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Homestead High School Announces National Merit Scholarship Winners *Three Seniors Earn Prestigious Distinction*

MEQUON, Wis. —Homestead High School is proud to announce that three seniors have been named 2017 National Merit Scholarship winners. They include William Clark, David Giersch and Mitchell Larson.

National Merit Scholarship Corporation, otherwise known as NMSC, is a not-for-profit organization that operates without government assistance specifically to conduct the annual National Merit Scholarship Program. Scholarships are underwritten by NMSC with its own funds and by approximately 420 business organizations and higher education institutions that share NMSC's goals of honoring the nation's scholastic champions and encouraging the pursuit of academic excellence.

About 1.6 million juniors in more than 22,000 high schools entered the 2017 National Merit Scholarship Program by taking the 2015 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT®), which served as an initial screen of program entrants. The nationwide pool of Semifinalists, representing less than one percent of U.S. high school seniors, includes the highest scoring entrants in each state. The number of Semifinalists in a state is proportional to the state's percentage of the national total of graduating seniors.

To become a Finalist, Clark, Giersch and Larson and Homestead administrators submitted a detailed scholarship application, in which they provided information about their academic record, participation in school and community activities, demonstrated leadership abilities, employment, and honors and awards received. Clark, Giersch and Larson were identified as winners from this pool of Finalists. Merit Scholars are selected on the basis of their skills, accomplishments, and potential for success in rigorous college studies, without regard to gender, race, ethnic origin, or religious preference.

Three types of National Merit Scholarships are offered. Clark, Giersch and Larson were each awarded one of 2,500 National Merit® \$2,500 Scholarships, which are awarded on a state-representational basis.

"In all my years as an administrator, I never recall three students in the same senior class winning this award, the most selective that National Merit offers," said Principal Brett Bowers. "William, David and Mitchell are well-deserving of this honor. Each of them is a distinguished, dedicated scholar and a great contributor to the Homestead community."

Please visit www.nationalmerit.org for more information regarding National Merit Scholarships.

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