SEMIFINALISTS IN THE 2014 NATIONAL MERIT® SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM September 11, 2013 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 Named in the 2014 National Merit® Scholarship Program

(Evanston, Illinois) Today officials of National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC) announced the names of approximately 16,000 Semifinalists in the 59th annual National Merit Scholarship Program. These academically talented high school seniors have an opportunity to continue in the competition for some 8,000 National Merit Scholarships worth about \$35 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 more than 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 440 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 2014 Competition

About 1.5 million juniors in more than 22,000 high schools entered the 2014 National Merit Scholarship Program by taking the 2012 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT®), 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 their 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 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 2014. 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 240 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 200 colleges and universities are expected to finance some 4,500 college-sponsored Merit Scholarship awards for Finalists who will attend the sponsor institution.

National Merit Scholarship winners of 2014 will be announced in four nationwide news releases beginning in April and concluding in July. These scholarship recipients will join more than 300,000 other distinguished young people who have earned the Merit Scholar title.

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Semifinalists: 2014 National Merit Scholarship Program

NEVADA	712 Peron, Soraya 160 Ta, Jonathan
CARSON CITY CARSON H. S. 160 Gray, Zoey I.	WEST CAREER TECHNICAL ACADEMY 742 Fernandez, Dayne J. 185 Yang, Alan W.
ELKO ELKO H. S. 542 Schmidt, Kelley E.	MINDEN DOUGLAS H. S. 450 Niday, Katherine E.
HENDERSON COLLEGE OF SOUTHERN NEVADA H. S SOUTH 457 Stubberud, Allen J.	950 Phillips, Elizabeth M. NORTH LAS VEGAS LEGACY H. S. 605 Steidl, Tyler P.
CORONADO H. S. 175 Farre, Ashley A. 559 Fisch, Robert J. 999 Gates, Crawford S. 600 Kawaguchi, Brandon M. 900 Longley, Marylin	RENO ACADEMY OF ARTS, CAREERS AND TECHNOLOGY 843 Trunnels, Trevor N. 450 Vavra, Mitchell S.
GREEN VALLEY H. S. 870 Kaboud, Yasmeen 162 Yaffe, Noah M.	DAMONTE RANCH H. S. 943 Hickox-Young, Isaac B. THE DAVIDSON ACADEMY
LIBERTY H. S. 907 Smith, Brayden A.	OF NEVADA
LAS VEGAS ADVANCED TECHNOLOGIES ACADEMY 836 Knoeppel, Matthew G. 843 Podzorski, Mateusz 710 Ponciano, Timothy 454 Tucker, Benjamin L.	454 Chien, Lillian 121 Gaetke, Timothy M. 999 Gibbs, Kevin M. 999 Hayes, Alexander 204 Huh, Christopher J. 166 Lokshin, Jacob 743 Rohatgi, Karthik W. 628 Shinagawa, Austin N. 550 Thompson, Rebecca 999 Van Havel, Jason 742 Vulich, Benedict J.
CENTENNIAL H. S. 164 Madsen, Lindsey EDWARD W. CLARK H. S.	742 Vulich, Benedict J.000 Wei, Dennis H.999 Weiss, Hadley S.
303 Berger, Spencer A. 619 Chang, Stephanie K. 999 Grant, Craig A.	GALENA H. S. 168 Watkins, Bailey C.
200 Jiang, Siyu 301 Kern, Theodore E. 628 Kim, Geewoo 999 Kwok, Michael G.	HOMESCHOOL 457 Poston, Jamie E. BISHOP MANOGUE CATHOLIC H. S.
451 Merrill, Evan K. 522 Mooney, Michael G. 836 Palagi, Joshua S.	830 Gray, Daniel T. 999 Ramirez, William R.
160 Shattler, Zachary L. 467 Tabor, Griffin F. 999 Wan, Frank C. 201 Zhang, Kevin K.	ROBERT MC QUEEN H. S. 455 Lynam, Hudson S. 160 Nelson, Rachel R.
CORAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCE 451 Winkler, Aaron J.	RENO H. S. 906 Blair, Brittany B. 900 Eckert, Madison C. 459 Gupta, Ariel M.
FAITH LUTHERAN H. S. 451 King, Ishmael R.	302 Kerr, Nathan J. 160 Luo, Tania
BISHOP GORMAN H. S. 160 Teng, Jennifer M.	SAGE RIDGE SCHOOL 946 Barnaby, Celeste L. 204 Robison, Konner K.
HOMESCHOOL 450 Siegel, Noah MEADOWS SCHOOL	904 Taylor, Ashley M. 302 Thompson, Finn C. 901 von Nagy, Helena C.
 Brown, Parker G. Hopper, Jared B. Manzini, Sabina A. Mayes, Melaney A. Ramakrishnan, Divya 	EARL WOOSTER H. S. 453 Carson, Jacob H. 520 Ebner, Charlotte 628 Eom, William 000 Farrar, Benjamin D. 000 Galvan, Sergio
PALO VERDE H. S. 162 Bruce, Angele K. 600 Shen, Brenda J.	185 Wan, Michael Y. SPARKS
RANCHO H. S. 455 Schwartz, Hava R.	EDWARD C. REED H. S. 169 Berger, Cory A. 999 Miller, Anna
SILVERADO H. S. 837 Branigan, Mary K.	SPANISH SPRINGS H. S. 999 Azcarate, Heather E.

VALLEY H. S. 999 Heavey, Jack C.