

ARIZONA STUDENT SUCCESS STORIES

MAKULA KABA

12th Grade
Tucson Unified
School District

Wendy McFeely
ELD Coordinator/ELD Department Chair
Catalina High School



 **ARIZONA**
Department of Education

"I am writing to nominate Makula Kaba to be a Student Success Story recipient. Makula had been in the ELD program at Catalina High since her arrival from a refugee camp in Ivory Coast in December of 2019 until she earned a score of proficient in Spring 2022. Makula went from Pre-Emergent to Proficient in three years, even as we were faced with the Covid closure and that difficult first year back. Makula is a very special student. She lived her entire life in a refugee camp and at one point was not able to attend school for five years while there. However, she retained her desire for an education and excelled in classes wherever she was enrolled.

Today she is getting ready to graduate and will be walking across the stage with her class in May. She will attend the University of Arizona and major in theater. She would like to be an actress and model in order to have a stage to share her experience and her dreams for the world. Makula possesses perseverance and determination. She did not let educational obstacles of being unable to attend school for five years and the COVID shut down stop her from obtaining her education in a timely manner. Makula is an active member of the AVID class and school community through this program. She received the Junior AVID Student of the Year last year."