



NEWS RELEASE

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National Merit begins its search with 64 from GCPS

The National Merit Scholarship Corporation has started its nationwide search for the students who will be named 2019 National Merit Scholars, winners of scholarships worth more than \$31 million that will be announced starting next spring. As part of this first step, 64 **Gwinnett County Public Schools (GCPS)** seniors have been named 2019 National Merit Scholarship Program semifinalists. The students from 14 Gwinnett high schools are part of approximately 16,000 top students from across the nation who will now compete for the official National Merit Scholar title and thousands of dollars in scholarships that are awarded annually to graduating seniors.

The 2019 Gwinnett National Merit Semifinalists are:

GWINNETT COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

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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, sex,
religion, national origin, age, or disability in any
employment practice, educational program,
or any other program, activity, or service.

2010 and 2014 Winner of

the **broad prize**
for urban education



Archer HS

Sela G. Redford

Brookwood HS

Aashay H. Amin
Lawrence J. Bradley
Brian R. Compau
Thi H. Dao
Sara Delawalla
Eric Lin
Allen G. Moore
Haritaa Mourougassamy
Abigail A. Obeng-Marnu
Zhiyuan J. Qiu
Dawson S. Thomas

Collins Hill HS

Brett P. Muegel

Dacula HS

Mark M. Tran

Duluth HS

Aidan S. Donelan
Vani Senthil
Atanas C. Tenev
Andrew Xu
Jessica E. Yeh

Grayson HS

Mesum A. Zaidi

Gwinnett School of Mathematics, Science, and Technology

Jesse Chen
Jonathan J. Choi
Joshua Y. Chough
Nicholas M. Couchara
Dawei Gao
Eyosias A. Gebremeskel
Madison J. Greer
Alex T. Kim
Ryan T. Lynch
Katherine E. Spencer
Martin J. Still
Julius L. Tao
Abbey S. Tilson
Daniela Uribe
Emily Wang
Brandon W. Woodward
Emily L. Xu
Joseph Zhang
Shawn X. Zhu

Lanier HS

Fiona C. Jones

Mill Creek HS

Calvin Shaw

-more-

Mountain View HS

Suraj V. Modi

Elise W. Park
Jackson Wegmet

Norcross HS

Jacob Bottomley
Joseph Mao
Lennox E. Xu

Parkview HS

Angela S. Lee
Priyanka Menon
Ryan Tay
Kareena J. Udeshi

North Gwinnett HS

Vishnu K. Achar
Emma R. Barfield
Abigail A. Blackmon
Du S. Chiang
Madeline V. Franz
Jack P. Langan
Amy Park

Peachtree Ridge HS

James Cai
Julian G. Heske
Shawn Im
Abby T. Le
James Lee
Jungah Soh

These 64 Gwinnett students, part of the Class 2019, were chosen for this competitive process based on their college entrance exam scores. They are competing with other semifinalists from around the nation for some 7,500 National Merit scholarships, worth more than \$31 million.

Approximately 1.6 million students in more than 22,000 high schools entered the competition last school year as juniors by taking the 2017 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test, which served as the initial screening for program entrants. The semifinalists named in the 2019 National Merit Scholarship Program are the highest scoring entrants in each state.

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. These academically talented students then compete to become finalists. That recognition is determined by looking at the student's academic record, participation in school and community activities, demonstrated leadership abilities, and honors and awards received.

The students will compete for three types of National Merit Scholarships to be awarded in the spring of 2019.