

# **Alton High celebrates Class of 2017 at its 148th commencement**

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ALTON - As the moving melody of "Pomp and Circumstance" rang throughout the gymnasium at Alton High School, the tune marked the end of an era for hundreds of students.

Family members, friends and classmates bid farewell to Alton High's most recent class of graduates this Friday in their 148th Commencement Ceremony.

Beginning promptly at 7 p.m., hundreds of graduates, donned in red and silver regalia, poured into the gymnasium for the ceremony as their loved ones looked on in pride.

Following the presentation of the colors by the AFJROTC Color Guard, Orchestra Director Laura Plummer led a small group of musicians in a rendition of the "Star Spangled Banner." Eagle Scout David Witt recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the audience.

Ed Gray, President of the Board of Education and Mark Cappel, Superintendent of Schools, presented the Salutatorian and Valedictorian awards. Kassidy Funke was chosen as the Salutatorian and Alexander Basler readied himself for his speech as Valedictorian.



"Because of our years here at Alton High, we have the opportunity to make a lasting and positive impact on the world," Basler said in his address. "At least one of us is the next Bill Gates, and one of us is, unfortunately, the next Justin Bieber.

"A famous song writer, but not the Biebs, once said, 'we all take different paths in life, but no matter where we go, we take a little of each other everywhere.



"Looking back, we have accomplished a lot over these four years, and although the future is uncertain, one thing we do know is that we will be able to accomplish more in life because of what high school has taught us: that hard work and determination are the keys to success, and diversity always makes us stronger, not weaker.

"It does not matter where you go, or what you do specifically, but it matters how you live your life, by showing respect to people, no matter their race, gender or religion, and by being honest by everything you do, you too can make a difference.

"Prepare to go into the world and always do the right thing."

As an act of remembrance for their fallen classmate, a silver gown and mortar board cap was placed along side a framed photograph of Courtney Hubbard in a chair in the front row of students. Hubbard died on Sept. 16 when he was taken off life support after being struck by a car in late August.



**(CLICK ON LIST IMAGE TO VIEW IN FULL SIZE)**

## Alton High School Graduating Class of 2017

• Morris Lee Adams  
• Meghan Elizabeth Alvarado  
• Dustin Thomas Alexander  
• Eri Dreemana Nantzi Alexander  
• James Dylan Allford  
• Jayne Louise Allen  
• Evangeline Denise Anderson  
• Marlee Deangelo Arnold  
• Ryan James Ashbury  
• Carson Camille Ashlock  
• Elaina Christine Ashlock  
• Noah Mikel Ayers  
• Grace Loren Backstrom  
• Daniel Lamson Ballard, Jr.  
• Christopher Lewis Bangert  
• Aunae Vashay Banks  
• Connor James Barnard  
• Abigail Nicole Barton  
• Alexander Johnson Basler  
• Connor Jeffrey Bazell  
• Brandon Michael Belcher  
• James Dominic Belford  
• Jacob Wellington Bellino  
• Tadarrell Jermaine Berry, Jr.  
• Nicholas Paul Bethel  
• Sophia Laura Binolis  
• Kera Shea Black  
• Kade Nicholas Bock  
• Jacob Robert Bockeluck  
• Molly Kathryn Bodenbach  
• Natasha Renee Bollinger  
• Samuel Robert Bosse  
• Ryan Patrick Bosd  
• Ethan Michael Boyer  
• Du Iessia Shantaye Bradford  
• Jhermez Tyrek Bradley  
• Lydia Michelle Brandon  
• Jacob Christopher Bromagham  
• Debra Laria Brooks  
• Brittany Reena Brown  
• Lakeeda Jazmin Brown  
• Makayla Renee Brown  
• Victor Terry William Brown  
• Amber Lynn Brunzley  
• Abby Marie Buggle  
• Kenna Tai-shue Burnett  
• Justin Demere Barton, Jr.  
• Ryan Matthew Cain  
• Brianna Grace Cantner  
• Christopher John Campbell  
• Julia May Marie Campbell

