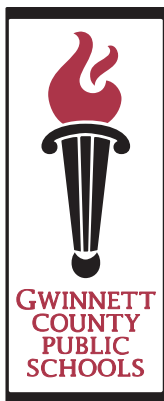


NEWS RELEASE



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THE MISSION OF GWINNETT COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

*is to pursue excellence
in academic knowledge,
skills, and behavior
for each student,
resulting in measured
improvement against
local, national, and
world-class standards.*

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It is the policy of Gwinnett County Public Schools
not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex,
religion, national origin, age, or disability in any
employment practice, educational program, or
any other program, activity, or service.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: June 4, 2012

News Media Contact: Communication and Media Relations, 678-301-6020

13 Gwinnett graduates earn college-funded Merit Scholarships

Thirteen **Gwinnett County Public Schools (GCPS)** graduates from the Class of 2012 will receive additional financial assistance for college. They learned they were the winners of the National Merit Scholarship Corporation's (NMSC) College-Sponsored National Merit Scholarships. They join a distinguished group of about 2,500 college-sponsored merit scholars from across the nation. An additional group of Scholars will be announced in July.

The scholarship winners earned the award based on their high school academic performance. They each have earned a scholarship worth between \$500 and \$2,000 annually for up to four years of undergraduate study at the institution financing the scholarship.

Gwinnett's 2012 NMSC College-Sponsored National Merit Scholarship winners are:

From Brookwood High:

Zachary D. Freshley

Probable career field: Business

National Merit University of Georgia Scholarship

Shushmita Hoque

Probable career field: Biomedical Engineering

National Merit Georgia Institute of Technology Scholarship

Minhyuk M. Song

Probable career field: Medicine

National Merit University of Georgia Scholarship

Tony Zhang

Probable career field: Medicine

National Merit Emory University Scholarship

From Central Gwinnett High:

Joseph H. Horenstein

Probable career field: Undecided

National Merit University of Georgia Scholarship

2010 Winner of

--more--



From Collins Hill High:

Sarah E. Tammen

Probable career field: Mathematics

National Merit University of Georgia Scholarship

Kate L. Unsworth

Probable career field: Architecture

National Merit Georgia Institute of Technology Scholarship

From Mountain View High:

Claudette C. Bailey

Probable career field: Dietetics

National Merit University of Georgia Scholarship

From Parkview High:

Tami M. Feng

Probable career field: Neurology

National Merit Emory University Scholarship

James R. Jordan

Probable career field: Economics/International Business

National Merit University of Georgia Scholarship

Jamie M. Morsberger

Probable career field: Industrial Engineering

National Merit Georgia Institute of Technology Scholarship

From Peachtree Ridge High:

Nina H. Gummadi

Probable career field: Medicine

National Merit Boston University Scholarship

Ajay Harish

Probable career field: Medicine

National Merit Emory University Scholarship

These scholarship winners were selected by each sponsoring college or university from among the finalists in the 2012 National Merit Scholarship Program who were planning to attend their institution. This year, 197 higher education institutions have underwritten Merit Scholarship awards through the National Merit Scholarship Program.

About 1.5 million students entered the competition last school year as juniors by taking the 2010 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test, which served as the initial screening for program entrants. The highest scoring participants in each state were then selected as semifinalists.

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Finalists were then selected by a review of the student's outstanding academic record; scores from two standardized tests; an endorsement/recommendation by a school official; and a self-descriptive essay and information about their participation and leadership in school and community activities.

*For more information about the NMSC, contact (847) 866-5100, or visit
www.nationalmerit.org*