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## National Merit Scholarship Semifinalists Announced

*Submitted by Matthew Budreau*

Officials of the National Merit Scholarship Corporation recently announced the names of approximately 16,000 semifinalists in the 60th annual National Merit Scholarship Program. These academically talented high school seniors have an opportunity to continue in the competition for some 7,600 National Merit Scholarships worth about \$33 million that will be offered next spring. To be considered for a Merit Scholarship award, semifinalists must fulfill several requirements to advance to the finalist level of the competition. About 90 percent of the semifinalists are expected to attain finalist standing, according to NMSC, and more than half of the finalists will win a National Merit Scholarship, earning the Merit Scholar title. The semifinalists named at the three Lamorinda high schools were as follows:

Acalanes High School

Lauren C. Kim, Christopher M. Mickas, Conor Sasner, and Eric W. Sirott

Campolindo High School

Nadia Aquil, Kouros Arasteh, Katherine M. Coates, Stephen W. DaRodda, Yifan Hong, Brigid F. Leach, Sarah K. Sweeney, Andrew Z. Wang, Douglas M. Zhang, and Bradley J. Zhu

Miramonte High School

Emmanuelle L. Calinescu, Elliott R. Fong, Max Han, Brian W. Haufler, Alexander M. Jang, Taoran E. Liu, Sarah J. Rockwood, Stephanie M. Sloves, and Benjamin H. Warren

Reach the reporter at: [info@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:info@lamorindaweekly.com)

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