



**NATIONAL MERIT<sup>®</sup> SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS  
May 27, 2009 Announcement**

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**Note to editors: College-sponsored Merit Scholarship<sup>®</sup> 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<sup>®</sup> designees; its use for any other purpose is prohibited.*

*Today's announcement is the third National Merit Scholar release in 2009 by National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC). NMSC named recipients of corporate-sponsored awards on April 22 and winners of National Merit<sup>®</sup> \$2500 Scholarships on May 6. Additional recipients of college-sponsored awards will be announced on July 13. By the conclusion of this year's competition, some 8,200 academic champions will have won National Merit Scholarships worth \$36 million.*

**College-sponsored Merit Scholarship Winners Named**

(Evanston, Illinois) More than 2,800 winners of National Merit Scholarships financed by colleges and universities were announced today by National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC). Officials of each sponsor college selected their scholarship winners from among Finalists in the 2009 National Merit Scholarship Program who plan to attend their institution. These awards provide between \$500 and \$2,000 annually for up to four years of undergraduate study at the institution financing the scholarship. Another group of Scholars will be announced in July, bringing the total number of college-sponsored Merit Scholarship recipients in the 2009 competition to over 4,700.

This year 201 higher education institutions are underwriting Merit Scholarship awards through the National Merit Program. Sponsor colleges and universities include 120 private and 81 public institutions located in 44 states and the District of Columbia.

Winners announced today are among approximately 8,200 distinguished high school seniors of 2009 who will receive National Merit Scholarships worth \$36 million for college undergraduate study. Announced earlier this spring were winners of two other types of National Merit Scholarships—corporate-sponsored Merit Scholarship awards and National Merit \$2500 Scholarships.

### **2009 National Merit Scholarship Competition**

More than 1.5 million juniors in over 22,000 high schools entered the 2009 National Merit Scholarship competition when they took the 2007 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT<sup>®</sup>), which served as an initial screen of program entrants. Last fall, some 16,000 Semifinalists were named on a state representational basis, in numbers proportional to each state's percentage of the nation's 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 compete for Merit Scholarship awards, Semifinalists had to advance to the Finalist level of the competition by submitting a substantial amount of information and by fulfilling additional requirements. Each Finalist presented an outstanding academic record; was endorsed and recommended by a school official; earned SAT scores that confirmed the qualifying test performance; and provided an essay describing activities, interests, and goals. More than 15,000 Semifinalists met requirements for Finalist standing, and more than half of this group will be Merit Scholarship winners in 2009.

Established in 1955 to conduct the National Merit Program, NMSC is a not-for-profit corporation that operates without government assistance. The majority of National Merit Scholarships provided each year are made possible by the support of approximately 500 independent corporate and college sponsors. These sponsors join NMSC in its efforts to enhance educational opportunities for America's scholastically talented youth and to 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 Scholarship 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.

<b>Victoria R. Miller</b> Probable career field: International Relations	BOULDER CITY 89005	BOULDER CITY H. S., BOULDER CITY
<b>NATIONAL MERIT BRIGHAM YOUNG UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP</b> 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.		
<b>James J. Bridegum</b> Probable career field: Materials Science	CARSON CITY 89706	CARSON H. S., CARSON CITY
<b>NATIONAL MERIT UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA, RENO SCHOLARSHIP</b> The University of Nevada, Reno is one of the country's major land-grant research institutions, featuring a picturesque 255-acre campus in the nation's fastest growing state. The academic atmosphere at Nevada is vibrant, challenging and personal. Facilities include technologically advanced classrooms and first-class laboratories. Learning is a partnership between students and faculty involving study, research and hands-on experience.		
<b>Adeline Y. Duong</b> Probable career field: Electrical Engineering	CARSON CITY 89701	CARSON H. S., CARSON CITY
<b>NATIONAL MERIT UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA, RENO SCHOLARSHIP</b> The University of Nevada, Reno is one of the country's major land-grant research institutions, featuring a picturesque 255-acre campus in the nation's fastest growing state. The academic atmosphere at Nevada is vibrant, challenging and personal. Facilities include technologically advanced classrooms and first-class laboratories. Learning is a partnership between students and faculty involving study, research and hands-on experience.		
<b>Alexis L. Harvey</b> Probable career field: Law	HENDERSON 89052	CORONADO H. S., HENDERSON
<b>NATIONAL MERIT UNIVERSITY OF UTAH SCHOLARSHIP</b> The University of Utah is located in Salt Lake City at the foot of the rugged Wasatch Mountains. Instructional programs are offered in a graduate school, three colleges and thirteen professional schools. Bachelor's degrees may be earned in over 60 fields of study. Advanced degrees are offered by most departments. The 3,250 members of the teaching faculty make distinguished contributions in teaching, research and public service. Seventy-five percent of the regular faculty hold doctoral degrees.		
<b>Anna C. Bax</b> Probable career field: Social Science	LAS VEGAS 89134	LAS VEGAS ACADEMY OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES AND PERFORMING ARTS, LAS VEGAS
<b>NATIONAL MERIT WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY IN ST. LOUIS SCHOLARSHIP</b> Washington University is a private, middle-sized, coeducational institution of strong academic nature and stature, offering its students the close, personal contact of a small college community and the faculty and facilities of a much larger university. The university offers undergraduate degree programs in the Humanities, Social Sciences, and Natural Sciences, as well as in Architecture, Business Administration, Engineering, and Fine Arts.		
<b>Steven M. Hand</b> Probable career field: Civil Engineering	LAS VEGAS 89129	LAS VEGAS ACADEMY OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES AND PERFORMING ARTS, LAS VEGAS
<b>NATIONAL MERIT TEXAS A&amp;M UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP</b> Texas A&M University is chartered by Congress as the state's land-grant, sea-grant, and space-grant university. Extraordinary faculty and academic resources annually place Texas A&M among the top 10 producers of sponsored research, according to the National Science Foundation, in disciplines ranging from the humanities and social sciences to the life sciences and engineering. Outstanding undergraduates from all 50 states and over 100 nations have access to more than 150 degree programs.		
<b>Julieann Ray</b> Probable career field: Chemical Engineering	LAS VEGAS 89129	CENTENNIAL H. S., LAS VEGAS
<b>NATIONAL MERIT BRIGHAM YOUNG UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP</b> 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.		
<b>Christian L. Tidwell</b> Probable career field: Architectural Design	LAS VEGAS 89110	ADVANCED TECHNOLOGIES ACADEMY, LAS VEGAS
<b>NATIONAL MERIT ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP</b> 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.		
<b>Mallory A. Fisher</b> Probable career field: Business Management	RENO 89519	RENO H. S., RENO
<b>NATIONAL MERIT UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA, RENO SCHOLARSHIP</b> The University of Nevada, Reno is one of the country's major land-grant research institutions, featuring a picturesque 255-acre campus in the nation's fastest growing state. The academic atmosphere at Nevada is vibrant, challenging and personal. Facilities include technologically advanced classrooms and first-class laboratories. Learning is a partnership between students and faculty involving study, research and hands-on experience.		
<b>Michael M. Hamilton</b> Probable career field: Business	RENO 89505	EARL WOOSTER H. S., RENO
<b>NATIONAL MERIT UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA SCHOLARSHIP</b> 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.		

