



**NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP CORPORATION**

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**SEMIFINALISTS IN THE 2018  
NATIONAL MERIT® SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM  
September 13, 2017 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](http://www.nationalmerit.org).*

**Semifinalists in the 2018 National Merit® Scholarship Program**

(Evanston, Illinois) Today officials of National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC) announced the names of approximately 16,000 Semifinalists in the 63<sup>rd</sup> 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 more than \$32 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.

## **Steps in the 2018 Competition**

About 1.6 million juniors in more than 22,000 high schools entered the 2018 National Merit Scholarship Program by taking the 2016 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT<sup>®</sup>), which served as an initial screen of program entrants. The nationwide pool of Semifinalists, representing less than one percent of U.S. high school seniors, includes the highest-scoring entrants in each state. The number of Semifinalists in a state is proportional to the state's percentage of the national total of graduating seniors.

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

From the approximately 16,000 Semifinalists, 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 2018. Every Finalist will compete for one of 2,500 National Merit<sup>®</sup> \$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 2018 will be announced in four nationwide news releases beginning in April and concluding in July. These scholarship recipients will join more than 330,000 other distinguished young people who have earned the Merit Scholar title.

# # #

# Semifinalists: 2018 National Merit Scholarship Program

## MARYLAND

### ABERDEEN

ABERDEEN H. S.  
451 Kundu, Shourov  
303 Mattson, Joseph D.  
303 Nguyen, Max V.  
742 Tokarchik, Ian B.

### ANNAPOLIS

ANNAPOLIS H. S.  
999 Milio, Rachel T.

### BALTIMORE

BALTIMORE CITY COLLEGE  
907 Geenen, William E.  
999 Nass, Eli D.  
000 Sharfstein, Samuel

### BALTIMORE POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE

843 Borbash, Vivian  
160 Brody, Rebecca G.  
120 Charney, Cecilia H.  
522 Lyons, Azeem A.  
463 Wayner, Claire C.

### BRYN MAWR SCHOOL

999 Booth, Clare L.  
830 Dada, Myra  
520 Harrington, Helen  
450 Kim, Ye Rin  
450 Smith, Margaret S.

### CARVER CENTER FOR ARTS AND TECHNOLOGY

000 Krasnitski, Michael A.  
000 Liepinya, Diana

### BETH TFILOH DAHAN COMMUNITY H. S.

999 Fine, Noah Y.

### GILMAN SCHOOL

250 Auen, Nicholas J.  
466 Chou, Isaac  
209 Huang, Bryan  
302 Jiang, Bowen  
904 Johnson, Michael B.  
160 Menon, Hari  
999 Mu, Matthew Z.

### THE PARK SCHOOL

000 Asdourian, Elijah O.  
000 Genth, Leah C.  
000 Metzel, Jeffrey  
000 Pound, Luke W.

### PERRY HALL H. S.

454 Fowler, Malachi M.

### WESTERN SCHOOL OF TECHNOLOGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

301 Ko, Albert J.

### BEL AIR

C. MILTON WRIGHT H. S.  
450 Del Colliano, Adam N.

### BERLIN

WORCESTER PREPARATORY SCHOOL  
555 Parker, Olivia C.

### BETHESDA

BETHESDA - CHEVY CHASE H. S.  
999 Bergman, Aaron G.  
720 Friedman, Benjamin G.  
000 Himwich, Neil  
830 Kolbeck, Paul T.  
455 Lieberman, David I.  
790 Nantais, Natalie  
200 Park, Adam S.  
907 Wagner, Grace M.

FRENCH INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL  
870 Bagnato-Conlin, Elizabeth G.

### HOLTON - ARMS SCHOOL

773 Akhavan, Bonnie C.  
999 Batra, Amber  
870 Choksy, Zenia

### WALTER JOHNSON H. S.

830 Hansen, Margaret R.  
740 Hovis-Afflerbach, Beryl A.  
520 Kim, Jinhyung  
999 Liu, Zelin  
470 Lu, Jacob S.  
900 Seley, Samson E.

