



NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP CORPORATION

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NATIONAL MERIT[®] SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS July 14, 2008 Announcement

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Note to editors: College-sponsored Merit Scholarship[®] winners in your state are listed alphabetically by city following this press release. News media are encouraged to contact high school principals for additional information about these outstanding students.

This material is prepared solely for news media to announce the names of Merit Scholar[®] designees; its use for any other purpose is not authorized.

This is the last group of National Merit Scholar designees to be announced in 2008 by National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC). In three spring releases, NMSC announced winners of National Merit[®] \$2500 Scholarships, corporate-sponsored Merit Scholarship awards, and the first group of college-sponsored Merit Scholarship awards.

Additional College-sponsored Merit Scholarship Winners Named

(Evanston, Illinois) More than 1,900 additional winners of National Merit Scholarships financed by colleges and universities have been announced by National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC). These Merit Scholar designees join over 2,800 other college-sponsored award recipients who were announced in late May.

Officials of each sponsor college selected their winners from among Finalists in the National Merit Scholarship Program who will attend their institution. College-sponsored awards provide between \$500 and \$2,000 annually for up to four years of undergraduate study at the institution financing the scholarship.

This year 194 colleges and universities are sponsoring some 4,700 Merit Scholarship awards. Sponsor colleges, located in 43 states and the District of Columbia, include 115 private and 79 public institutions.

This final group of winners brings the number of 2008 National Merit Scholars to approximately 8,300. These distinguished high school graduates will receive scholarships for undergraduate study worth a total of approximately \$36 million. In addition to college-sponsored awards, two other types of National Merit Scholarships were offered—2,500 National Merit \$2500 Scholarships for which all Finalists competed and about 1,100 corporate-sponsored Merit Scholarship awards for Finalists who met criteria specified by their grantor organizations.

2008 National Merit Scholarship Competition

This year's competition for National Merit Scholarships began when more than 1.4 million juniors in over 21,000 high schools took the 2006 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT[®]), which served as an initial screen of program entrants. In September 2007, some 16,000 Semifinalists were named on a state representational basis, in numbers proportional to each state's percentage of the national total of high school graduating seniors. Semifinalists were the highest-scoring program entrants in each state and represented less than one percent of a state's seniors.

To advance to the Finalist level of the competition, Semifinalists had to meet additional requirements. In addition to submitting a detailed scholarship application, which included an essay describing activities, interests, and goals, they had to have an outstanding academic record, be endorsed and recommended by a high school official, and earn SAT scores that confirmed the qualifying test performance. About 15,000 Semifinalists attained Finalist standing, and more than half of this group were chosen to receive National Merit Scholarships.

Established in 1955 to conduct the National Merit Program, NMSC is a not-for-profit corporation that operates without government assistance. Over the past 53 years, more than 259,000 outstanding young men and women have won National Merit Scholarships worth over \$898 million. The majority of awards offered each year are underwritten by approximately 500 independent corporate organizations and higher education institutions that support NMSC's efforts to recognize scholastically talented youth and encourage the pursuit of academic excellence.

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CAUTION: Any attempt to compare high schools on the basis of numbers of Merit Scholarship winners will lead to erroneous and unsound conclusions. The National Merit Program honors *individual* students who show exceptional academic ability and potential for success in rigorous college studies. The program does not measure the quality or effectiveness of education within a school, system, or state.

