



# NEWS RELEASE

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## **Kettering Senior Michael Lively Named National Merit Scholarship Semifinalist**

**September 16, 2009, Waterford, Mich.** – Officials of National Merit

Scholarship Corporation (NMSC) announced that Waterford Kettering High School Senior Michael Lively was named a semifinalist in the annual National Merit Scholarship Program.

More than 1.5 million students in over 21,000 U.S. high schools entered the Merit Program when they were juniors by taking the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT), which served as an initial screen of program entrants. Less than one percent of the nation's high school seniors were named semifinalists.

The next step for Michael is to fulfill requirements to advance to finalist standing, a prerequisite for consideration for a Merit Scholarship Award. To become a finalist, a student must have an outstanding high school academic record, be endorsed and recommended by their school principal, and submit SAT scores that confirm their earlier qualifying test performance. About 16,000 semifinalists are expected to meet the high standards required to become finalists and more than half the finalists will become Merit Scholarship winners.

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Three types of Merit Scholarship Awards will be offered in 2010. Every finalist will compete for one of 2,500 National Merit \$2,500 scholarships. Some 300 corporations and business organizations will underwrite about 1,100 corporate-sponsored Merit Scholarship Awards for finalists who meet specified criteria. In addition, about 200 colleges and universities are expected to provide at least 4,600 college-sponsored Merit Scholarship Awards for finalists who will attend the institutions financing their awards. Winners will be announced in spring 2010.

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