<b>James Liu</b> Probable career field: Computer Science	RENO 89523	RENO H. S., RENO
<b>NATIONAL MERIT NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP</b> 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.		
<b>Cody P. Nolan</b> Probable career field: Surgical Medicine	RENO 89521	THE DAVIDSON ACADEMY OF NEVADA, RENO
<b>NATIONAL MERIT UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA, RENO SCHOLARSHIP</b> The University of Nevada, Reno is one of the country's major land-grant research institutions, featuring a picturesque 255-acre campus in the nation's fastest growing state. The academic atmosphere at Nevada is vibrant, challenging and personal. Facilities include technologically advanced classrooms and first-class laboratories. Learning is a partnership between students and faculty involving study, research and hands-on experience.		
<b>Peyton B. Scott</b> Probable career field: Neuropsychology	RENO 89521	EARL WOOSTER H. S., RENO
<b>NATIONAL MERIT SCRIPPS COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP</b> Scripps College is a private liberal arts college for women within the Claremont Colleges consortium, in Claremont, CA. Scripps provides an intense educational and residential life experience, while offering classes at four other coeducational liberal arts colleges just steps away. The heart of academic life is the core curriculum in interdisciplinary humanities, which teaches students how to challenge unexamined assumptions and to think critically and creatively across disciplines.		
<b>Andy D. Wei</b> Probable career field: Neuroscience/Computer Science	RENO 89519	THE DAVIDSON ACADEMY OF NEVADA, RENO
<b>NATIONAL MERIT UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA, RENO SCHOLARSHIP</b> The University of Nevada, Reno is one of the country's major land-grant research institutions, featuring a picturesque 255-acre campus in the nation's fastest growing state. The academic atmosphere at Nevada is vibrant, challenging and personal. Facilities include technologically advanced classrooms and first-class laboratories. Learning is a partnership between students and faculty involving study, research and hands-on experience.		
<b>Justin P. Lopez</b> Probable career field: Medicine	SPARKS 89434	BISHOP MANOGUE CATHOLIC H. S., RENO
<b>NATIONAL MERIT UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA, RENO SCHOLARSHIP</b> The University of Nevada, Reno is one of the country's major land-grant research institutions, featuring a picturesque 255-acre campus in the nation's fastest growing state. The academic atmosphere at Nevada is vibrant, challenging and personal. Facilities include technologically advanced classrooms and first-class laboratories. Learning is a partnership between students and faculty involving study, research and hands-on experience.		
<b>Christopher A. Salls</b> Probable career field: Mathematics	SPARKS 89434	EDWARD C. REED H. S., SPARKS
<b>NATIONAL MERIT UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA, RENO SCHOLARSHIP</b> The University of Nevada, Reno is one of the country's major land-grant research institutions, featuring a picturesque 255-acre campus in the nation's fastest growing state. The academic atmosphere at Nevada is vibrant, challenging and personal. Facilities include technologically advanced classrooms and first-class laboratories. Learning is a partnership between students and faculty involving study, research and hands-on experience.		