Angela Marie Carless  
• Camille Tatiana Carpenter  
• Austin Ryan Carroll  
• Julia Shayne Carroll  
• Taylor Jean Carter  
• Quinn Aidan Cartwright  
• Tamara Leigh Caruthers  
• Noah Gregory Bramley Cash  
• Amanda Marie Catchings  
• Silas Jerome Chapman  
• Trevis Eric Chesley  
• Ayanna Divine Clanton  
• Logan Michael Lee Clark  
• Doreean Bruce Clay  
• Timothy Bruce Gofeleter, III  
• Kameron Nicholas Collins  
• Selena Ava Coltragh  
• Christopher Stewart Conrentx  
• Alexander Austin Cook  
• Grace Elizabeth Jean Cook  
• Triston Alexander Counts  
• Amanda Rae Cox  
• Marie Frances Cox  
• Austin Allen Cravens  
• Carly Ann Cross  
• Jantel Emil Troy Crowder  
• Austin Andrew Curvey  
• Shayla Geneva Reniece Cutler  
• Rachael Martin Dancy  
• Andrew Robert Das  
• Marissa Ann Daughenbaugh  
• Alexander William Davis  
• Dihan Patrick Davis  
• James Alexander Davis  
• Jasmine Renee Davis  
• Nicholas James Davis  
• Abigail Hope Day  
• Kevin Mark Taylor Dehner  
• Megan Anne Marie Demand  
• Kaleigh Lynn Denardo  
• Grace Elizabeth Dickson  
• Danielle Renee Ditterline  
• Anthony Ramon Dobbins, Jr.  
• Allyson Catherine Dooley  
• Joshlyn Kaitlee Douglas  
• Toni Jean Dubbo  
• Samuel Russell Dutton  
• Hannah Rae Dyer  
• Jake Alexander Edeken  
• Christopher Maurice Edwards, II  
• Deangelo Javian Edwards

Josephine Anne Edwards  
• Maurice Edwards, Jr.  
• Dylan Michael Elders  
• Kerstan Winter Elder  
• Rose Sarah Marie Eller  
• Emma Marie Ernst  
• Elly Marie Eschbach  
• Hannah Nicole Estes  
• Annie Kait Evans  
• Christian Bryant Everage  
• Jason Rodger Ewing  
• Julianna Lucia Fair  
• Connor Reid Farris  
• Braedon Anthony Favilla  
• Zariion Tremayne Felder  
• Brennie Nichole Fencel  
• Savannah Maria Fisher  
• Braden Daniel Flanagan  
• Gage Michael Fite  
• Hannah Nasheli Forge  
• Abigail Lauren Francis  
• Andrew Michael Francis  
• Brandi Marina Ann Frank  
• Brooke Nicole Ann Frank  
• Alana Rita Lynn Frankford  
• Christopher Edward Frazier  
• Olivia Marie Freeman  
• Samuel Allen Frosch  
• Rachel Brooke Fuller  
• Skylar Augustus Funk  
• Kassidy Anne Funke  
• Reis Alexander Gaffney  
• Yordanis Traven Gambrell  
• Kiana Don Nisha Monique Garrett  
• Morgan Marie Garris  
• Colin Raye Garrison  
• Alayia Lemmon Gates  
• Aaron Joseph Geisen  
• Gabriel Joseph Generally  
• Gabriella Janne Generally  
• Abigail Elise Gentelin  
• Samuel Joseph Gentelin  
• Cameron David Gierzi  
• Richard Ralph Gillespie, IV  
• Kiley Travis Giffigan  
• Blake Allen Ginder  
• Margaret Elizabeth Goble  
• Daniel Joseph Gohn  
• Anyia Monique S Antecar Gorter  
• Claire Elizabeth Gorman  
• Noah Benjamin Grassle

