SEMIFINALISTS IN THE 2017
NATIONAL MERIT® SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM
September 14, 2016 Announcement

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Note to editors: Semifinalists in your state are listed alphabetically by city and high school following this press release.

This material is prepared solely for news media to announce the names of Semifinalists; its use for any other purpose is prohibited.

Caution: Using numbers of Semifinalists to compare high schools, educational systems, or states will result in erroneous conclusions. The National Merit® Scholarship Program honors individual students who show exceptional academic ability and potential for success in rigorous college studies. The program does not measure the quality or effectiveness of education within a school, system, or state. For more information about the competition, please visit NMSC’s website at www.nationalmerit.org.

Semifinalists in the 2017 National Merit® Scholarship Program

(Evanston, Illinois) Today officials of National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC) announced the names of approximately 16,000 Semifinalists in the 62nd annual National Merit Scholarship Program. These academically talented high school seniors have an opportunity to continue in the competition for some 7,500 National Merit Scholarships worth about $33 million that will be offered next spring. To be considered for a Merit Scholarship® award, Semifinalists must fulfill several requirements to advance to the Finalist level of the competition. About 90 percent of the Semifinalists are expected to attain Finalist standing, and about half of the Finalists will win a National Merit Scholarship, earning the Merit Scholar® title.

NMSC, a not-for-profit organization that operates without government assistance, was established in 1955 specifically to conduct the annual National Merit Scholarship Program. Scholarships are underwritten by NMSC with its own funds and by approximately 420 business organizations and higher education institutions that share NMSC’s goals of honoring the nation’s scholastic champions and encouraging the pursuit of academic excellence.

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Steps in the 2017 Competition

About 1.6 million juniors in more than 22,000 high schools entered the 2017 National Merit Scholarship Program by taking the 2015 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT®), which served as an initial screen of program entrants. The nationwide pool of Semi-finalists, representing less than one percent of U.S. high school seniors, includes the highest-scoring entrants in each state. The number of Semi-finalists in a state is proportional to the state’s percentage of the national total of graduating seniors.

To become a Finalist, the Semi-finalist and his or her high school must submit a detailed scholarship application, in which they provide information about the Semi-finalist’s academic record, participation in school and community activities, demonstrated leadership abilities, employment, and honors and awards received. A Semi-finalist must have an outstanding academic record throughout high school, be endorsed and recommended by a high school official, write an essay, and earn SAT® scores that confirm the student’s earlier performance on the qualifying test.

From the approximately 16,000 Semi-finalists, about 15,000 are expected to advance to the Finalist level, and in February they will be notified of this designation. All National Merit Scholarship winners will be selected from this group of Finalists. Merit Scholar designees are selected on the basis of their skills, accomplishments, and potential for success in rigorous college studies, without regard to gender, race, ethnic origin, or religious preference.

National Merit Scholarships

Three types of National Merit Scholarships will be offered in the spring of 2017. Every Finalist will compete for one of 2,500 National Merit® $2500 Scholarships that will be awarded on a state-representational basis. About 1,000 corporate-sponsored Merit Scholarship awards will be provided by approximately 230 corporations and business organizations for Finalists who meet their specified criteria, such as children of the grantor’s employees or residents of communities where sponsor plants or offices are located. In addition, about 190 colleges and universities are expected to finance some 4,000 college-sponsored Merit Scholarship awards for Finalists who will attend the sponsor institution.

National Merit Scholarship winners of 2017 will be announced in four nationwide news releases beginning in April and concluding in July. These scholarship recipients will join more than 323,000 other distinguished young people who have earned the Merit Scholar title.

#       #       #
Semifinalists: 2017 National Merit Scholarship Program

MARYLAND

ABERDEEN
ABERDEEN H. S.
710 Huang, Catherine G.

ANNAPOLIS
BROADNECK H. S.
790 Morse, Anna S.

BALTIMORE
BALTIMORE CITY COLLEGE
600 Morrel, Jessica M.
454 Rubin, Brooks J.
906 SACCO, Carolyn E.

BALTIMORE SCHOOL FOR THE ARTS
000 Boehminger, Emeline J.

BRYN MAWR SCHOOL
Macksey, Elizabeth A.
742 Nurmsisky, Katherine M.

CALVERT HALL COLLEGE H. S.
450 Davies, Emylyn S.
999 Miller, Christopher J.
907 Purcell, John F.

CARVER CENTER FOR ARTS AND TECHNOLOGY
999 Chen, Veronica R.
773 Fuchs, Jonathan D.

BETH TFILOH DAHAN COMMUNITY H. S.
628 Arking, Andrew Z.

EASTERN TECHNICAL H. S.
457 Davidson, Quentin T.

FRIENDS SCHOOL
999 Brooks, Joshua C.
907 Davis, Hunter L.
559 Davis, Jackson D.
451 De Vinne, Nicolas S.

