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Marathon High School graduates receive KAPOW awards

MARATHON — Marathon High School graduates Carla Decimus and Katelaine Kimberlie Jean received special awards from Learning for Success Inc. through its Kids and the Power of Work (KAPOW) program during a virtual ceremony on May 26.

The presentation was first done virtually, rather than during the school's traditional live graduation

event, due to restrictions imposed by the coronavirus pandemic

The student awardees were chosen based on essays they submitted describing their experience with the



Jean

MHS Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) program.

"AVID encouraged me to attend college and follow my dreams in joining the police force," Decimus wrote in her essay. "I plan on majoring in criminal justice. I know that this program will make me persevere and find a job at distinguished agencies."

The awards were sponsored by grants from Bank

of America Foundation and Publix Super Markets Charities.

"We're thankful for the support we get from the KAPOW program and the generous contributions from Bank of America and Publix Charities for our outstanding students," said Christina Belotti, AVID teacher.

AVID is a global nonprofit organization dedicated to closing the achievement

gap by preparing all students for college and other postsecondary opportunities. The program:

- Teaches skills and behaviors for academic success;
- Provides intensive



Decimus

support with tutorials and strong student/teacher relationships;

- Creates a positive peer group for students; and
- Develops a sense of hope for personal achievement gained through hard work and determination.

For more information about KAPOW, call 786-877-0334 or visit kapowfls.com. For more on AVID, contact Belotti at Christina.Belotti@KeysSchools.com.