



Media Release

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ANOTHER MANATEE COUNTY SENIOR NAMED NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLAR

(Bradenton, FL – June 3, 2020) Today National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC) announced this year's College-Sponsored Merit Scholarship winners. A Manatee County senior is among the 3,300 recipients nationwide. A representative from each sponsor college selects scholarship winners from among the Finalists in the 2020 Merit Scholarship Program who plan to attend their institution.

Congratulations to National Merit Scholarship Winner:

- **Madigan Wilford** of **Braden River High School**
National Merit University of Florida Scholarship
Probable career field: International Relations

These awards provide between \$500 and \$2,000 annually for up to four years of undergraduate study at the institution financing the scholarship. An additional group of Scholars will be announced in July, bringing the total number of college-sponsored Merit Scholarship recipients in the 2020 competition to about 4,100.

Last month, Hailey Maurer from Southeast High School and Jacob Whiddon from Braden River High School were announced as National Merit \$2,500 Scholarship Winners.

More than 1.5 million juniors in approx. 21,000 high schools entered the 2020 National Merit Scholarship competition when they took the 2018 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test. Last fall, approximately 16,000 Semifinalists were named for being the highest-scoring program entrants in each state, including five students from Manatee County, and represented less than one percent of the nation's seniors.