



**SEMIFINALISTS IN THE 2010
NATIONAL MERIT® SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM
September 16, 2009 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, see NMSC's Web site.

Semifinalists Named in the 2010 National Merit® Scholarship Program

(Evanston, Illinois) Today officials of National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC) announced the names of approximately 16,000 Semifinalists in the 55th annual National Merit Scholarship Program. These academically talented high school seniors have an opportunity to continue in the competition for some 8,200 National Merit Scholarships, worth more than \$36 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 approximately 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 500 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 Competition

More than 1.5 million juniors in about 22,000 high schools entered the 2010 National Merit Scholarship Program by taking the 2008 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT[®]), which served as an initial screen of program entrants. The nationwide pool of Semifinalists, which represents 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, a Semifinalist must have an outstanding academic record throughout high school, be endorsed and recommended by the high school principal, and earn SAT scores that confirm the student's earlier performance on the qualifying test. The Semifinalist and a high school official must submit a detailed scholarship application, which includes the student's essay and information about the Semifinalist's participation and leadership in school and community activities.

Approximately 15,000 Semifinalists are expected to advance to the Finalist level and it is from this group that all National Merit Scholarship winners will be chosen. 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.

Merit Scholarship Awards

Three types of National Merit Scholarship awards will be offered in the spring of 2010. 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 scholarships will be provided by approximately 270 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 4,700 college-sponsored Merit Scholarship awards for Finalists who will attend the sponsor institution.

National Merit Scholarship winners of 2010 will be announced in four nationwide news releases beginning in April and concluding in July. These scholarship recipients will join more than 267,000 other distinguished young people who have earned the Merit Scholar title.

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Semifinalists: 2010 National Merit Scholarship Program

NEVADA

BOULDER CITY

BOULDER CITY H. S.
950 Ripplinger, Kelsey J.

CARSON CITY

CARSON H. S.
843 Asp, Merrill E.

HENDERSON

CORONADO H. S.
836 de Luna, Hannah Faye C.
161 Harris, Michael R.
522 Kuebler, Devin S.
999 Park, Eui Hwan
628 Phalke, Neelam P.
160 Shen, Alicia D.
999 Thompson, Seth C.

EXPLORE KNOWLEGE ACADEMY
CHARTER SCHOOL
740 Camping, Alexander J.

GREEN VALLEY H. S.
455 Bylina, Edward Y.
204 Drake, Remington F.
454 Phelan, Michael A.
907 Power, Sean M.
999 Swift, Kathryn
450 Wicha, Jan

HOME SCHOOL
214 Root, Dakota S.

INCLINE VILLAGE

INCLINE H. S.
904 Ceragioli, Michael
843 McClelland, Sean A.
454 Murray, Shanna K.
450 Vinson, Sterling E.

LAS VEGAS

THE ADELSON SCHOOL
000 Kantor, Sara

ADVANCED TECHNOLOGIES
ACADEMY
303 Danesi, Cody G.
121 Leonard, Timothy D.
999 VanWoerkom, Kameron J.
550 Yi, Bo R.

CENTENNIAL H. S.
999 Dettrey, Elizabeth F.
948 Rhizor, Jared L.

CIMARRON - MEMORIAL H. S.
742 Michel, Ellen M.

EDWARD W. CLARK H. S.
455 Cai, Wesley L.
463 Lim, Heidi H.
450 Ou, Jonathan D.
160 Park, Sehoon
454 Ran, Lydia
450 Roeder, Robert E.

FAITH LUTHERAN H. S.
999 Bartholomew, Ryan A.

BISHOP GORMAN H. S.
836 Palmer, Cara E.

LAS VEGAS ACADEMY OF
INTERNATIONAL STUDIES AND
PERFORMING ARTS
950 Duan, Linda K.

MEADOWS SCHOOL

943 Buer, Emily R.
522 Finney, Emily
907 Kowalski, Ken C.
723 Lamothe, Jordan J.
904 Parsons, Christopher D.
467 Whiteside, Michael S.

NORTHWEST CAREER AND TECHNICAL CENTER

171 Jamboric, Aleksandar
628 Zoll, Andrew K.

ODYSSEY CHARTER H. S.
902 Aleksanyan, Nellie

PALO VERDE H. S.

619 Hales, Anna
250 Levy, Nicole C.
870 Mastel, Rebekah A.
160 Salcido, Evan L.
950 Slee, Kylee E.

RANCHO H. S.

600 Sohn, Paul
451 Sorensen, Daniel R.

SHADOW RIDGE H. S.

470 Breslin, Colin V.

SPRING VALLEY H. S.
907 Keeler, Douglas P.

MINDEN

DOUGLAS H. S.
455 Donat, Justin L.
171 Miller, Julia G.
904 Randall, Brian M.
906 Slocum, Bonnie J.
218 Wicker, Thomas A.

NORTH LAS VEGAS

HOME SCHOOL
467 Hooks, Alexander J.

OVERTON

MOAPA VALLEY H. S.
999 Bessey, Kevin N.

RENO

THE DAVIDSON ACADEMY
OF NEVADA
559 Lokshin, Benjamin L.
559 Shoenhard, Hannah M.
169 Silverstein, Anastasia

GALENA H. S.
450 Arnone, Luke D.

BISHOP MANOGUE CATHOLIC H. S.

946 Hartman, Willie J.
451 Williamson, Michael S.

ROBERT MC QUEEN H. S.

450 Chen, Benjamin R.
999 Zhang, Alana Huishan

RENO H. S.

451 Coleman, Alec S.
450 Green, Dana A.
999 Hamby, Emily M.
999 Jacobsen, Alexander
870 Jensen, Hanne L.
162 Jiang, Simin
999 Nomura, Kevin K.
712 Taitel, Alexis M.

EARL WOOSTER H. S.

999 Beasley, John W.
000 Beckman, Sara M.
160 Cai, Guangyang
628 Licon, Meredith H.

SPARKS

SPANISH SPRINGS H. S.
908 Bedera, Nicole K.
712 Wilson, Kyle W.