

NAHS SENIOR NAMED NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP FINALIST

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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For the third year in a row, North Andover High School is proud to announce that a senior has been named a National Merit Scholarship Finalist in the Annual National Merit Scholarship Program. Ajmal Thanikkal is among 15,000 American students qualifying for this prestigious scholarship program. More than 1.5 million juniors from 22,000 high schools across the United States entered the 2010 National Merit Program by taking the 2008 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test, which serves as an initial screen of program entrants.

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. A variety of information is available for NMSC selectors to evaluate—the Finalist's academic

record, information about the school's curricula and grading system, two sets of test scores, school official's written recommendation, information about the student's activities and leadership, and the Finalist's own essay.

Beginning in March and continuing to mid-June, NMSC notifies approximately 8,200 Finalists that they have been selected to receive a Merit Scholarship® award. Ajmal has proven to be an excellent student and talented member of the Class of 2010.