



Princess Bio

Name: Carmella Thomas

School: Grant High School

Birthplace: Portland

Parents/Guardians: Jennifer Watson and Coleatus Thomas

Siblings: Tierra, Diego, and Khaliyah

Year in school: Junior

Future education & career plans:

Carmella plans to attend a 4 year college out of state, and potentially study business. She is interested in footwear and apparel design.

High School Activities & Honors:

Carmella was voted "MVP dancer" by her class as the most encouraging, outgoing peer in 2019. She was selected by administrators at Grant to have someone from PPS shadow her as a part of PPS Guiding Coalition. Ms Thomas has received 7 SEI awards for having a GPA 3.5-4.0 from 2017 – 2019.

Hobbies and special interest:

Carmella enjoys dancing, and has been for 6 years. She is in the Grant Dance Collective, and in female leadership at Self Enhancement Inc., both of which she loves. SEI in general is the highlight of her week because of the people there, the group of girls are so powerful and inspiring to be around. She also enjoys going thrift shopping, seeing the diverse styles and having fun seeing what she can find.

What is your favorite place to visit in Portland and why?

"The Pittock Mansion because it is so beautiful! When you tour the inside of the house it is like a time capsule and it feels great stepping out of what's normal for me. In addition to this, my favorite flowers are roses and the property has beautiful roses planted along a walkway leading up to a breathtaking view of downtown! It is a place that I always love going to because there is so much thought put into every detail."

What are you most proud of during your high school career?

"Last year I got selected to be apart of a PPS Vision Process Guiding Coalition where 90 Adults and about 9 students collaborate to find ideas about how to improve PPS for students in the future. It was very beneficial to meet new people and make great connections, I felt that I was making a difference in my school district."

What is your favorite Rose Festival event and why?

"My favorite Rose Festival event would have to be the Starlight Parade for sure. I go with my whole family and we find a spot on a crowded corner and eat snacks together. The floats are so creative and even better they light up making them more memorable! My freshmen year in high school on the Rose Princess float I saw my friend Cash who was Jefferson's Princess and my friend Melissa who was Grant's Princess. Seeing them wave to me from the float was my favorite part of the whole parade."

Unitus Community Credit Union Mentor: Carmen Ram