



Finalists Named in the 2010 National Merit® Scholarship Program

The National Merit® Scholarship Program has now determined which of the 16,000 Semifinalists named in September 2009 have met all requirements to advance to Finalist standing in the competition. All Finalists will be considered for National Merit Scholarships to be offered in 2010.

Among them were **Samantha Bussan, Andrew Hovel, Isis Leonard, Gena Roisum, and Ally Schmaling**.

Merit Scholar designees are selected on the basis of their skills, accomplishments, and potential for success in rigorous college studies, without regard to gender, race, ethnic origin, or religious preference.

Merit Scholarship Awards Three types of National Merit Scholarship awards will be offered in the spring of 2010.

Every Finalist will compete for one of 2,500 National Merit \$2500 Scholarships that will be awarded on a state representational basis. About 1,000 corporate-sponsored scholarships will be provided by approximately 270 corporations and business organizations for Finalists who meet their specified criteria, such as children of the grantor's employees

or residents of communities where sponsor plants or offices are located. In addition, about 200 colleges and universities are expected to finance some 4,700 college-sponsored Merit Scholarship awards for Finalists who will attend the sponsor institution. National Merit Scholarship winners of 2010 will be announced in four nationwide news releases beginning in April and concluding in July. These scholarship recipients will join more than 267,000 other distinguished young people who have earned the Merit Scholar title.

The selection of some 8,200 Merit Scholarship® winners from the group of more than 15,000 Finalists is now in progress. In March, NMSC will begin mailing scholarship offers to winners at their home addresses and confidential notices to their high school principals. Four major news media announcements of Merit Scholar® designees will be made by NMSC in April, May, and July.

###

National Merit, Merit Scholarship, and Merit Scholar are federally registered service marks of National Merit Scholarship Corporation. PSAT/NMSQT is a registered trademark of National Merit Scholarship Corporation and the College Board.