

A Message from President Cedric Adderley

June 4, 2020

Dear Govie Community,

As I've watched the events in our nation unfold over the last several days, I've struggled to make sense of why we again find ourselves in the position of mourning multiple deaths in the black community at the hands of those who felt empowered to take their lives. What we are experiencing is not unprecedented. People of color have faced a long history of discrimination that cannot be justified, and any attempt to do so must be corrected for the sake of our nation and our future generations.

At the Governor's School, we are guided by our mission and values with a clear stand against hate and inequality. For the last several years, we have placed a special emphasis on extending our reach into communities throughout the state with the intent of being a catalyst for positive change for all citizens. Not simply as an arts school, but as a true-to-form partner in education. With a commitment to partnerships and opportunities in historically underserved communities, our commitment to diversity, inclusion, and anti-racism is strong, and the results of these efforts are clear to those who seek to learn of our work. Regardless of the pain and confusion that we will carry with us into the future, our dedication is steadfast and we will continue along the path of serving and seeking to serve all students in the most meaningful ways possible.

I regret that there are no words of comfort that can right the wrongs of the distant and most recent past. My life experiences allow me to feel that pain. It is through that pain that I offer words of my commitment to continued action that is reflected over the course of a thirty-year career including the past five years at the helm of the Governor's School. We are indeed working toward the beloved community that we all deserve in my home state of South Carolina. Without question, we stand together on the right side of justice for all.

Sincerely,

Cedric L. Adderley, DMA
President