

News Release

Tenaflly Public Schools
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Tenaflly Celebrates Students Named as Semifinalists, Commended Students and College Board National Recognition Program Honorees

Three Tenaflly High School students are among the 16,000 semifinalists in this year's National Merit Scholarship Program; 41 are Commended Students

For Immediate Release

Tenaflly, NJ – Tenaflly High School announced that seniors Claire D. Kim, Jayden S. Ko, and Casey J. Yom are Semifinalists in the 2023 National Merit Scholarship Competition. The highest scorers on the 2021 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test, semifinalists represent less than one percent of U.S. High School seniors.

The number of Semifinalists in a state is proportional to the state's percentage of the national total of graduating seniors. To become a finalist, a Semifinalist must have an outstanding academic record throughout high school, be endorsed and recommended by the high school principal, and earn SAT scores that confirm the student's earlier performance on the qualifying test. The Semifinalist and a high school official must submit a detailed scholarship application, which includes the student's essay and information about the Semifinalist's participation and leadership in school and community activities as they compete for more than \$30 million in scholarships. Tenaflly Board of Education honored the Semifinalists at its November 21, 2022 meeting.

In addition to semifinalists, Tenaflly acknowledged 41 Commended Students; eleven more students than in 2021. The Commended Students are Harrison M. Banks, Siyuan Bao, Ethan T. Chia, Michael M. Crosby, Sophie Fuentecilla, Brandon Gao, Libby H. Hod, Jessica A. Huang, Yicheng Huang, Paul T. Hui, Sernie S. Jang, Anjalip Jathavedam, Suchir Joshi, Christopher Kaloudov, Jacqueline Kim, Ryan J. Kim, Sean C. Kim, Abigail S. Kushman, Anglelina Lee, Alexander Lipton, Jamie Liu, John Minnetian, Angelique Mitchell, Arnav Patwardhan, Tamar Peleg, Rhea C. Raghu, Karen Ringler, Gia Shin, Joseph Y. Song, Zehang Sun, Ayano Tamura, Jacob A.

Toboroff, Mia Villavicencio, Alexandria Yang, Crystal Ye, Kristen S. Yi, Meghan H. Yi, Seungkyu Yoon, Andrew C. Zhang, Andy Zhao, and Ilay Zubkov.

Commended Students placed among the top 50,000 scorers of more than 1.5 million students who took the 2020 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test.

Nine THS students were also awarded academic honors by the College Board National Recognition Program. The African American, Hispanic American, Indigenous, and Rural/Small Town National Recognition Programs grant underrepresented students with academic honors that can help them stand out on college and scholarship applications and connect them with universities across the country. This is the third year of the National Recognition Programs. More than 180,000 students from all 50 states were eligible to apply for the College Board National Recognition Programs, which grant students with academic honors that can be included on college and scholarship applications. Colleges and scholarship programs identify students awarded National African American, Hispanic, Indigenous and/or Rural/Small Town Recognition through College Board's Student Search Service. Congratulations to National African American Recognition Awardees (NAARA) and National Hispanic Recognition Awardees (NHRA) Angelique Mitchell NAARA; Elija Brooks NAARA, NHRA; Estaban Velasco NHRA; Felix Quiros-Keller NHRA; Isaac Levinson NHRA; Libby Hod NHRA; and Mia Villavicencio NHRA.

For more information on Tenaflly High School, visit www.tenaflyschools.org.
For more information on the National Merit Scholarship Program, visit <https://www.nationalmerit.org/>.

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