### LANDON SCHOOL

200 Landers, Douglas P.  
450 Maldonado, Leonardo  
999 Popera, John

### WALT WHITMAN H. S.

302 Aubert, Alice P.  
160 Caldera, Camille G.  
999 Crist, Ray H.  
303 Engels, Joshua A.  
628 Gorman, Benjamin  
000 Mackall, James  
742 Marshall, Liam  
999 Nevins, Rory P.  
600 Pergami-Peries, Paolo  
162 Rich, Joshua  
451 Shaffer, Ryan W.

### BRUNSWICK

BRUNSWICK H. S.  
000 Carr, Gillian L.

### CENTREVILLE

QUEEN ANNE'S COUNTY H. S.  
999 McGrory, Ian M.

### CLARKSBURG

CLARKSBURG H. S.  
300 Evenson, Matthew D.  
162 Mullick, Anindita

### CLARKSVILLE

RIVER HILL H. S.  
999 Cai, Janie H.  
999 Chen, Irene Y.  
250 Du, Catherine X.  
833 LeDoux, Samuel J.  
454 Lee, YeongHyeon  
628 Luo, Jacob A.  
628 Ma, Rachel  
999 Peletski, Daniel R.  
162 Phung, Christopher T.  
162 Qian, Michael C.  
740 Selbrede, Clara M.  
303 Selbrede, Craig M.  
904 Shen, Sophie H.  
904 Song, Andy W.

### COLUMBIA

ATHOLTON H. S.  
999 Graf, Katerina I.  
454 Thomas, Deepa A.  
450 Welch, Jacob A.  
302 Zhang, Arden Q.

### HAMMOND H. S.

999 Holtz, Alexander O.  
000 Kim, Eric Y.  
300 Schneider, Charles C.

### WILDE LAKE H. S.

742 Uy, Ariel B.

### EDGEWATER

SOUTH RIVER H. S.  
999 Cyphers, Dylan D.

### ELDERSBURG

LIBERTY H. S.  
501 Johnson, Matthew E.  
833 Manogue, Kevin P.

999 Mendoza, Taylor L.  
450 Sevier, Shannon E.

### ELLICOTT CITY

CENTENNIAL H. S.  
742 Alme, Emmaline S.  
554 Choi, Jisoo  
628 Gao, Katie J.  
999 Hasson, Kayleigh A.  
161 Lin, Xiuying  
628 Mahalingam, Vaishnavi  
303 Mehrotra, Pujit  
628 Moser, Mary D.  
628 Murali, Chythanya  
161 Rama Varma, Anagha  
162 Rao, Samyukta  
999 Xie, Chance  
999 Xu, Kevin J.  
830 Yang, Franklin J.

### GLENELG COUNTRY SCHOOL

303 Doody, Jacob M.

### HOWARD H. S.

500 Cabrera, Josiah Miguel H.  
500 Gerst, William N.  
999 Holda, Madeline E.  
906 Nikolopoulos, Elli

### MOUNT HEBRON H. S.

900 Cucchiaro, Shannon E.  
904 Jin, Steven S.  
456 Niezelski, Daniel A.  
854 Wu, Alex C.

### FREDERICK

FREDERICK H. S.  
946 Anderson, Noah E.  
160 Chen, Arabella F.  
451 Ciervo, Cole T.

### GAMBRILLS

ARUNDEL H. S.  
000 Ludwig, Danial K.

### GLENELG

GLENELG H. S.  
450 Lahmann, Cole D.  
160 Morton, Elizabeth R.

### GREAT MILLS

GREAT MILLS H. S.  
000 Kankaria, Roma A.

### GREENBELT

ELEANOR ROOSEVELT H. S.  
999 Cho, Ezra  
303 Dawson, Charles D.  
700 Gardner, Elizabeth A.

### IJAMSVILLE

URBANA H. S.  
950 Cromwell, Annabel  
455 Gu, Eric C.  
162 Liu, Jacqueline  
450 Roy, Shuvam  
628 Shah, Nisarg N.  
302 Zhang, Ryan F.

