

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wednesday, September 29, 2010 / SC National Achievement Semifinalists

Forty-eight seniors named semifinalists in 2011 National Achievement Scholarship competition

EVANSTON, IL - Forty-eight Black American seniors in 32 South Carolina public schools have been named 2011 semifinalists in the 47th annual National Achievement Scholarship competition. They are among more than 1,600 students to achieve this honor nationwide.

Semifinalists have an opportunity to continue in the competition for approximately 800 scholarships worth over \$2.5 million to be awarded next spring. The National Achievement Program is conducted by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation and began in 1964 to recognize promising black students.

Richland District Two's Richland Northeast High School in Columbia had the largest number of South Carolina semifinalists with five. Two other Richland Two schools -Blythewood High and Spring Valley High – had three semifinalists each, as did Dorman High School in Spartanburg District Six. Four students from private schools also qualified.

About 80 percent of semifinalists are expected to fulfill additional requirements and advance to the finalist level. More than half of the finalists will be named National Achievement Scholars based on their abilities, accomplishments and potential for success in rigorous college studies.

Over 160,000 high school juniors from all parts of the United States entered the 2010 National Achievement Program when they took the 2009 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test. Semifinalists are designated within geographic regions and are the highest-scoring program entrants in the states that make up each region.

National Achievement Scholarships for 2011 will be supported by corporations, professional organizations, foundations and by National Merit's own funds. Two types of scholarships are offered - one-time National Achievement \$2,500 scholarships, which will be presented on a regional representation basis, and about 100 Achievement Scholarships that are corporate-sponsored and may be renewable for up to four years of undergraduate study. Winners' names will be announced in early April.

Public school semifinalists
2011 National Achievement Scholarship Program

ABBEVILLE

ABBEVILLE HIGH
Stackhouse, Brandon J.

AIKEN

AIKEN HIGH
Provost, Zakiya N.

BENNETTSVILLE

MARLBORO COUNTY HIGH
Matthews, Jarobvey D.

BLYTHEWOOD

BLYTHEWOOD HIGH
Clay, Christina A.
Davis, Miah J.
Whitaker, Kiana S.

CHAPIN

CHAPIN HIGH
Archie, Bryant J.

CHARLESTON

JAMES ISLAND CHARTER HIGH
Holloway, Tre A.

CHERAW

CHERAW HIGH
Prince, Cshataizha S.

COLUMBIA

COLUMBIA HIGH
Gillens, Kimberly R.
IRMO HIGH
McFadden, Kenai I.
Williams, Rebekah N.
W. J. KEENAN HIGH
Smalls, Deana S.
RICHLAND NORTHEAST HIGH
Anderson-Rhinehart,
Cassandra
Brown, Naomi Y.
Ekeh, Karen N.
Hawkins, Travena A.
Tynes, Brendane A.

RIDGE VIEW HIGH

Johnson, Aleesa M.
Parker, LaVesha D.
SC CONNECTIONS ACADEMY
Stewart, Taylor D.
SPRING VALLEY HIGH
Payton, Kaneisha L.
Ricks, Jazmin A.
Wilson, Gabrielle N.

FORT MILL

NATION FORD HIGH
Harvey, Matthew D.

GOOSE CREEK

STRATFORD HIGH
Hayward, Amelia R.

HARTSVILLE

GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL FOR SCIENCE, MATH
Beraho, Nicole K.
Williams, Joshua M.

HONEA PATH

BELTON-HONEA PATH HIGH
Salley, Christopher E.

INDIAN LAND

INDIAN LAND HIGH
Nwoke, Enyinnaya D.

IRMO

DUTCH FORK HIGH
Clemens, Alexis A.
Perez, Elaina C.

LITTLE RIVER

NORTH MYRTLE BEACH HIGH
Hightower, Mariah A.
Thomas, Teasia Z.

LUGOFF

LUGOFF-ELGIN HIGH
Wood, Lawrence E.

MOUNT PLEASANT

WANDO HIGH
Weldon, Paige A.

MYRTLE BEACH

CAROLINA FOREST HIGH
Parker, Elisha M.

NORTH AUGUSTA

NORTH AUGUSTA HIGH
Stevenson, Toni M.

NORTH CHARLESTON

FORT DORCHESTER HIGH
Thorn, Kevin J.

PIEDMONT

WOODMONT HIGH
Smith, Lauren

ROEBUCK

DORMAN HIGH
Canty, Sierra D.
Cooper-Rookard, Jonaca L.
Goss, Darrin

SALUDA

SALUDA HIGH
Wright, Jamin K.

SUMMERVILLE

CANE BAY HIGH
Burt, Real G.
Milligan, Avante R.

SUMTER

LAKEWOOD HIGH
Webb, Beneshia

VARNVILLE

WADE HAMPTON HIGH
Brooks, Deana