



For Immediate Release
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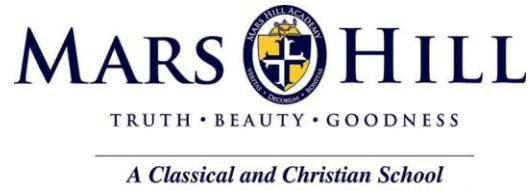
MARS HILL ACADEMY SENIORS NAMED 2011 MERIT SCHOLARS

MASON, OH – Three Mars Hill Academy seniors were recognized for their achievement in the 2011 National Merit Scholarship program. Andy Giese of West Chester and Esther Cunningham of Hamilton were named National Merit Scholar Semi-finalists; Betsy Thistleton of Mason was named a Commended Student. More than 25% of Mars Hill graduates (including the class of 2012) have earned Commended or Finalist status.

Titles are bestowed based on the students' junior-year performance on the Preliminary Scholastic Achievement Test (PSAT). Approximately 1.5 million students nationwide take the PSAT each year; fewer than 4% of these students receive recognition as either Semi-finalists or Commended Students. Most Semi-finalists will advance to the Finalist level next spring and may thereby qualify for National Merit Scholarships.

“This is another confirmation of the effectiveness of a classical Christian education,” shares Paul Brinkerhoff, MHA’s Dean of Academic Affairs. “We do not teach to any test, but rather hold true to classical methods while pursuing standards of truth, goodness, and beauty grounded in the Scriptures.”

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Mars Hill Academy, Cincinnati's only K-12 classical Christian school, was founded in 1996 in southeast Cincinnati. Currently, 304 students are enrolled in K-12. The school delivers the classical model of education based on the *trivium*: the grammar, logic, and rhetoric stages of education. Mars Hill Academy is a member of the Association of Classical and Christian Schools (www.accsedu.org). Out of over 200 member schools nationwide, MHA is one of about 20 ACCS accredited schools. For more information about Mars Hill Academy, please visit www.marshill.edu.

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