

JULIA DORTCH

Student State College of Florida Collegiate School

Julia was born in Sarasota, Florida and resides in Palmetto with her mom and stepdad. She attended Saint Joseph Catholic School, Manatee School for the Arts and is currently a sophomore at the State College of Florida Collegiate School. While at Manatee School for the Arts, she was inducted into the National Junior Honor Society. Next year, she will be attending the State College of Florida as an 11th grade student dual enrolled as a freshman in college.

Julia has danced with the Diane Partington Studio of Classical Ballet for eleven years. She auditioned for the Saratoga Summer Dance Intensive in New York, was accepted, and traveled to Saratoga Springs, New York where she danced for a month. She is currently dancing at the Bradenton Dance and Performing Arts Center.

In February of 2018, Julia became active in the March for Our Lives movement after the tragedy at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High. She was an organizer for her school walk-out on March 14th. She was the host and main organizer for the March for Our Lives - Manatee County event at the Bradenton Riverwalk on March 24th. Over 1,000 like-minded people came and joined her to protest school safety and gun reform. Julia invited several students from Manatee area schools to speak on the topic as well as State Representative Margaret Good, Candidate David Shapiro, Candidate Tracy Pratt, and Candidate Liv Coleman's husband Matt Lepinski. Julia was invited to speak at the Students Stand Up Rally on April 15th to discuss what's next in the movement for gun reform and everyone's safety in schools. She is thrilled to be included as a guest speaker on school safety today.