GILMAN SCHOOL
600 de Havenon, Victor

THE PARK SCHOOL
791 Brill-Garlat, Clara C.
999 Dy, Jeremy
999 Sapirstein, Abel

PERRY HALL H. S.
999 Banks, Olivia A.

BERLIN
WORCESTER PREPARATORY SCHOOL
000 Schwartz, Ava L.

BETHESDA
BETHESDA - CHEVY CHASE H. S.
999 Benziller, Theodore P.
628 Bowers, Caitlin E.
456 Chan, Kelsey P.
456 Gerard, Thomas A.
722 Gutman, Evyatar
455 Kluteter, Samuel
907 Smyth, Conor M.
999 Tomeh, Natalie R.
999 Zehrner, Katherine M.

HOLTEN - ARMS SCHOOL
999 Babet, Katherine M.
999 Baker, Lillian G.
999 Berthiaume, Leanne C.
999 Hertzler-McCain, Aleja C.
400 HEWITT, Katharine K.
553 Nordquist, Annika A.

WALTER JOHNSON H. S.
000 Ferry, John W.
843 Gancz, Michael A.
162 Khawaja, Imran S.

740 Leal, Sebastian D.
710 Mattapallil, Noah J.
162 McKinney, Alyssa C.
454 Pavletic, Oliver R.
999 Skinner, Thomas B.
999 van Gelderen, Evielen Q.

LANDON SCHOOL
000 Tang, Jason J.

STONE RIDGE SCHOOL OF THE SACRED HEART
450 Rhodes, Nora
000 Wellisz, Aleksandra J.

WALT WHITMAN H. S.
999 Baker, Justin E.
550 Beske, Genevieve
000 Gold, Noah P.
999 Hallward-Driemeier, Andrew H.
628 Hwang, Sun-Bin
830 Mishra, Tanusha
559 Rifi, Gabriela J.
821 Robertsgaal, Miklos X.
200 Segal, Ella
162 Steighner, Joshua R.

BOONSBORO
BOONSBORO H. S.
000 McClellan, Cameron J.

CHESAPEAKE CITY
BOHEMIA MANOR H. S.
467 Giedzinski, Samuel C.
303 Roelefs, Sean F.

CLARKSVILLE
RIVER HILL H. S.
950 Baranowsky, Nicholas L.
520 Caine, Page
303 Hu, Iris J.
160 Kelley, Natalie A.
722 Kim, Nicholas
208 Torre, Nicholas F.
628 Tung, Renee J.
160 Wei, Alice D.
161 Xu, Benjamin

COLUMBIA
ATHOLTON H. S.
627 Bagley, Elizabeth A.
121 Fu, Samantha
301 Lin, Timothy B.
742 Myers, Alexander R.

HAMMOND H. S.
303 Kerry, Jessica D.

HOMESCHOOL
741 Reilly, Nolan M.
741 Reilly, Sonia M.

OAKLAND MILLS H. S.
790 Kirk-Daviddoff, Rosa L.

WILDE LAKE H. S.
450 Boone, Caroline G.

EASTON
STS. PETER AND PAUL H. S.
450 Sanford, Mimi C.

EDGEWATER
SOUTH RIVER H. S.
457 Rancic, Mihailo S.
162 Wu, Tatiana X.

ELICOTT CITY
CENTENNIAL H. S.
454 Byun, Suzie Y.
000 Krawczyk, Ryan T.
164 Laljani, Rohan M.
549 Li, Jason J.
166 Liu, Ivy
740 Monroe, Mary F.
740 Neerchal, Srij
999 Sain, Sahil S.
999 Singh, Jade A.

302 Wei, Allison
450 Wu, Gordon
600 Zhao, Emmy Z.
999 Zhu, Angela D.
200 Zou, Nicholas S.

HOWARD H. S.
628 Shah, Rohan S.

MOUNT HEBRON H. S.
454 Phatak, Anupama

RALABANDHI, SAI PRANAV

FREDERICK
HOMESCHOOL
999 Harvey, Joseph M.
160 Hurwitz, Madelyn M.

LINGANORE H. S.
628 McCann, Brendan M.

FULTON
RESERVOIR H. S.
600 Choi, Joshua Y.

GAITHERSBURG
GAITHERSBURG H. S.
999 Khan, Yousef A.

HOMESCHOOL
454 Cole, Rachel

QUINCE ORCHARD H. S.
950 Bauer, Michael G.

GERMANTOWN
NORTHWEST H. S.
000 Schlunk, Erika M.

GLEN BURNIE
GLEN BURNIE H. S.
303 Roper, Robin T.