### MARRIOTTSTVILLE

MARRIOTT'S RIDGE H. S.  
451 Chen, Anson Y.  
741 Gunukula, Shushanth  
162 Han, Yoo-Jean  
185 Kim, Eugene  
461 Lennon, Maxwell R.  
742 Qudsi, Zain A.  
456 Shen, Lauren J.

### MIDDLETOWN

MIDDLETOWN H. S.  
185 McDermott, Riley

### MILLERSVILLE

OLD MILL H. S.  
742 Goyal, Saili Z.

### NORTH BETHESDA

GEORGETOWN PREPARATORY SCHOOL  
740 Angel, Cory R.  
200 Bell, Rollin M.

### OLNEY

OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL H. S.  
907 Amato, Luke D.  
999 Cain, Matthew  
161 Kelchner, Sarah N.  
772 Trimble, Eric M.

### OWINGS

NORTHERN H. S.  
302 Kong, Jim C.

### OWINGS MILLS

MC DONOUGH SCHOOL  
843 Bers, Jeremy E.

### PARKTON

HEREFORD H. S.  
160 Ciemian, Justin D.  
300 Honeywell, Tyler T.

### POMFRET

MAURICE J. MC DONOUGH H. S.  
628 Saoud, Elizabeth G.

### POOLESVILLE

POOLESVILLE H. S.  
302 Bang, Joon  
836 Fream, Mitchell R.  
999 Gherman, Benjamin M.  
459 In, Esther  
160 Kim, Caius A.  
999 Lee, Daniel D.  
303 Oza, Parth R.  
742 Park, Justin S.  
303 Prebilib, Gavin F.  
302 Prem, Jagan R.  
430 Qian, Eric S.  
740 Rosenberg, Samuel K.  
300 Shen, Kevin  
303 Su, Kevin L.  
467 Vangara, Sreya  
300 Zou, Claude Y.

### POTOMAC

BULLIS SCHOOL  
000 Yau, Christopher T.

### WINSTON CHURCHILL H. S.

900 Bai, Jiawei  
999 Ge, Frank  
450 Gunther, Liza M.  
000 Kim, Noah Y.  
300 Li, Eric C.  
300 Ma, Hollis  
999 Tai, Michelle R.  
300 Tong, George J.  
999 Wang, Olivia  
000 Wu, Carissa  
000 Yang, Bennett E.  
300 Yang, David Y.

### HEIGHTS SCHOOL

000 Ryland, Andrew J.

### ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL SCHOOL

000 Reilly, Megan B.

### REISTERSTOWN

FRANKLIN H. S.  
999 Patrick, Mckenzie K.

### ROCKVILLE

MELVIN J. BERMAN HEBREW ACADEMY  
999 Einhorn, Avery E.  
209 Melkin, Jacob T.

### RICHARD MONTGOMERY H. S.

999 Baird, Peter  
000 Benhassane, Selma  
000 Brover, Elizaveta A.  
000 Cobb, Mary C.  
160 Dang, Catherine L.  
946 Gao, Alisa  
907 Hirsch, Charlotte R.  
904 Hu, Alex W.  
906 Jiang, Lucia Y.  
999 Koretsky, Samantha I.  
821 Larabee, Tadhg G.  
900 Li, Rachel R.  
999 Lin, Jonathan C.  
302 Liu, William L.  
999 Lu, Steven  
450 Mao, Andrew  
700 McHale, Kathleen A.

**Semifinalists: 2018 National Merit Scholarship Program**

**Maryland** (continued)

250 Park, Irene G.  
628 Sohn, Sooah  
906 Strauss-Reis, Eli J.  
000 Vo, Alythia  
000 Wang, Grace D.  
000 Wang, Julia T.  
000 Wong, Ami  
000 Wu, Grace  
000 Yang, Lisa  
000 Yang, Longfei  
000 Yeh, Vivian Y.  
000 You, Christina Q.  
999 Zhou, Emily  
200 Zhou, Isabelle Y.  
999 Zhovnirovskii, Kira A.  
200 Zhu, Kyle K.

