



MONTGOMERY BLAIR HIGH SCHOOL MAGNET
FOUNDATION INC.



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**Nine Montgomery Blair High School Magnet Seniors Named as
Intel Semifinalists**

Silver Spring, MD— The Society for Science and the Public, the nonprofit organization that administers the Intel Science Talent Search, announced on January 8 that nine Montgomery Blair High School Science, Mathematics, and Computer Science Magnet Program seniors are among 300 semifinalists in the 2014 competition. The nine students (and their project titles) are: Alexander Bourzutschky (*New Analytical Solutions to the Time-Dependent Schrödinger Equation for the Quantum Two-Level System*), Shaun Datta (*Saturated Nuclear Matter in the Large N_c and Heavy Quark Limits of Quantum Chromodynamics*), Neil Davey (*Early Cancer Diagnosis and Treatment Through the Detection of Circulating Tumor Cells Using Drop-based Microfluidics*), Daniela Ganelin (*Differences in Word Usage Patterns Between “Well-Recovered” Aphasic Patients and Control Subjects on a Picture Description Task*), Yi-Zhi “Hannah” He (*A Software Tool to Assist Genomic N-Glycosite Prediction in Cancer Cells*), Aanchal Johri (*Elasticity of Q-beta Virus Capsids as Malaria Vaccine Carriers Validated via Peak-Force Atomic Force Microscopy*), Jessica Shi (*The Speeds of Families of Intersection Graphs*), Hueyjong “Huey” Shih (*The Effects of Oncogenic KRAS and c-Myc on the Transcriptomic Output of the Cell: A Novel Role for a Master Oncogene*), and Gabriella Studt (*Construction of the Higher Bruhat Orders on the Weyl Group of Type B*).

Each student will receive \$1,000, and Montgomery Blair High School will receive \$9,000 (\$1,000 for each of the semifinalists) to be used to further science, math, and engineering education.

The Intel Science Talent Search is the oldest and most prestigious pre-college science competition in this country. 1,794 high school seniors, from 489 schools in 45 states, the District of Columbia, and seven overseas schools submitted their original science projects in the fall, and 300 were named as semifinalists. In the Montgomery Blair High School Magnet Program, this work represents the student’s senior research project, overseen by Magnet teacher Ms.

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Angelique Bosse. This is original research completed under the guidance of a mentor, typically at a leading research institution or university. The work usually begins in the student's junior year and continues throughout the summer. Montgomery Blair High School has been one of the most recognized schools in the Science Talent Search over the past two decades, and Blair's nine semifinalists this year again places it among the top five schools in the nation. These semifinalists will continue on to compete for 40 positions as finalists, to be named on January 22. Finalists will compete for \$630,000 in awards from the Intel Foundation, including a top award of a \$100,000 scholarship. Final judging will occur in Washington, D.C. on March 6-12.

Intel semifinalist Hannah He commented: "The magnet program is structured to build up our initiative and give us opportunities to explore topics outside of school. That way, instead of just reading textbooks about the science we might never do, we get to be active participants. When we apply what we have learned, we understand it better. This kind of scientific research is a fundamental part of the magnet program and it allows students to satisfy their curiosity about their surroundings." Her classmate Aanchal Johri added, "I really enjoyed learning about other students' research projects during the Senior Research Project class. Everyone's hard work is evident through their research papers."

About The Montgomery Blair High School Magnet Foundation

This organization was founded by a group of concerned students, teachers, administrators, and alumni in 2008. Its purpose is to promote science, mathematics, and computer science education by supporting the Magnet Program at Montgomery Blair High School in its efforts to develop resources and refine practices needed to provide a rigorous and enriched education for students, staff, and the community at large. The Foundation is incorporated in the state of Maryland and is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization.

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