A Miracle Unity Gray  
• Dylan Michael Green  
• Elijah Joshua N'gosi Green, II  
• Shalarriona Monique Greer  
• Alan Tyler Grindstaff  
• Lindsey Maria Grossheim  
• Morgan Dallas Gustafson  
• Isale Lee Gutierrez  
• Samuel Scott Hale  
• Freeman Hall, III  
• Mikenna Merin Hall  
• Elizabeth Marie Hanke  
• Kiara Elisha Hardmon  
• Domonic Lee Harrell  
• Caleb Milo Harris  
• Beona Marie Harris  
• Brianna Michelle Harrop  
• Amber Leigh Denton Hart  
• Andrea Nicole Hartman  
• Sydney Elizabeth Hartman  
• Alexandria Marie Harvey  
• Maurice Lencil Hatcher, Jr.  
• Mallory Renee Hayn  
• Dalna Renee Haynes  
• Kaitlyn Renee Hedgecoth  
• Ashley Abigail Heistand  
• Carley Diana Heistand  
• Aaron Ryan Henry  
• Noah Orion Henry  
• Christian Douglas Hernandez  
• Donna De'von Hill  
• Ashley Ruth Marie Hillman  
• Megan Elizabeth Hillman  
• Devin Eugene Hodges  
• Alexis Paige Hooft  
• Daniel Jay Hoffman  
• Natalie Paige Hogle  
• Dreyton Monet Holliday  
• Natalie Ann Holloway  
• Trishia Jarris Janae Holloway  
• Tyris Jarrett Joelle Holloway  
• Ke'Ontay Ahmad Holmes  
• Abbigail Elizabeth Hook  
• Chase Eli Hook  
• Hunter Levi Hook  
• Jareth Boaz Legend Horn  
• Jade Bailey London Horn  
• Andrew David Horrosey  
• Anna Alisa Houschens  
• Fithan Michael Howard  
• Maciah Aunne Hughes  
• Cori De'Neil Huson  
• Noah Spencer Hyman

Jacob Mark Ing  
• Parker Alan Jon Isakson  
• Andrew Jeremiah Isminger  
• Adrian Melek Jackson  
• Charlette Dajanae Jackson  
• Mary Jane James  
• Keagan Riley Jayne  
• Zachary Tyler Jeans  
• Roneshia Antoinette Jiridon  
• U'Nique De'Sire Jordon  
• Adiyah Daria Johnson  
• Montral Dean Johnson  
• Zachary Allen Johnson  
• Adaela Rose Jones  
• Jennifer Sierra Jones  
• Tyreece Rashawn Joy  
• Danielle Lee Julian  
• Kayla Marie Kamler  
• Adam Joseph Kane  
• Michael David Katich  
• Heather Ann Keene  
• Anthony Tyler Kelley  
• Elise Pauline Kerlsmeier  
• Madison Riley Kilmeyer  
• Durrell King  
• Preston Jonathan King  
• Alec Hunter Klein  
• Aaron Kay Klopfer  
• Kinbecon Tashae Knight  
• Gage William Kramel  
• Taton Marie Koebli  
• Allei She Dion Kyles  
• Dalton Christopher Laffue  
• Ezekiel Zane Langley  
• Andrew Curtis Lanham  
• Nakia Victor Lanham, Jr.  
• Brianna Elizabeth Lee  
• Natalie Ellen Leonard  
• Kaitlyn Marie Lewis  
• Emily Marie Elizabeth Light  
• Seth Andrew Livell  
• Meshelle Nikol Lockhart  
• Sydney Shay Lombardi  
• Deven Daniel Long  
• Anthony Matthew Longo  
• Jac'lin Kay Frances Lunsford  
• Riles Owen Lundstrom  
• Pa'niah Ed'lessana Lunsford  
• Destinee Alize Luttrell  
• Aric Cartwright Macias  
• Zoe Kimball Mack  
• Mariah Marie Maccon  
• Tyler David Madrey

