



MONTGOMERY BLAIR HIGH SCHOOL MAGNET  
FOUNDATION INC.



P.O. Box 101  
Kensington, MD 20895-0101

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

October 19, 2015

**CONTACT:** Sherrie Emoto, board@mbhsmagnet.org

**Forty-one Montgomery Blair High School Seniors Named as  
National Merit Scholar Semifinalists**

**Silver Spring, MD**—Forty-one Montgomery Blair High School seniors, 37 of whom are from the Montgomery Blair High School Science, Mathematics, and Computer Science Magnet Program, were named as National Merit Scholar Semifinalists in the 2016 competition, which is sponsored annually by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation. These students will be considered for advancement to finalist standing based on their academic achievement. If selected as finalists in Spring 2016, they will compete for \$2,500 scholarships from the National Merit Scholarship Corporation, as well as corporate- and college-sponsored awards. Of the approximately 1.5 million students who took the screening test for this award, the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT), approximately 16,000 were selected as semifinalists, and about 15,000 will be finalists. Roughly 7,400 of these finalists will earn scholarships and the title of National Merit Scholar.

The Blair Magnet Class of 2016 National Merit Scholarship Semifinalists include Ji Hyuk Bae, Eric S. Chen, Jeremy C. Du, Candia D. Gu, Ethan J. Holland, Anthony Li, Cynthia T. Liu, Eric M. Lu, Kathleen Ruan, Victoria C. Tsai, and Wilson B. Yu of Rockville; Sage Chen, Ramya A. Durvasula, Connie Ho, Mariam B. Jiffar, Noah D. Levine, Amy Li, Arnold K. Mong, Divya Rajagopal, and Timothy T. Zhou of Potomac; Helen R. Edge, Sidney B. Geertsema, Yaelle B. Goldschlag, Brian Z. Le, Alexander J. Mangiafico, and Jesse P. Webber of Silver Spring; Eleanor L. Harris of Takoma Park; Haena-Young Lee of Burtonsville; Raymond T. Lin, Winne Luo, Anna H. Ou, Angel Wen, Bronte Wen, and Rona Yu of Gaithersburg; Brian P. Morris of Chevy Chase; Caitlyn A. Singam of Bethesda; and Jeong-Yoon Wu of Olney. Blair Seniors also named as National Merit Scholarship Semifinalists are Samuel E. Bilsky and Olivia G. Lewis of Silver Spring and Camille D. Kirsch and Rowyn A. Peel of Takoma Park.

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National Merit Scholar Semifinalist and Blair Magnet senior Victoria Tsai humbly expresses her gratitude, “I am honored to be chosen as a National Merit Semifinalist and am grateful to the Blair Magnet program for laying the strong educational foundation that led me to such an achievement.”

Fellow National Merit Scholar Semifinalist and Blair Magnet senior Jeremy Du graciously adds his thankfulness, “I am grateful to the Blair Magnet program for teaching me in depth about various topics in math and science. This experience is the primary reason why I was named a National Merit Semifinalist.”



Montgomery Blair High School Science, Mathematics, and Computer Science Magnet Program seniors (from left) Victoria C. Tsai and Jeremy C. Du are two of the high school’s 41 National Merit Scholar Semifinalists, 37 hailing from the Blair Magnet.  
(Photos courtesy of Prestige Portraits and Mr. David Stein, respectively)

## **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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