Nicholas B. Beatty Probable career field: Engineering	HENDERSON 89002	FOOTHILL H. S., HENDERSON
NATIONAL MERIT UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO SCHOLARSHIP The University of Idaho is a comprehensive, land-grant institution that offers a wide range of undergraduate and graduate programs. More than 11,000 students pursue degrees in the Colleges of Agriculture; Art and Architecture; Business and Economics; Education; Engineering; Forestry; Wildlife & Range Sciences; Law; Letters & Science; and Mines & Earth Resources. Located in Moscow, UI is surrounded by the rolling Palouse Hills, forested mountains, and the scenic Snake and Clearwater rivers.		
Jason J. Yee Probable career field: Education (College Professor)	HENDERSON 89014	GREEN VALLEY H. S., HENDERSON
NATIONAL MERIT NEW YORK UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP From its founding in 1831, academic excellence has been the hallmark of New York University, one of the foremost research and teaching universities in the United States. Seven of NYU's 14 schools and colleges are devoted to undergraduate education. Every undergraduate becomes part of a college community with access to all the superb resources of a major research university. Students come to NYU from all 50 states and over 140 foreign countries. Approximately 11,000 undergraduates live on campus.		
Katharine A. Mancuso Probable career field: Law	INCLINE VILLAGE 89451	INCLINE H. S., INCLINE VILLAGE
NATIONAL MERIT HILLSDALE COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP Hillsdale College, founded in 1844, is a private, coeducational, liberal arts college that offers 32 traditional majors to its 1,150 students. The college has maintained institutional independence since its founding by refusing to accept aid from or control by federal authorities. Far-reaching private support from a national constituency has enabled Hillsdale to continue its trusteeship of the intellectual & spiritual inheritance derived from the Judeo-Christian faith and Greco-Roman culture.		
Daniel Duan Probable career field: Business/Management	LAS VEGAS 89148	VALLEY H. S., LAS VEGAS
NATIONAL MERIT ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP Arizona State University offers over 130 degree programs through its nine undergraduate colleges: Architecture, Business Administration, Education, Engineering & Applied Sciences, Fine Arts, Liberal Arts, Public Programs, Nursing, and Social Work. Academic honor programs, Phi Beta Kappa, and other honorary organizations offer special learning opportunities for outstanding students. Located in Tempe, A.S.U. enrolls nearly 38,000 students of which 29,000 are undergraduates.		
Kaushik Govindaraju Probable career field: Medicine	LAS VEGAS 89139	VALLEY H. S., LAS VEGAS
NATIONAL MERIT NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP Northwestern University is a major teaching and research institution whose undergraduate campus is located in Evanston, Illinois. Its full-time undergraduate enrollment includes 7,300 students pursuing programs of study in the Arts and Sciences as well as the specific professional schools of Education, Social Policy, Engineering, Journalism, Music, and Speech.		
Kristen C. Kelley Probable career field: Medicine	LAS VEGAS 89134	BISHOP GORMAN H. S., LAS VEGAS
NATIONAL MERIT ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP Arizona State University offers over 130 degree programs through its nine undergraduate colleges: Architecture, Business Administration, Education, Engineering & Applied Sciences, Fine Arts, Liberal Arts, Public Programs, Nursing, and Social Work. Academic honor programs, Phi Beta Kappa, and other honorary organizations offer special learning opportunities for outstanding students. Located in Tempe, A.S.U. enrolls nearly 38,000 students of which 29,000 are undergraduates.		
Andrea M. Vancura Probable career field: Mathematics/Science	LAS VEGAS 89135	FAITH LUTHERAN H. S., LAS VEGAS
NATIONAL MERIT UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA SCHOLARSHIP The University of Southern California is private, coeducational, nonsectarian, and is located in the heart of the city of Los Angeles. Undergraduate enrollment is nearly 14,000 students. A College of Letters, Arts and Sciences is complemented by 19 professional and graduate schools offering undergraduate and graduate degrees. Graduate enrollment is about 12,000.		
Katherine A. Yost Probable career field: Aeronautical Engineering	LAS VEGAS 89144	PALO VERDE H. S., LAS VEGAS
NATIONAL MERIT THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA SCHOLARSHIP The University of Arizona is nationally and internationally recognized as a public university of distinct quality. The educational strength of the institution and the warm climate of the Southwest make the University of Arizona an excellent place to pursue a college education. Students may choose from over 300 undergraduate and graduate degree granting programs offered through the Colleges and Schools of Agriculture, Architecture, Arts and Sciences, and Business among many others.		
David J. Williams Probable career field: Medicine	MINDEN 89423	DOUGLAS H. S., MINDEN
NATIONAL MERIT PEPPERDINE UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP Pepperdine University consists of a Liberal Arts College at Malibu, a Professional Studies College in central Los Angeles, Graduate School, School of Education, School of Business, Center for International Trade, & a Law School. Total enrollment is about 8,500, with students from all states and forty foreign countries. Undergraduate curriculum provides pre-professional training in many fields.		

Shane M. Palmer Probable career field: Law	NORTH LAS VEGAS 89084	LAS VEGAS ACADEMY OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES AND PERFORMING ARTS, LAS VEGAS
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NATIONAL MERIT UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA SCHOLARSHIP

The University of Southern California is private, coeducational, nonsectarian, and is located in the heart of the city of Los Angeles. Undergraduate enrollment is nearly 14,000 students. A College of Letters, Arts and Sciences is complemented by 19 professional and graduate schools offering undergraduate and graduate degrees. Graduate enrollment is about 12,000.

Atkin K. Smedley Probable career field: Aeronautical Science	NORTH LAS VEGAS 89031	LEGACY H. S., NORTH LAS VEGAS
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NATIONAL MERIT BRIGHAM YOUNG UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP

Brigham Young University (Provo, Utah) sponsored by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints (Mormon) has a student body of 25,000 from all states and over 60 foreign countries. Its twelve colleges, graduate school, and law school provide a broad choice of curricula in over 180 majors. The university produces graduates who have a high acceptance rate into professional and graduate schools and are also highly sought after by business, industry, and education.

Prajwal R. Kilari Probable career field: Business	RENO 89523	ROBERT MC QUEEN H. S., RENO
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NATIONAL MERIT UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHAPEL HILL SCHOLARSHIP

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, founded in 1789, was the first state university. Carolina enrolls 15,400 undergraduates and 8,780 graduate students and provides instruction and research in the Liberal Arts, Sciences, Fine Arts, Journalism and Mass Communication, Education, Business, Medicine, Dentistry, and Law. Carolina's rich history, outstanding facilities, and research opportunities offer students a superior foundation for advanced study and a professional career.

Nicholas D. Bombard Probable career field: Mechanical Engineering	SPARKS 89434	EDWARD C. REED H. S., SPARKS
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