



NEWS RELEASE

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46 Gwinnett students make 2012 National Merit list

More than 40 Gwinnett County Public Schools (GCPS) students recently learned that they're on their way to earning some of the nation's most prestigious scholarships having been named a 2012 National Merit Scholarship Program Semifinalist. The National Merit Scholarship Corporation recently announced the names of the 46 GCPS high school seniors presented with the honor. The group of students represent 12 Gwinnett high schools including **Brookwood High; Central Gwinnett High; Collins Hill High; Duluth High; Grayson High; Gwinnett School of Mathematics, Science, and Technology; Mill Creek High; Mountain View High; Norcross High; North Gwinnett High; Parkview High; and Peachtree Ridge High.** They're part of approximately 16,000 semifinalists from across the nation who will now compete for the official National Merit Scholar title and the thousands of dollars in scholarships that are annually awarded to graduating seniors along with the honor.

The 2012 National Merit Semifinalists from Gwinnett are:

Brookwood High

John T. Chamberlin
Zachary D. Freshley
Anna T. Hernick
Shushmita Hoque
Minhyuk M. Song
Matthew L. Townsend
Drew A. Vander Wood
Tony Zhang
Stephanie P. Zheng

Grayson High

Nana-Adjoa O. Kwarteng
Jacob B. Meadows

Mill Creek High

Guillermo Bautista
Ronan M. O'Brien

Mountain View High

Claudette C. Bailey

Norcross High

Ryan C. Ward

Central Gwinnett High

Joseph H. Horenstein

Collins Hill High

Michael T. Aderhold
James E. Gadea
Matthew Hester
Kate L. Unsworth

Duluth High

Tyler Reeves

Gwinnett School of Mathematics, Science, and Technology

Shawn C. Albert
Jessica T. Allison
Alyssa M. Napier
Na Eun Oh
Benjamin P. Pham
Yun Seo
Arsalan A. Sufi

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*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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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.

2010 Winner of



--more--

North Gwinnett High

Seung Jae Choi
Rebecca Y. Kim
Ho Lim Lee

Peachtree Ridge High

Bria N. Fincher
Kathryn M. Fitton
Nina H. Gummadi
Ajay Harish
Sarah S. Paik
Tyler A. Perini
Jackson C. Winfrey

Parkview High

Ross P. Cunningham
Tami M. Feng
Samuel L. Gowland
James R. Jordan
Jamie M. Morsberger
Amanda S. Nabors
Dakota Taggart
Caleb N. Younger

These 46 Gwinnett students, part of the class 2012, were chosen for this competitive process based on their college entrance exam scores. They are competing with other semifinalists from throughout the nation for some 8,300 National Merit scholarships, worth more than \$34 million. The scholarships will be awarded next spring.

These academically talented students will now compete to become finalists. That level is determined by looking at the student's academic record throughout high school, an endorsement/recommendation by the school principal, and SAT scores that confirm the student's earlier qualifying test performance. The semifinalist must submit a detailed scholarship application, which includes a self-descriptive essay and information about the semifinalist's participation and leadership in school and community activities.

More than 1.5 million students in over 22,000 high schools 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 semifinalists named in the 2012 National Merit Scholarship Program are the highest scoring entrants in each state.

The students will compete for three types of National Merit Scholarships to be awarded in the spring of 2012.