



THE PENNINGTON SCHOOL

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PENNINGTON, NJ, October 13, 2025—Pennington Seniors Named as Commended Students in the 2026 National Merit® Scholarship Program

Last month, officials of the National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC) in Evanston, IL announced the names of 34,000 students from across the nation who have received letters of commendation for demonstrating exceptional academic promise through their outstanding performance on the preliminary SAT qualifying test last fall. Pennington seniors who have garnered Commended Student distinction in the 2026 National Merit Scholarship Program are Aiyana Doshi, Cecelia Embleton, Angelyn Li, Ami Ly, Zara Meehan-Ritter, Samik Mookherjee, Sanjana Ramalingam, Rishabh Ramaswamy, Brett Sirolly, Nishka Vyas, and Yanxin Wu.

NMSC® was established in 1955 with the following goals: to honor the nation’s scholastic champions and encourage the pursuit of academic excellence. According to the organization, “Merit Scholar designees are selected on the basis of their skills, accomplishments, and potential for success in rigorous college studies, without regard to gender, race, ethnic origin, or religious preference.”

According to a spokesperson for the National Merit Scholarship Corporation, “These students represent a valuable national resource; recognizing their accomplishments, as well as the key role their schools play in their academic development, is vital to the advancement of educational excellence in our nation. We hope that this recognition will help broaden their educational opportunities and encourage them as they continue their pursuit of academic success.”

A list of Pennington’s NMSC® Commended Students, arranged by state or country and hometown, follows.

NEW JERSEY

Columbus: Ami Ly

Pennington: Samik Mookherjee, Rishabh Ramaswamy, Brett Sirolly

Princeton: Aiyana Doshi, Zara Meehan-Ritter, Sanjana Ramalingam, Yanxin Wu

Ringoes: Angelyn Li

Skillman: Cecelia Embleton

PENNSYLVANIA

Yardley: Nishka Vyas

The Pennington School is an independent coeducational school for students in grades 6 through 12, in both day and boarding programs. The curriculum is college preparatory, with an emphasis on individual excellence, fostering the development of the whole student through academics, athletics, community service, and the creative and performing arts.

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Photo Caption: The Pennington School’s 2026 National Merit Scholarship Program Commended Students