Montgomery Blair High School Magnet Foundation Inc.

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Address:

MBHS Magnet
Foundation Inc.
P.O. Box 5329
Takoma Park,
MD 20913

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CONTACT: Sherrie Emoto, board@mbhsmagnet.org

Montgomery Blair High School Team Wins International Knowledge Master Open Title

Silver Spring, MD—Four Montgomery Blair High School Science, Mathematics, and Computer Science Magnet Program students led a team of 160 fellow Blair classmates on December 2 to place first worldwide out of 678 teams in the 53rd Knowledge Master Open (KMO), the largest high school academic tournament in the United States. *It's Academic* team members, Mario Choi and Joel Muskin-Pierret of Silver Spring, Jeremy Fallick of Bethesda, and Diana Jing of Rockville, led the Blair team to capture this title for the eighth time total but only the first since 2000. Blair was the only Washington-area team to place in the top ten this fall.

The KMO is a semi-annual academic competition during which teams answer 200 multiple-choice questions covering a range of fifteen academic subjects such as math, history, fine arts, and English. Teams are given two attempts to answer each question, and bonus points are awarded for speed. The Blair team answered all questions correctly (188 on the first try and 12 on the second), for a total score of 1797 out of a possible 2000, one of the highest scores in the tournament's history. Tens of thousands of students competed from high schools across the United States and a number of foreign countries. The Blair team consistently places near the top each spring and fall and ranked fourth in the last contest in the spring of 2009. The Blair KMO team is prepared by Magnet Physics teacher James Schafer.

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

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Foundation is incorporated in the state of Maryland and is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization.

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