GLNELG
GLNELG H. S.
160 Daniel, Robel
160 Patsy, Marisa R.
722 Wang, Martin

GREAT MILLS
GREAT MILLS H. S.
843 Beaulieu, Michelle M.
628 Luke, Jude C.
771 Shah, Arhum A.

GREENBELT
ELEANOR ROOSEVELT H. S.
161 Banko, Abel B.
999 Baumann, Victor
999 Hurt, Stella B.
303 Roy, Shilpa E.
999 Zhang, Christine

IJAMSVILLE
OAKDALE H. S.
904 Gipson, Carter T.

URBANA H. S.
185 Dayaprema, Anuk K.
202 Kim, Mia M.
160 Li, Katherine Y.
451 Ramanathan, Keshav
160 Singhal, Anushka
999 Sun, Jinghan

KENSINGTON
ACADEMY OF THE HOLY CROSS
252 Menijvar, Brittany M.

LEONARDTOWN
ST. MARY’S RYKEN H. S.
901 Tran, Tiffany B.

MILLERSVILLE
ROCKBRIDGE ACADEMY
467 Ault, Nathan D.
742 Craig, Alexander K.
466 Mungan, Annabel L.

NORTH BETHESDA
GEORGETOWN PREPARATORY SCHOOL
300 Wenger, Jonathan X.
999 Wood, Zachary S.

NORTH EAST
TOME SCHOOL
450 Tsipoulis, Nikolas J.

OLNE
OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL H. S.
162 Adams, Noah K.
302 Coronado, Neel Emmanuel M.
303 Harrington, Michael H.
907 Schiftik, Elaniya C.

OWINGS MILLS
MC DONOCH SCHOOL
000 Insley, Jeffers A.

PARKTON
HEREFORD H. S.
792 Field, Hunter I.
455 Nawrocki, Robert J.

PASADENA
CHESAPEAKE H. S.
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POOLESVILLE
POOLESVILLE H. S.
999 Bentz, Emma N.
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450 Kane, Zuben A.
168 Kwon, Nathan Y.
999 Leng, Caroline P.
999 Mohammed, Azeeem S.
303 Mundra, Ishan S.
000 Nui, Wally L.
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999 Sun, Hannah M.

POTOMAC
WINSTON CHURCHILL H. S.
204 Chen, Jennifer
300 Chen, Michael
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999 Miller, David Y.
999 Roberts, Valerie
628 Zhao, Jack Y.

HEIGHTS SCHOOL
450 Goyette, William M.
999 Hiavlin, John F.

REISTERSTOWN
FRANKLIN H. S.
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ROCKVILLE
RICHARD MONTGOMERY H. S.
723 Balfour, Taylor M.
600 Beckford, Charlotte J.
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628 Chen, Jenny
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900 Edmo, David V.
455 Frankie, Madeleine M.
250 Grant, Daisy M.
450 Hartman, Malory G.
946 Ji, Jessica L.
836 Kandakumar, Manoj
450 Lang, Eric Y.
940 Lee, Kern
212 Li, Joseph M.
911 Li, Simon M.
162 Li, Xinwei
999 Lin, Erica
999 Maldonado, Peter H.
999 Mendley, Jonathan Y.
999 Moss, Max L.
999 Rajagopali, Mekala
906 Shen, Fonda W.
160 Stepanova, Nataliya P.
209 Sun, Grace Z.

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Semifinalists: 2017 National Merit Scholarship Program

Maryland (continued)

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SALISBURY
JAMES M. BENNETT H. S.
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SANDY SPRING FRIENDS SCHOOL
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SHERWOOD H. S.
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SEVERNA PARK
SEVERN SCHOOL
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904  Phoolosbhat, Ramida

450  Price, Kendall I.
170  Sarkar, Neal M.
843  Shetty, Aditi K.
301  Shonkwiler, Lara E.
836  Vinson, James S.
628  Wang, Richard L.
600  Zhang, Minie

SPRING BROOK H. S.
999  Giron, Carlos R.

WHEATON H. S.
907  Gil, Liam F.
970  Kaufman, Blake J.

SMITHSBURG
SMITHSBURG H. S.
202  Lee, Jade S.

STEVENSVILLE
KENT ISLAND H. S.
185  Pauley, Samantha E.

SYKESVILLE
CENTURY H. S.
600  Parks, Maya R.

TIMONIUM
DULANEY H. S.
000  Clark, Julia L.
000  Rothman, Meera A.
000  Sun, Daniel

TOWSON
LOYOLA BLAKEFIELD H. S.
450  Barker, Andrew J.
999  Kinkopf, Paul D.
904  McErlean, Jacob D.

NOTRE DAME
PREPARATORY SCHOOL
999  Sullivan, Grace E.

TOWSON H. S.
999  Hula, Brennan W.

WALKERSVILLE
WALKERSVILLE H. S.
894  Handwerk, Jessica