



NEWS RELEASE

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

Gwinnett County Public Schools seniors awarded Corporate-Sponsored National Merit Scholarships

The **National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC)** announced that seven Gwinnett County Public Schools (GCPS) seniors, representing three of the district's high schools, were selected as **2018 Corporate-Sponsored National Merit Scholarship award winners**, earning corporate-sponsored scholarships to help fund their college education. These National Merit Scholars are part of a group of distinguished students nationwide judged to have the strongest combination of accomplishments, skills, and potential for success in rigorous college studies.

This year's Corporate-Sponsored National Merit Scholarship winners from Gwinnett are:

Central Gwinnett HS

Andy T. Chea

Probable career field: Biology

NATIONAL MERIT NOVARTIS SCHOLARSHIP

The Novartis Group companies are leading manufacturers of pharmaceuticals and healthcare products.

Duluth HS

Preethi Narayan

Probable career field: Industrial Engineering

NATIONAL MERIT ADP HENRY TAUB MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Automatic Data Processing, Inc. (ADP), with over \$7 billion in revenues and 500,000 clients, is one of the largest independent computing services in the United States. Merit Scholarship awards are funded by the ADP Foundation for the children of ADP employees.

Gwinnett School of Mathematics, Science, and Technology

Salome M. Birhanu

Probable career field: Biomedical Engineering

NATIONAL MERIT MACY'S, INC. SCHOLARSHIP

Macy's, Inc., supports scholarship awards for children of Macy's and Bloomingdale's employees (or to qualified employees themselves). These scholarships are a key part of the company's focus areas of education, arts and culture, women's issues, minority issues, and AIDS/HIV research and awareness. Macy's, Inc., operates Macy's and Bloomingdale's in 45 states, as well as macys.com and Bloomingdale's By Mail.

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.

437 Old Peachtree Road, NW
Suwanee, GA 30024-2978
678-301-6000
www.gwinnett.k12.ga.us

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



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Gwinnett School of Mathematics, Science, and Technology

Emma Q. Cooper

Probable career field: Microbiology/Immunology

NATIONAL MERIT COUNTRY SCHOLARSHIP

The COUNTRY Scholarship Program provides awards for children of COUNTRY Financial employees and financial representatives. COUNTRY, in partnership with its financial representatives, helps families, individuals and businesses protect their possessions and achieve financial security. COUNTRY offers a full range of insurance and financial products and services from auto, home and life insurance to estate planning services, investment management and annuities. COUNTRY Financial is based in Bloomington, Illinois.

Gwinnett School of Mathematics, Science, and Technology

Nathaniel Giesecking

Probable career field: Mechanical Engineering

NATIONAL MERIT STATE FARM COMPANIES FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP

The State Farm Companies Foundation believes in developing visionary youth through the power of education. Each spring, the Foundation awards 100 scholarships to legal dependents of employees, agents, and retirees of State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company and its subsidiaries (State Farm®). State Farm Companies Foundation is a tax-exempt private foundation funded by State Farm, the largest auto insurer in the U.S.

Gwinnett School of Mathematics, Science, and Technology

Frank Hu

Probable career field: Chemistry

NATIONAL MERIT NOVO NORDISK INC. SCHOLARSHIP

Novo Nordisk is a world leader in diabetes care with an 80-year history of diabetes innovation. In addition, Novo Nordisk has a leading position within areas such as hemostasis management, growth hormone therapy, and hormone therapy for women. As part of its commitment to employees and education, Novo Nordisk is proud to sponsor Merit Scholarship awards for children of its United States employees.

Gwinnett School of Mathematics, Science, and Technology

Dhaivat M. Mehta

Probable career field: Investment Banking

NATIONAL MERIT ACI WORLDWIDE, INC. SCHOLARSHIP

ACI Worldwide is a global leader in electronic payments. Our Universal Payments software is used by the world's top banks and retailers to process more than \$14 trillion in transactions each day. If you've shopped online or withdrawn money at an ATM, there's a good chance ACI made your transaction possible. In honor of our talented team of ACIers, we sponsor National Merit Scholarships to recognize the exceptional educational achievements of their children and to support the pursuit of dreams.

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These students are among one group of winners in the 63rd annual National Merit Scholarship program. This year, more than 1,000 distinguished high school seniors across the country have won corporate-sponsored National Merit Scholarship awards financed by about 200 corporations, company foundations, and other business organizations.

Scholars were selected from students who advanced to the finalist level in the National Merit Scholarship competition and met criteria of their scholarship sponsors. Corporate sponsors provide National Merit Scholarships for finalists who are children of their employees, residents of communities the company serves, or students who plan to pursue college majors or careers the sponsor wishes to encourage.

Most corporate-funded awards are renewable for up to four years of college undergraduate study and provide annual stipends that range from \$500 to \$10,000 per year. Some provide a single payment between \$2,500 and \$5,000. Recipients can use their awards at any regionally accredited U.S. college or university of their choice.

The competition began when more than 1.6 million high school juniors from 22,000 high schools took the 2016 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. From the semifinalist group, 15,000 met the very high academic standards and other requirements to advance to the finalist level of the competition. About 7,500 will be named scholarship winners, with additional winners named throughout the spring and into summer.

For more information about the NMSC, contact (847) 866-5100.