



# PRESS RELEASE

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## **Poway Unified Students Awarded National Merit Scholarships**

*Eight PUSD seniors recognized for their achievements, more to be announced in June*

(San Diego, CA) – The National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC) has released the first two groups of winners in the 67<sup>th</sup> annual National Merit Scholarship Program. The two groups include the names of corporate-sponsored scholarship winners as well as the National Merit \$2,500 Scholarship winners. Among the winners are eight students from Poway Unified School District.

In April, the first group of scholarship recipients was announced for the NMSC Corporate Sponsorships financed by about 136 corporations, company foundations, and other business organizations. Corporate sponsors provide National Merit Corporate Scholarships for those finalists who are children of their employees, who are residents of communities the company serves, or who plan to pursue college majors or careers the sponsor wishes to encourage. Each PUSD student was chosen because they advanced to the Finalist level in the NMSC competition and met the criteria of their scholarship sponsors. The PUSD winners of Corporate-Sponsored Merit Scholarships are:

**Sattwik Chakraborty:** Westview High School  
National Merit Bristol-Meyers Squibb Co. Scholarship

**Justin M. Li:** Del Norte High School  
National Merit Northrop Grumman Scholarship

**Jaden Xia:** Westview High School  
National Merit Northrop Grumman Scholarship

**Jonathan D. Zhou:** Rancho Bernardo High School  
National Merit Northrop Grumman Scholarship

**Ethan N. Lin:** Westview High School  
National Merit Pfizer Inc. Scholarship

Today, the National Merit Scholarship Corporation announced the second group of scholarship winners, students who have been awarded the 2022 National Merit \$2,500 Scholarship. These students were selected out of a candidate pool of approximately 16,000 students nationwide

and were chosen based on metrics such as academic record, preliminary standardized test scores, community leadership contributions, an essay, and a written recommendation by a high school official. Three PUSD students were chosen for the National Merit \$2,500 Scholarship, they are:

**Hannah Chen:** Del Norte High School  
Probable career field: Biomedical Engineering

**Daniel S. Kim:** Mt. Carmel High School  
Probable career field: Mechanical Engineering

**Aakarsh Vermani:** Westview High School  
Probable career field: Computer Science

NMSC will name the recipients of College-Sponsored Merit Scholarship awards on June 1, 2022 and July 11, 2022. By the conclusion of this year's competition, about 7,500 academic champions will have won National Merit Scholarships worth approximately \$30 million.

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