Michael Kenneth Malon, Jr.  
• Christopher Ryan Mann  
• Seth Erik Marcum  
• Cody James Markle  
• Jonathan Joseph Thomas Marshall  
• Diane Markina Masalone  
• Felisa Ann Matlock  
• Olivia Grace Mayden  
• Dustin Jeffrey Mayer  
• Annie Marie Maynard  
• Jade LeeAnn McDaniell  
• Kaitlyn Marie McDonald  
• Morgan Sierra McGlauchlin  
• Lindsey Anne McKee  
• Tyler Harris McKeever  
• Tame'ica Shanique McSwyne  
• Katie Ann Medford  
• Micah Stephen Meeks  
• Randall Wayne Meeks  
• Jonathan Earl Melvin, Jr.  
• Brian Eugene Merrifield, Jr.  
• Evan Samuel Meyer  
• Elizabeth Star Milner  
• Deon Remon Miller, Jr.  
• Destiny Lee Miller  
• Brittany Ann Molloy  
• Taylor Caitlyn Monroe  
• Kristiana Grace Elizabeth Moore  
• Savannah Niquel Moore  
• Zachariah Shane Moore  
• DeMarcus Eugene Morgan  
• Lawrenceisha Lashay Morgan  
• Ricci Melissa Morgan  
• Joseph Scott Morris  
• Justin Lee Morris  
• Jacob Blaine Mossman  
• Grace Elizabeth Mosey  
• Tyler Jacob Mosey  
• Matthew Franklin Mueller  
• Aidan Allan Napp  
• Charles Joseph Nasello  
• Alexis Virginia Neal  
• Steven Sang Nguyen  
• Matthew Thomas Oberholzer, Jr.  
• Sabrina Marie Oberholzer  
• Amber Nicole Oetle  
• Cassie Marie Orrill  
• Michael Eugene Overstreet, Jr.  
• Melody Lynn Oyan  
• Donna Antoinette Parione  
• Joseph Randall Pappin  
• Cedric Fitzgerald Parker, Jr.  
• Jaylen Casey Andrew Parker

