



# Montgomery Blair High School Magnet Foundation Inc.



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## **Montgomery Blair High School Team Places Second in International Knowledge Master Open Title**

**Silver Spring, MD**—A team of 121 Montgomery Blair High School students captured second place in the Fall 2010 Knowledge Master Open (KMO), the largest high school academic tournament in the United States, on December 8. Although the team is largely composed of students from the Montgomery Blair High School Science, Mathematics, and Computer Science Magnet Program, students from throughout the school participate. The team scored 1763 out of a possible 2000 points, trailing the first place team from California by only a single point. Indeed, the Blair team consistently places at or near the top of each KMO competition. Last fall the Blair team won first place worldwide, a position it has held eight times in the contest's 27-year history. Both last year and this, Blair has been the only team in the Washington, D.C. area to score in the top ten.

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 195 of 200 questions correctly to earn their score. Tens of thousands of students, forming 627 teams, competed from high schools across the United States and a number of foreign countries.

Blair KMO and *It's Academic* team captain, junior Daniel Hafner, modestly comments, "To be honest, I'm pretty surprised we did so well, but mostly I'm excited for the spring KMO. Thanks to the Magnet and our *It's Academic* team's determination, there's no better KMO school than Blair this side of the Mississippi, and soon enough, if we get our way, there won't be any in the entire country!" Magnet teacher and KMO team coach, James Schafer, adds, "This just proves that when you get a room filled with the best and brightest students working together, great things can happen."

### **About The Montgomery Blair High School Magnet Foundation**

This organization was founded by a group of concerned students,

Keeping a Special Program Special  
[www.mbhsmagnet.org](http://www.mbhsmagnet.org)

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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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