ROCKVILLE H. S.  
300 Rankine, Alex G.

CHARLES E. SMITH JEWISH  
DAY SCHOOL  
455 Lieber-Kotz, Matan A.  
302 Shoyer, Joseph Z.

THOMAS SPRIGG WOOTTON H. S.  
300 Cao, Yue  
303 Christovich, Nicholas D.  
999 Dey, Vijay I.  
303 Fleisig, Eve N.  
209 Folk, Trent A.  
430 Kim, Julia M.  
999 Lam, Florina C.  
450 Le, Hoyean  
700 Lin, Sean  
999 Rakowicz, Martin  
303 Sun, Harvey D.  
999 Wang, Jamie S.  
300 Yang, Aolin  
455 Yu, William

**SALISBURY**

JAMES M. BENNETT H. S.  
628 Flint, Jasper A.  
450 Sun, Christina M.

**SANDY SPRING**

SHERWOOD H. S.  
000 Feeney, Peter  
000 Schwartz, Jared

**SEVERN**

ARCHBISHOP SPALDING H. S.  
303 Melville, Alexander T.  
450 Pett, Nicholas J.

**SEVERNA PARK**

SEVERNA SCHOOL  
999 Diamondidis, James O.

SEVERNA PARK H. S.  
000 Jamieson, Clifford C.

**SILVER SPRING**

MONTGOMERY BLAIR H. S.  
999 Beamer, Perry Z.  
160 Bloomer, Everest C.  
467 Durvasula, Ankitha  
160 Ederer, William A.  
904 Espinoza, Laura C.  
500 Fiala, Christopher T.  
467 Fong, Tyler D.  
450 Gupta, Sushanth  
628 Handel, Ryan K.  
450 He, Marissa  
743 Hinds, David E.  
300 Holland, Ryan P.  
999 Jain, Rahul  
600 John, Divya A.  
450 Khrenov, Mikhail  
843 Kienzle, Elliot S.  
308 Kim, Noah B.  
303 Klees, George T.  
303 Liou, Avery  
741 Lyi, Uro C.  
450 Rao, Jyotsna M.  
450 Santangelo, Jacob M.  
300 Senapati, Anish  
742 Shen, Yuang  
830 Shi, Wendy  
303 Siddique, Arman  
303 Singer, Noah G.  
628 Singh, Nikita

999 Sparks, Claire H.  
843 Taneja, Siddharth  
160 Upadhyay, Shriyash K.  
303 Wang, Alex A.  
467 Wang, Christopher  
160 Wang, Enya C.  
450 Wang, Lydia C.  
185 Wang, Margaret X.  
160 Weng, Ray  
170 Winer, Brennan M.  
628 Witten, David A.  
999 Wu, David X.  
773 Wu, Katherine J.  
999 Xu, Zan  
900 Yin, Michael  
000 Zhang, Alice A.  
000 Zhang, Ariel  
000 Zhao, Annie S.

JOHN F. KENNEDY H. S.  
000 Abbott, Clark A.

WHEATON H. S.  
467 Cruz, Brian S.

**SYKESVILLE**

SOUTH CARROLL H. S.  
712 Anzulis, Robyn E.  
904 Foran, Jackson W.

**TIMONIUM**

DULANEY H. S.  
740 Engler, Samantha T.  
999 Guo, Sherry  
303 Khushalani, Abhinav S.  
303 Xie, Adabelle  
171 Zhang, Megan

**TOWSON**

LOCH RAVEN H. S.  
742 Lacey, Caleb A.

TOWSON H. S.  
837 Donegan, Ciara E.  
000 Donegan, Kristin M.  
742 Goodrich, Olivia T.

**WALKERSVILLE**

WALKERSVILLE H. S.  
303 Rausch, Andrew J.

**WESTMINSTER**

WESTMINSTER H. S.  
940 Rose, Hannah S.