programs and almost 3,000 students.

The significance of the students and why they are being honored is that they were just awarded medals in the recent National ProStart invitational. Of the teams that competed, South Carolina team was the only team to take home two medals out of 93 other teams.

The teams faced off against more than 400 students from across the country (and even Guam) at the championship that features two separate competitions: The management competition, which requires participants to develop and defend a business proposal for a restaurant, and the culinary competition, in which teams are allotted 60 minutes to prepare a three-course meal without access to electricity or running water.

The students received individual medals as well as scholarships at the event that was held a couple of weeks ago in Charleston.

Thanks so much and please let me know if you have any questions or need additional information. My mobile number is 803-665-2197 if you need to reach me.

Douglas

Douglas O'Flaherty, IOM | Vice President | South Carolina Restaurant and Lodging Association  
PO Box 7577, Columbia, SC 29202 | Phone: (803) 765-9000 | [doug@scrla.org](mailto:doug@scrla.org) | [www.scrla.org](http://www.scrla.org)



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From: Danny Varat <[DannyVarat@scstatehouse.gov](mailto:DannyVarat@scstatehouse.gov)>  
Date: Thursday, May 4, 2017 at 10:46 AM  
To: 'John Durst' <[John@scrla.org](mailto:John@scrla.org)>, Lily Cogdill <[LilyCogdill@scstatehouse.gov](mailto:LilyCogdill@scstatehouse.gov)>  
Cc: Douglas O'Flaherty <[doug@scrla.org](mailto:doug@scrla.org)>  
Subject: RE: Anderson Career and Technology wins national honors

John, I'm copying Lily Cogdill on this email so that she can coordinate from here. It is likely that they'll be in session by then, and he won't be able to leave the desk. Please work with Lily on how we can make this happen.

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From: John Durst [<mailto:John@scrla.org>]  
Sent: Thursday, May 04, 2017 10:31 AM  
To: Danny Varat <[DannyVarat@scstatehouse.gov](mailto:DannyVarat@scstatehouse.gov)>  
Cc: 'Douglas O'Flaherty' <[doug@scrla.org](mailto:doug@scrla.org)>  
Subject: RE: Anderson Career and Technology wins national honors

Danny,

They would prefer to come down on Thursday, May 11<sup>th</sup>. Would it be possible for them to have a photo op with the Lt. Governor perhaps at 11 or later and, of course, be recognized in the Senate gallery? Unfortunately, the coach, Chris Moree, will be unable to join them, but Hollie Harrell, Director, Anderson Districts 1 and 11 Career and Technology Center, will accompany them.

Thanks!

John

John Durst | President & CEO | South Carolina Restaurant and Lodging Association  
PO Box 7577, Columbia, SC 29202 | Phone: (803) 765-9000 | [john@scrla.org](mailto:john@scrla.org) | [www.scrla.org](http://www.scrla.org)

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From: Danny Varat [<mailto:DannyVarat@scstatehouse.gov>]  
Sent: Wednesday, May 03, 2017 12:30 PM  
To: John Durst  
Subject: Re: Anderson Career and Technology wins national honors

Sure.

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From: John Durst <[John@scrla.org](mailto:John@scrla.org)>  
Sent: Wednesday, May 3, 2017 11:08 AM  
To: Danny Varat  
Subject: RE: Anderson Career and Technology wins national honors

I'll be glad to check. May I say I'm doing so on y'all's behalf?

John Durst | President & CEO | South Carolina Restaurant and Lodging Association  
PO Box 7577, Columbia, SC 29202 | Phone: (803) 765-9000 | [john@scrla.org](mailto:john@scrla.org) | [www.scrla.org](http://www.scrla.org)

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From: Danny Varat [<mailto:DannyVarat@scstatehouse.gov>]  
Sent: Wednesday, May 03, 2017 11:08 AM  
To: 'John Durst'  
Subject: RE: Anderson Career and Technology wins national honors

It'll have to be next week. Can that happen?

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From: John Durst [<mailto:John@scrla.org>]  
Sent: Wednesday, May 03, 2017 10:30 AM  
To: Danny Varat <[DannyVarat@scstatehouse.gov](mailto:DannyVarat@scstatehouse.gov)>  
Subject: Anderson Career and Technology wins national honors

Danny,

Good morning! Hope all is going as well as possible during this very busy time!!

If you haven't heard already, here's some extremely exciting news!! Students from the Anderson Career and Technology Center won second place in the management competition in the National ProStart Invitational held this weekend, and their fellow students took fifth place in the culinary competition. SC was the only state to have winners in both the management and culinary competition.

Some other background facts:

- . its very rare for one high school to win both the management and culinary competition at the state level, which Anderson Career and Technology did in March in the statewide competition held at North Myrtle Beach
- . the national competition was held at the North Charleston Convention Center. SC had won the bid to serve as the host site about three years ago
- . the coach's name is Chris Moree. His contact info is [chrismoree@icloud.com](mailto:chrismoree@icloud.com) mobile # (864) 979-3398.

I wanted to respectfully suggest that the Lt. Governor invite these national winners to the State House to be introduced in both the Senate and the House.

Please keep me in the loop, and, if I can assist in any way, please let me know.

All the best!

John

John Durst | President & CEO | South Carolina Restaurant and Lodging Association  
PO Box 7577, Columbia, SC 29202 | Phone: (803) 765-9000 | [john@scrla.org](mailto:john@scrla.org) | [www.scrla.org](http://www.scrla.org)

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From: [katie@scrla.org](mailto:katie@scrla.org) [<mailto:katie@scrla.org>]  
Sent: Wednesday, May 03, 2017 10:04 AM  
To: John Durst  
Subject: National ProStart Invitational

John,  
Here is the release along with some pictures from the event!  
Thanks,  
Katie

Katie Montgomery | Director of Communications | South Carolina Restaurant and Lodging Association  
PO Box 7577, Columbia, SC 29202 | Phone: (803) 765-9000 | [katie@scrla.org](mailto:katie@scrla.org) | [www.scrla.org](http://www.scrla.org)

