

NEWS RELEASE

September 20, 2010 (Mariemont City Schools)

Five Mariemont Seniors Named National Merit Semi-Finalists



The National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC) has announced the names of approximately 16,000 semi-finalists in the 56th annual National Merit Scholarship Program. The following five Mariemont High School seniors were among this prestigious group: **Conor Coyan, William Degerberg, Andrew Gorman, Erin Purcell, and Hillary Purcell.**

These talented students now compete for Finalist status by showing they have an outstanding academic record, have SAT scores that confirm their earlier qualifying test performance (based on PSAT scores from October, 2009), and have their school's endorsement. About 90% of the semifinalists advance to Finalist status, at which time they will compete for one of the National Merit scholarships, corporate-sponsored scholarships, or college-sponsored scholarships.

Three types of Merit Scholarship awards will be offered in 2010. Every Finalist will compete for one of 2,500 National Merit \$2500 scholarships that will be awarded on a state representational basis. In addition, some 250 corporations and business organizations will underwrite about 1,000 corporate-sponsored scholarships for Finalists who meet their specified criteria, such as children of the grantor's employees or residents of communities where sponsor plants or offices are located. Also, about 200 colleges and universities are expected to finance some 4,900 college-sponsored Merit Scholarship awards for Finalists who will attend the sponsor institution.

Established in 1955 specifically to conduct the annual National Merit Program, NMSC is a not-for-profit organization that operates without government assistance. Scholarships awarded through the program are underwritten by NMSC's own funds and approximately 450 business organizations and higher education institutions that share NMSC's goals of honoring the nation's scholastic champions and encouraging the pursuit of academic excellence.

Photo:

Mariemont High School is proud to announce five seniors who are 2010 National Merit Semi-Finalists. They are Andy Gorman, Hillary Purcell, Will Degerberg, Erin Purcell and Conor Coyan.

Betsy Porst, Communications Coordinator
6743 Chestnut St., Cincinnati, Ohio 45227
bporst@mariemontschools.org