- Joshua Daniel Partl
- Deep Sureshkumar Patel
- Meet Rajnikumar Patel
- Steven Joseph Pattan
- Matthew Ryan Paulda
- Abigail Rose Peipert
- Keith Brainard Perry, Jr.
- ★ Lucy Rae Phillips
- Zachary Ryan Phillips
- Destiny Ineice Phipps
- Allieanna Lashae Pierson
- Bradley Joseph Piros
- Bryan Alvon Price
- Caitlyn Jane Pritchard
- Bethany Jean Proctor
- ★ Lily Roberta Puent
- Sarah Elizabeth Pullen
- ★ Dema Adeeb Ali Qasem
- ★ Antonio Nathaniel Raglin
- Benjamin Michael Rakoski
- Mary Elizabeth Rangel
- Anthony Tyler Rardin
- Evan Timothy Rathgeb
- Ryan Lee Raymond
- Breyon Jayden Reed
- Damion Marquis Reid, Jr.
- Adam Joseph Reinhardt
- Tanner Matthew Ressler
- Joseph Tyler Retzer
- Reginald Lee Rhines
- Jocelynn Olivia Riddlespriger
- Trevor Duane Rister
- Ashley Da'Shae' Robinson
- Dasha Caprice Robinson
- Tiffani Ann Robinson
- Alexia Monet' Rodgers
- Spencer Michael Rodgers
- Jade Renay Sterling Rolf
- Brandon Scot Roper
- Shelby Molinda Roth
- Madeleine Marie Rubin
- Elyssa Kaye Rushton
- Keyondrick Jayshaun Russell
- ★ Kalen LaShawn Samelton
- Taylor Adam Sandberg
- Grace Elizabeth Sawyer
- Annie Ruth Saxton
- ★ Hallie Michelle Schilling
- Kylee Rose Schlieper
- Lexy Madison Schmidt
- Michael Christopher Schrage
- ★ Alexis Rae Schrimpf
- Blake William Schuette
- ★ Emily Christine Schultz
- Raymond Carl Schutte, Jr.
- Diamond Elisa Scott
- ★ Thomas Alexander Scyoc
- ★ Hayden Douglas Sebold
- James Michael Selke
- Sydney Alexis Shansey
- Hannah Elizabeth Shultz
- Malique Elijah Reginald Simms
- River Michael Dawson Skaggs
- Tyler Daron Slack
- Curstan Dujuan Smallwood
- Shaw Mitchell Smeltzer-Baer
- ★ Elizabeth Renae Smith
- Kiara Christiauna Moette' Smith
- Paige Renee' Snyders
- Mariah Christine Spiller
- Tyler Michael Springman
- Carter Ellingsworth St. Cin
- Tanner Robert St. Peters
- ♦ Christina Renae Stark
- ★ Gage Robert Steiner
- ♦ James Christian Steinman
- ★ Joseph Henry Steinman
- ★ Kelsie Marie Stendeback
- Tyler Eugene Stevenson
- Chance Anthony Lee Stice
- ★ Madeleine Joy Stobbs
- Nathan Ray Stormer
- Savannah Nicole Stover
- Breann Rena Strong
- Anna Marie Summers
- Chase Christopher Swanson
- Maxwell Abraham Taul
- Thomas John Tavalacci
- Gregrey Darnell Taylor, Jr.
- James Herschel Taylor
- Trey Gavin Taylor
- ★ Cailyn Teresa Tegel
- Gunner Hayden Telnes
- ★ Shantal Brianna Terrell
- Yazmein Brea Terrell
- Patrick D'Wayne Thomas, Jr.
- Ray Eugene Thompson, IV
- Bayleigh Marie Thornhill
- Noah Robert Thornton
- ♦ Samuel Alexander Tillman
- Devon Paul Tinker
- Clayton Nicholas Tolen
- Alexandra Rochelle Tolliver
- Marie Alice Townsend
- Minh Thanh Tran
- Alexandra Maria Treise
- Ty'ohn Donye' Trimble
- Quinton Rion Trobaugh
- ★ Gretchen Liesel Ulrich
- ★ Raina Mackenzie Valyo
- Brandon J'Von Wade
- Isaiah Malachi Waggener
- Joel Allen Walker
- ★ Michael Thomas Walter
- ★ Anna Adele Walters
- Jewelnae Marie Washington
- Cortez Emanuel Watson
- Nathan Robert Wheaton
- ★ Marissa Danielle Whiteside
- ★ Quinn Richard Whitten
- Dennis Joseph Wickham
- ★ Bryan Flenniken Wikoff
- ★ Alexys Rose Williams
- Jonathan Michael Williams
- Taylor Michelle Williams
- Jessie Rae Wills
- Alexa Marie Wilson
- Brandon Scott Wilson
- ★ Rylee Matthew Wilson
- ★ David Lynn Witt
- Hannah Elise Wittman
- Tavana Nicole Woods
- Azalae Chambray Wooldridge
- Klaudia Heather Wooldridge
- ★ Tessa Nicole Woulfe
- Andrew Bernard Wright
- Calin Ray Wright
- ★ Tristan Henry Wuellner
- Abigail Marie Yinger
- Justin Tate Yinger
- Tarasha Nipperst Young
- ★ Mallory Kathryn Zahner
- Kaitlyn Marie Zini
- Nicholas Blake Zini
- Noah Christopher Zumbaum



- ◆ Platinum Alpha, Cumulative GPA 4.5 and above
- ★ Gold Alpha, Cumulative GPA 3.75 to 4.4
- Silver Alpha, Cumulative GPA 3.0 to 3.74

