

# Cypress Christian School

## National Merit Award Recipients

**The National Merit® Scholarship Program** is an academic competition for recognition and scholarships that began in 1955. High school students enter the National Merit® Program by taking the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test ([PSAT/NMSQT®](#))—a test which serves as an initial screen of more than 1.5 million entrants each year—and by meeting published program entry/participation requirements.

### Program Recognition

Of the 1.5 million entrants, some 50,000 with the highest [PSAT/NMSQT®](#) Selection Index scores (critical reading + mathematics + writing skills scores) qualify for recognition in the National Merit® Scholarship Program. In April following the fall test administration, high-scoring participants from every state are invited to name two colleges or universities to which they would like to be referred by National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC). In September, these high scorers are notified through their schools that they have qualified as either a Commended Student or Semifinalist. In February, some 15,000 Semifinalists are notified by mail at their home addresses that they have advanced to Finalist standing. High school principals are notified and provided with a certificate to present to each Finalist. All winners of Merit Scholarship® awards (Merit Scholar® designees) are chosen from the Finalist group, based on their abilities, skills, and accomplishments—without regard to gender, race, ethnic origin, or religious preference.

### Advantages

When a high school student receives a National Merit® award, that student has the option of notifying colleges and universities of this achievement. When the student's application for admission and scholarships is reviewed by a college/university, this award sets the student apart from other applicants and gives them an advantage over other incoming freshmen.

## Cypress Christian Award Recipients

### National Merit Scholarship Recipient

Emily Grimes

### National Merit Finalists

Brian Gibbs

Emily Grimes

Josiah Moffitt

Amanda Weppler

### National Merit Semifinalist

David Hurst

(September 2011 – waiting to hear about Finalist status)

### Commended Students

Michael Anderson

Amy Cheek

Cody Franklin

Daniel Gertson

Micah Gertson

Nathan Gertson

Andrew Graber

Josh Graber

Elizabeth Patterson

Sarah Shook

Lauren Slater

Derek Stanart

Evan Weppler

Jennifer West

Stephen White