



# PRESS RELEASE

**Poway Unified School District**

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## 56 Poway Unified Students Named Semifinalists in 2023 National Merit Scholarship Program

(San Diego/Poway, CA) – Officials of National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC) announced the names of approximately 16,000 semifinalists in the 68<sup>th</sup> annual National Merit Scholarship Program. The Poway Unified School District (PUSD) is pleased to announce that 56 students from all five of PUSD’s comprehensive high schools were named as part of this group.

### DEL NORTE HIGH SCHOOL

Meena Annamalai	Arnav A. Palkhiwala
Adrita Chakraborty	Hansi S. Parmar
Eva J. Crickard	Nicole I. Pi
Daniel P. Dolan	Sahil Samar
Samhitha Duggirala	Shriya Sankaran
Christopher Duroiu	Rebecca C. Su
Matthew A. Griegel	Alice K. Tang
Michael E. Griegel	Brian G. Tang
Noah Israel	Hetvi N. Trivedi
Alicia Q. Ji	Leonard A. Wright
Gina Kim	Ellen Xu
Jeffrey J. Lin	Audrey Zeng
Joyce Meng	Andrew Y. Zhang
Chenxin Ni	Lucia N. Zhang

### MT. CARMEL HIGH SCHOOL

Noah S. Pearl	Derek B. Shi
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### POWAY HIGH SCHOOL

Rohan L. Bosworth	Anna Kim
Luke L. Hansen	Evan Tantuwaya
Lu He	

## **RANCHO BERNARDO HIGH SCHOOL**

Anna M. Chong	Christian A. Soliman
Adarsh Radhakrishnan	Joshua R. Wernli
Michael A. Saldivar	Wendy Xu
Shreya Singh	

## **WESTVIEW HIGH SCHOOL**

Mia L. Chen	Anirudh S. Kannan
Andrew H. Chu	Ava R. O'Connor
Anika Y. Chung	Sabrina J. Shen
Daniel Deng	Krishna P. Thakker
Jonathan Z. Ding	Justin Y. Wu
Vishudh Gedela	Madison I. Yang
Kavya Gupta	Connie Y. Zhu

These academically talented high school seniors have an opportunity to continue in the competition for some 7,600 National Merit Scholarships worth more than \$31 million that will be offered next spring.

### **Steps Taken in the Competition**

High school seniors entered the 2023 National Merit Scholarship Program by taking the 2021 preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT®), which serves as an initial screen of program entrants. The nationwide pool of semifinalists, representing less than one percent of U.S. high school seniors, includes the highest-scoring entrants in each state. The number of semifinalists in a state is proportional to the state's percentage of the national total of graduating seniors.

To become a finalist, the semifinalist and a high school official must submit a detailed scholarship application, in which they provide information about the semifinalist's academic record, participation in school and community activities, demonstrated leadership abilities, employment, and honors and awards received. A semifinalist must have an outstanding academic record throughout high school, be endorsed and recommended by a high school official, write an essay, and earn SAT® or ACT® scores that confirm the student's earlier performance on the qualifying test.

All finalists will be selected in February 2023, and the National Merit Scholarship Winners will be announced in four nationwide news releases beginning in April 2023 and concluding in July 2023.

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