



National Achievement Scholarship Program

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SEMIFINALISTS IN THE 2009 NATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT® SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM September 24, 2008 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 not authorized.

Semifinalists Named in the 2009 National Achievement® Scholarship Program

(Evanston, Illinois) The names of more than 1,600 Black American high school seniors who have been designated Semifinalists in the 45th annual Achievement Scholarship® competition were announced today by the National Achievement Scholarship Program. These scholastically talented students now have an opportunity to continue in the competition for approximately 800 scholarships worth over \$2.6 million to be awarded next spring.

The National Achievement Program, conducted by National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC), is a privately financed academic competition that operates without government assistance. It was initiated in 1964 to recognize academically promising black students throughout the nation and to provide scholarships to a substantial number of the most outstanding program participants. To date, over 27,800 young men and women have received Achievement Scholarship awards worth more than \$91 million.

Approximately 1,300 Semifinalists are expected to fulfill additional requirements and advance to the Finalist level in the 2009 program. All Achievement Scholar® awardees will be selected from the Finalist group on the basis of their abilities, accomplishments, and potential for success in rigorous college studies.

About the Competition

More than 150,000 high school juniors from all parts of the United States requested consideration in the 2009 National Achievement Program when they took the 2007 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT[®]). Semifinalists were designated within geographic regions and are the highest-scoring program entrants in the states that make up each region.

To advance to the Finalist level in the competition, Semifinalists must present a record of high academic performance throughout high school, be endorsed and recommended by the high school principal, and earn SAT scores that confirm the PSAT/NMSQT performance. Also, the Semifinalist and a high school official must complete a detailed scholarship application in which they provide information about the student's participation in school and community activities, demonstrated leadership abilities, and educational goals. The substantial amount of information collected about each Finalist will be used in the selection of scholarship winners.

National Achievement Scholarships

National Achievement Scholarships provided in 2009 will be supported by corporations, professional organizations, foundations, and by NMSC's own funds. Two types of scholarships will be offered. Every Finalist will compete for one of the 700 one-time National Achievement \$2500 Scholarships, which will be awarded on a regional representation basis. In addition, corporate and business sponsors will underwrite about 100 Achievement Scholarship awards for Finalists who meet criteria set by the grantor. Although some corporate-sponsored awards provide a single payment, most are renewable for up to four years of undergraduate study. NMSC will release the names of scholarship winners to news media in early April.

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Semifinalists: 2009 National Achievement Program

VIRGINIA

ALEXANDRIA

HAYFIELD SECONDARY SCHOOL
303 Phox, Keith M.

THOMAS JEFFERSON H. S. FOR
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

712 Afranie-Sakyi, Ashley O.
773 Barnes, Laura J.
902 Brooks, Ranya H.
999 Brown, Courtney E.
901 Claytor, Blaire A.
450 Faux, Ainsley E.
160 Johnson, Ryan M.
450 Mohamed, Jama A.
303 Woods, Paul H.

ST. STEPHEN'S AND
ST. AGNES SCHOOL
456 Coles, Julian L.

WEST POTOMAC H. S.
214 Danso, Amazing Grace

T. C. WILLIAMS H. S.
900 Aman, Makda
906 Amanuel, Alexander

ANNANDALE

ANNANDALE H. S.
417 Kirtz, Kimberly N.

ARLINGTON

WAKEFIELD H. S.
906 Bull, Leslie

WASHINGTON - LEE H. S.
450 Sylvester, David

YORKTOWN H. S.
451 Matta, Alexander

BUCKINGHAM

BUCKINGHAM COUNTY H. S.
467 Williams, Dustin R.

BURKE

LAKE BRADDOCK
SECONDARY SCHOOL
520 Bolden, Kelsea J.

CHANTILLY

WESTFIELD H. S.
204 Osinbajo, Andrew T.

CHARLOTTESVILLE

CHARLOTTESVILLE H. S.
628 Blount, Josephine C.
455 Shea-Hackett, Joseph R.

CHESAPEAKE

HICKORY H. S.
950 Burke, Orion J.

OSCAR FROMMEL SMITH H. S.
628 Pretlow, Rachel E.

CHESTERFIELD

LLOYD C. BIRD H. S.
870 Omojokun, Tolulope O.

FAIRFAX

PAUL VI H. S.
520 Kijewski, Lindsay T.

TRINITY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL
712 Jackson, Esther F.

FALLS CHURCH

GEORGE MASON H. S.
940 Carter, Maya J.

FARMVILLE

PRINCE EDWARD COUNTY H. S.
628 Jennings, Marcia V.

FRONT ROYAL

RANDOLPH MACON ACADEMY
884 Eitches, Eliana R.

HAMPTON

HAMPTON H. S.
457 James, Gerston
455 Knight, Bradford L.

MANASSAS

EMMANUEL CHRISTIAN SCHOOL
417 Strickland, Amber A.

STONEWALL JACKSON H. S.
000 Jordan, Samantha A.

OSBOURN PARK H. S.
454 Pardue, Michael S.
209 Stokes, Jamahl A.

MARTINSVILLE

MARTINSVILLE H. S.
454 Via, Juelyan

MC LEAN

THE MADEIRA SCHOOL
700 Adegoroye, Olukemi O.

MC LEAN H. S.
904 Manjong, Stacey L.

MIDLOTHIAN

JAMES RIVER H. S.
999 Henry, Brian M.

NEWPORT NEWS

DENBIGH H. S.
451 Disla, Enrique

NOKESVILLE

BRENTSVILLE DISTRICT H. S.
520 Harris, Paul C.

NORFOLK

NORFOLK ACADEMY
160 Johnson, Danielle S.
556 Murrell, Brittany D.

NORFOLK COLLEGIATE SCHOOL
123 Bashay, Molly M.

OAK HALL

ARCADIA H. S.
628 MacDade, Margaret C.

POTOMAC FALLS

POTOMAC FALLS H. S.
627 McElrath, Andrew L.

RESTON

SOUTH LAKES H. S.
836 Crutcher, Madison M.
218 Harper, Jasmin D.

RICHMOND

GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL
600 Diaz, Kelly E.
600 Jack, James A.
214 Stewart, Courtney

HERMITAGE H. S.
999 Wingate, Marcus J.

MEADOWBROOK H. S.
628 Benjamin, Osasumwen

MONACAN H. S.
900 Goldsborough, Tilghman A.

ROANOKE

ROANOKE CATHOLIC SCHOOL
628 Okeyo, Bunge K.

ROCKY MOUNT

FRANKLIN COUNTY H. S.
466 Craighead, Jonte D.

STERLING

DOMINION H. S.
303 Coupet, Michael
520 Williams, Wonman J.

VIENNA

OAKTON H. S.
628 Roberson, Nia A.

VIRGINIA BEACH

SALEM H. S.
300 Thirus, Malcolm C.

WOODBERRY FOREST

WOODBERRY FOREST SCHOOL
450 Sonoiki, Damilare

WOODBRIIDGE

GAR-FIELD H. S.
999 Lightfoot, Sabrina M.

YORKTOWN

YORK H. S.
628 Ricks, Clark A.