

**For Immediate Release**

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# Media Release

## **Graduating senior from Academic Magnet completes CCSD's group of NMSC scholarship winners in 2023**

Office of  
Communications

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**Charleston, SC** – The National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC) announced approximately 750 additional winners of National Merit Scholarships financed by U.S. colleges and universities last week, including Elliott Yarborough of Academic Magnet High School.

This brings the total number of CCSD students receiving scholarships in the 68<sup>th</sup> National Merit Scholarship program to 25. [Two Academic Magnet students picked up corporate-sponsored scholarships in April, seven students from a combined three CCSD schools earned \\$2,500 scholarships in May, and 15 graduating seniors were honored with college-sponsored scholarships last month.](#)

"We are so excited that Elliot can now add the National Merit Scholarship Award to his stack of high school accomplishments," said Academic Magnet's principal, Jacob Perlmutter. "We fully anticipate seeing more remarkable accomplishments from him in the future."

Officials of each sponsor college selected their scholarship winners from among the 2023 National Merit Scholarship Program finalists who plan to attend their institution. These awards provide between \$500 and \$2,000 annually for up to four years of undergraduate study at the institution financing the scholarship.

This year, 153 higher education institutions are underwriting Merit Scholarship awards through the National Merit Scholarship Program. Sponsor colleges and universities include 81 private and 72 public institutions located in 42 states and the District of Columbia.

College-sponsored Merit Scholarship winners announced this month are a part of the distinguished group of more than 7,140 high school seniors who received National Merit Scholarships for college undergraduate study worth nearly \$28 million.

High school juniors entered this year's National Merit Scholarship Program when they took the 2021 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT), which served as an initial screen of program entrants.

Once students were selected as semifinalists, they fulfilled the requirements to become finalists. They submitted a detailed scholarship application, which included writing an essay and providing information about extracurricular activities, awards, and leadership positions. Semifinalists also had to have an outstanding academic record, be endorsed and recommended by a high school official, and earn SAT® scores that confirmed the qualifying test performance. From the semifinalist group, over 15,000 students met the finalist requirements.

NMSC, a not-for-profit organization that operates without government assistance, was established in 1955 to conduct the National Merit Scholarship Program. Most National Merit Scholarships offered each year are underwritten by some 340 independent corporate and college sponsors that support NMSC's efforts to honor the nation's scholastically talented youth and encourage academic excellence at all levels of education.

For more information, contact the Office of Communications at (843) 937-6303.

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#### **About the Charleston County School District**

Charleston County School District (CCSD) is a nationally accredited school district committed to providing equitable and quality educational opportunities for all its students. CCSD is the second-largest school system in South Carolina and represents a unique blend of urban, suburban, and rural schools spanning 1,300 square miles along the coast. CCSD serves approximately 50,000 students in 88 schools and specialized programs.

CCSD offers a diverse portfolio of educational options and specialized programs delivered to the students of CCSD through neighborhood, magnet, IB (international baccalaureate), Montessori, and charter schools and programs. Rich educational opportunities for students include programs in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM); music and other creative and performing arts; career and technical preparation programs; military; dual credit; and many more.