



The School District of Osceola County, FL

Dr. Debra Pace, Superintendent

Press Release (in English and Spanish)

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Osceola Students Named Semifinalists In The National Merit Scholarship Program

Four Gateway High and one Celebration High academically-talented students in Osceola County have been named as Semifinalists in the 64th annual 2019 National Merit Scholarship Program, and have the opportunity to continue in the competition for some 7,500 National Merit Scholarships worth more than \$31 million that will be offered in the spring:

- David Movsisyan – Celebration High**
- Brandon Ceme – Gateway High**
- Brian Lin – Gateway High**
- Angel Martinez Acevedo – Gateway High**
- Khadija Zaidi – Gateway High**

The nationwide pool of Semifinalists represents less than one percent of U.S. high school seniors. High school students enter the National Merit Program by taking the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT®), which serves as an initial screen of approximately 1.6 million entrants each year, and by meeting published program entry and participation requirements. All winners of Merit Scholarship® awards are chosen from the Finalist group based on their abilities, skills, and accomplishments, without regard to gender, race, ethnic origin, or religious preference.

Beginning in April and continuing to July, students will be selected to receive Merit Scholarship awards of three types: National Merit \$2,500 Scholarships, Corporate-Sponsored Merit Scholarships awards, and College-Sponsored Merit Scholarship Awards.

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Estudiantes de Osceola Nombrados Semifinalistas del *The National Merit Scholarship Program*

Cuatro académicamente talentosos estudiantes de cuarto año de la Escuela Superior *Gateway* y un estudiante de la Escuela Superior *Celebration* del condado Osceola han sido nombrados como semifinalistas en el 64^º programa anual *National Merit Scholarship Program 2019* y tienen la oportunidad de continuar en la competencia por unas 7,500 becas de *National Merit Scholarships* de un valor de más de \$31 millón, las cuales se ofrecerán en la primavera:

- David Movsisyan – Escuela Superior *Celebration***
- Brandon Ceme – Escuela Superior *Gateway***

--Brian Lin – Escuela Superior *Gateway*

--Angel Martinez Acevedo – Escuela Superior *Gateway*

--Khadija Zaidi – Escuela Superior *Gateway*

El grupo de semifinalistas de todo el país representan menos de un por ciento de los estudiantes de cuarto año de los Estados Unidos. Los estudiantes de escuela superior entran en el *National Merit Program* al tomar el *Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT®)*—el cual sirve como elemento inicial de evaluación de aproximadamente 1.6 millones de entrantes cada año—y cumpliendo con los requisitos publicados de entrada y participación. Todos los ganadores de las becas de *Merit Scholarship®* son escogidos del grupo de finalistas basado en sus habilidades, destrezas y logro—sin importar el sexo, raza, origen étnico o preferencia religiosa.

Comenzando en abril y continuando hasta julio, los estudiantes serán seleccionados para recibir tres tipos de premios: Becas de *National Merit* de \$2,500 , Becas de *Merit Scholarships auspiciadas por corporaciones* y *BecaCollege-Sponsored Merit Scholarship Awards*.

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