

Emery/Weiner Students Receive National Academic Honors

The school year has barely begun, and already students from The Emery/Weiner School are receiving national recognition.

Three students from Emery/Weiner were named National Merit Semifinalists: Ruth Abrams, Jordan Harry, and Sam Stein. These students scored in the top 1/2 of 1% of all students in the state on the 11th grade PSAT test. Students Ben Bleiberg, David Dreyfus, Cecily Fergeson, Miriam Goldman, Jonathan Lewis, Sarah Robinson, and Rebecca Wolinsky were all designated "Commended" by National Merit, meaning they scored within the top 3% of all students in the state.

Last week, officials of National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC) announced the names of approximately 16,000 Semifinalists in the 55th annual National Merit Scholarship Program. These academically-talented high school seniors have an opportunity to continue in the competition for some 8,200 National Merit Scholarships, worth more than \$36 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.

In addition to National Merit honors, 19 students at Emery/Weiner have earned AP Scholar Awards in recognition of their exceptional achievement on AP exams.

The College Board's Advanced Placement Program (AP) provides motivated and academically prepared students with the opportunity to take rigorous college-level courses while still in high school, and to earn college credit, advanced placement, or both for successful performance on the AP Exams. About 18 percent of the nearly 1.7 million students worldwide who took AP Exams performed at a sufficiently high level to also earn an AP Scholar Award.

The College Board recognizes several levels of achievement based on students' performances on AP Exams.

Emery/Weiner student Jordan Harry qualified for the AP Scholar with Distinction Award by earning an average grade of at least 3.5 on all AP exams taken, and grades of 3 or higher on five or more of these exams.

Students Ruth Abrams, Ben Bleiberg, Shayna Starr, and Ariel Stolbun qualified for the AP Scholar with Honor Award by earning an average grade of at least 3.25 on all AP Exams taken, and grades of 3 or higher on four or more of these exams.

Jody Aremband, Beau Bassewitz, Brooke Elberger, Amy Feldman, Cecily Fergeson, Andy Garden, Philip Kaplan, Alyssa Kleinman, Rebekah Lochte, Sarah Robinson, Daniel Scott, Jeremy Sutton, Libby Udelson, and Rebecca Wolinsky qualified for the AP Scholar Award by completing three or more AP exams with grades of 3 or higher.

Each AP Exam is developed by a committee of college and university faculty and AP teachers, ensuring that AP Exams are aligned with the same high standards expected by college faculty at some of the nation's leading liberal arts and research institutions. More than 3,600 colleges and universities annually receive AP grades. Over 90 percent of four-year colleges in the United States provide credit and/or placement for qualifying exam grades. Research consistently shows that AP students who score a 3 or higher on AP Exams (based on a scale from 1 to 5, with 5 being the highest) typically experience greater academic success in college and higher graduation rates than students who do not participate in the AP.

The College Board is a not-for-profit membership organization whose mission is to connect students to college success and opportunity. Founded in 1900, the association is composed of more than 5,600 schools, colleges, universities, and other educational organizations. Each year, the College Board serves seven million students and their parents, 23,000 high schools, and 3,800 colleges through major programs and services in college readiness, college admissions, guidance, assessment, financial aid,

enrollment, and teaching and learning. Among its best known programs are the SAT, the PSAT/NMSQT, and the Advanced Placement Program (AP). The College Board is committed to the principles of excellence and equity, and that commitment is embodied in all of its programs, services, activities, and concerns.

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