



# NOLAN CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

*- Esto Dux ~ Be a Leader -*

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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **Nolan Catholic Announces Ten 2009 National Merit Scholarship Finalists**

FORT WORTH – Nolan Catholic High School is proud to announce that ten members of the Class of 2009 have qualified as Finalists in the National Merit Scholarship Program, an academic competition for recognition and scholarships. The finalists are: Jessica Chung, Anne Conover, Jennifer Dayrit, George Elkind, Angela Ferreira, Chase Hattersley, Susan Matassa, Stephanie McCauley, Elizabeth Mengis, and Madeline Ross.

These seniors have been chosen from more than 16,000 semifinalists named in September 2008, and will be considered for National Merit Scholarships to be offered in 2009.

“The entire Nolan Catholic High School family salutes the special achievement of these 10 seniors,” said NCHS Principal Stephen Hiner. “They are among the highest scoring entrants in the state of Texas.”

To advance as a finalist in the competition, students must be endorsed and recommended by the principal, and earn SAT scores that confirm their earlier qualifying test performance. They also must submit a detailed scholarship application which includes the student’s self-descriptive essay and information about their participation and leadership in school and community activities.

Approximately half of the finalists will be selected as Merit Scholarship winners, earning the Merit Scholar title. This selection is based on their skills, accomplishments and potential for success in rigorous college studies, without regard to gender, race, ethnic origin or religious preference.

National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC) is a not-for-profit organization that operates without government assistance. It was established in 1955 specifically to conduct the annual National Merit Program. Scholarships awarded through the program are underwritten by NMSC’s own funds and by approximately 500 business organization and education institutions that share NMSC’s goals of honoring the nation’s scholastic champions and encouraging the pursuit of academic excellence.

*Nolan Catholic High School is a private, co-educational college preparatory institution of the Diocese of Fort Worth administered in the Marianist tradition. Nolan Catholic was founded in 1961.*

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