



# NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP CORPORATION

1560 Sherman Avenue, Suite 200, Evanston, Illinois 60201-4897 (847) 866-5100

September 12, 2024

Dear Principal:

We are very pleased to notify you that each senior named on the enclosed list is a *Commended Student* in the 2025 National Merit® Scholarship Program. Commended Students are being recognized for the exceptional academic promise demonstrated by their outstanding performance on the qualifying test used for program entry. They will not, however, continue in the competition for National Merit Scholarships to be offered next spring.

Students entered the National Merit Scholarship Program, a nationwide competition for recognition and awards conducted by National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC®), by taking the 2023 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT®) last October. In April, NMSC identified the 50,000 highest scorers and notified their high schools. Some 16,000 of those high performers were recently designated Semifinalists on a state representational basis. Their schools were notified a few weeks ago and NMSC released their names to news media on September 11. Only Semifinalists have an opportunity to continue in the Merit Scholarship® competition and advance to Finalist standing by meeting a number of additional requirements.

The other 34,000 high performers are now being named Commended Students based on a national Selection Index score of 208, applicable to all program participants without regard to state-by-state distribution. Participants who scored at or above the Commended Student Selection Index score, but below their state or selection unit's Semifinalist Selection Index score, are Commended Students. Although NMSC will not announce their names, we are enclosing a sample press release in the event you wish to provide the information to news media in your area.

A *Letter of Commendation* with a congratulatory message is enclosed for each Commended Student on your school's list. There is a place for your signature above the name of your school on the *Letter of Commendation*. **Please present the *Letter of Commendation* as soon as possible since it is the student's only notification of this National Merit Scholarship Program honor.** If a Commended Student has transferred, please forward the *Letter of Commendation* to the principal of the school the student currently attends.

We have great respect for the important part that you and your professional staff play in the development of academic excellence, and it is a genuine pleasure for NMSC to join you in honoring these talented students. We look forward to the continued participation of your school's students in the National Merit Scholarship Program.

Sincerely,

James C. Wittenberg  
Director of Scholarship Administration

Enclosures



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September 2024

For immediate release by the school

**COMMENDED STUDENTS IN THE 2025 NATIONAL MERIT® SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**

The principal, \_\_\_\_\_, of \_\_\_\_\_  
principal's name high school  
announced today that \_\_\_\_\_ has (have) been named (a) Commended  
student name(s)  
Student(s) in the 2025 National Merit Scholarship Program. A *Letter of Commendation* from the school and National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC®), which conducts the program, will be presented by the principal to this (these) scholastically talented senior(s).

About 34,000 Commended Students throughout the nation are being recognized for their exceptional academic promise. Although they will not continue in the 2025 competition for National Merit Scholarship awards, Commended Students placed among the top 50,000 students who entered the 2025 competition by taking the 2023 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT®).

“Those being named Commended Students have demonstrated outstanding potential for academic success,” commented a spokesperson for NMSC. “These students represent a valuable national resource; recognizing their accomplishments, as well as the key role their schools play in their academic development, is vital to the advancement of educational excellence in our nation. We hope that this recognition will help broaden their educational opportunities and encourage them as they continue their pursuit of academic success.”

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DAVIDSON ACADEMY  
1164 N VIRGINIA ST  
RENO NV 89503

High School  
Code  
29/0207

**Commended Students in the 2025 National Merit Scholarship Program**

**Student Name**

BRODERICK CHENG  
HANA DE QUEIROZ  
GRACIE VERANO

**Number of Students: 3**