



Montgomery Blair High School Magnet Foundation Inc.



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**Team of Three Montgomery Blair High School Magnet Alumni
Set Record for University of Maryland in
Putnam Math Competition**

Silver Spring, MD—A team of three Montgomery Blair High School Science, Mathematics, and Computer Science Magnet Program alumni captured seventh place for the University of Maryland College Park (UMCP) in the prestigious 2009-10 William Lowell Putnam Competition. Henry Scher ('07), Mitchell Katz ('06), and Matthew McCutchen ('07) were selected from among hundreds of UMCP math students to form the university team in this competition. Although many students may take the exam, only the scores of three pre-selected students count toward the contest. Furthermore, McCutchen received honorable mention for his individual score. The UMCP team was the highest scoring team from a public university this year. Indeed, the first six places went to MIT, Harvard, Cal Tech, Stanford, Princeton, and Duke, in order.

The 70th annual Putnam competition saw 4,036 students from 546 colleges in the U.S. and Canada participating. This test, which has been nicknamed “the world’s toughest math test” by *Time Magazine*, consists of 12 challenging problems to be solved over 6 hours. A 0-10 point scale is used to score each problem for a total possible score of 120 points. The problems are so difficult that a score of 60 points would qualify among the top 1 percent for all contest participants, and a score of 30 points would place in the top 10 percent. This year’s seventh-place ranking represents the highest one achieved by a UMCP team in the last 17 years.

About The Montgomery Blair High School Magnet Foundation

This organization was founded by a group of concerned students, teachers, administrators, parents, 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

Keeping a Special Program Special
www.mbhsmagnet.org

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Montgomery Blair High School Magnet Foundation Inc.

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

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