



# NEWS RELEASE

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## **Governor's Honors Program selects close to 100 GCPS students**

Nearly 100 **Gwinnett County Public Schools (GCPS)** students will spend part of their summer taking a rigorous, in-depth look at an area of their interest. The 96 students were selected as finalists for the Georgia Governor's Honors Program (GHP), earning a spot in this summer program for gifted and talented high school juniors and seniors. Representing 14 of the district's high schools, the Gwinnett students will learn from the most qualified Georgia high school teachers in this challenging and enriching program.

Nearly 3,000 students from across the state were interviewed and auditioned over three weekends in January and February. From those nominees, 690 finalists were chosen to participate in the 2013 program.

Gwinnett's finalists for the 2013 Georgia Governor's Honors Program are:

### **Berkmar High:**

Kevin Bollo -- Communicative Arts  
Kwame Romero-Sackey -- Chemistry

### **Brookwood High:**

Carleigh Brisendine -- Communicative Arts  
Ryan Chen -- Mathematics  
Olivia Chong -- Visual Arts  
Griffin Dangler -- Music/Jazz (Elec. Bass)  
Holly Gunder -- Communicative Arts  
Alexis Jacob -- Visual Arts  
Nicholas Na -- Spanish  
Rachel Wagner -- Theatre Performance

### **Collins Hill High:**

John Brashears -- Music/Piano  
Audrey Elliott -- German  
Juan Espinosa -- Visual Arts  
Jonathan Fan -- Music/Strings (Cello)  
Garrett Helmick -- German  
Juan Nino -- French  
Mary Nosa -- Social Studies  
Alyssa Rizzo -- Visual Arts  
Altan Stalker -- Mathematics  
Aksal Vashi -- Spanish  
Kenneth Williams -- Spanish

### **Dacula High:**

Melissa Johnson -- Chemistry

### **GWINNETT COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION**

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### **THE MISSION OF GWINNETT COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

*is to pursue excellence  
in academic knowledge,  
skills, and behavior  
for each student,  
resulting in measured  
improvement against  
local, national, and  
world-class standards.*

437 Old Peachtree Road, NW  
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[www.gwinnett.k12.ga.us](http://www.gwinnett.k12.ga.us)

It is the policy of Gwinnett County Public Schools  
not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex,  
religion, national origin, age, or disability in any  
employment practice, educational program, or  
any other program, activity, or service.

2010 Winner of



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**Duluth High:**

Justin Choi -- Social Studies  
Claire Hu -- Visual Arts  
Tasneem Nabi -- Communicative Arts  
Daeun Song -- Visual Arts  
Vikram Varadarajan -- Mathematics  
Jason Wang -- Mathematics  
Michael Xu -- Mathematics  
Helen Yang -- Communicative Arts

**Grayson High:**

Christina Lanier -- Communicative Arts

**Gwinnett School of Mathematics, Science, and Technology:**

Mitesh Bhalani -- Mathematics  
Joshua Brunner -- Mathematics  
Ian Ewell -- Mathematics  
Jackson Fink -- Design, Architectural  
Jackson Goode -- Visual Arts  
Yu Kyung Han -- Mathematics  
Chinye Ijeli -- Biology  
Erika Ikizake -- Social Studies  
Renaë Irving -- Technology  
Eesha Oza -- Communicative Arts  
Hirsh Patel -- Mathematics  
Zahra Punja -- Design, Architectural  
Aditya Reddy -- Technology  
Benjamin Smith -- Technology  
Cole Swiszowski -- Technology  
Artur Tarassenko -- Mathematics  
Adam Tokura -- Spanish  
Mark Wang -- Mathematics  
Michael Wang -- Mathematics  
Jessie Yuan -- Mathematics  
Samuel Zinga -- Physics

**Lanier High:**

Dain Song -- Music/Piano

**Meadowcreek High:**

Munina Nicol -- Theatre Performance

**Mill Creek High:**

Antra Das -- Communicative Arts  
Taylor Holmes -- Visual Arts  
Keely Mruk -- Social Studies  
Jamie Na -- Music/Strings (Viola)  
Joshua Neely -- Music/Woodwinds (Bassoon)  
Chukwuka Okoye -- Visual Arts  
Siddhi Shah -- Mathematics

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**Norcross High:**

Patrick Adamkiewicz -- Social Studies  
Matthew Chen -- Social Studies  
Michelle Fisher -- Communicative Arts  
Nolan Handali -- Mathematics  
Nicholas Hoover -- Social Studies  
Fionnuala Hutton -- Communicative Arts  
Jack Miller -- Music/Jazz (Jazz Percussion)  
William Penniman -- Chemistry  
Clara Wang -- Spanish  
Nicole Willis -- Social Studies

**North Gwinnett High:**

Virginia Chandler -- Executive Management  
Eunhye Choi -- Spanish  
Dae Gun Chung Kim -- German  
Apoorva Gangavelli -- Biology  
Caroline Howard -- Mathematics  
Richard Jin -- Mathematics  
Joon Kang -- Music/Strings (Violin)  
Kamillah Kassam -- Communicative Arts  
Elton Lossner -- Latin  
Sara Norris -- Music/Brass (Trumpet)  
Yu-Han Peng -- Visual Arts  
Ashay Sheth -- Executive Management  
Ashley Tweddle -- Dance  
Kelly Tweddle -- Dance

**Parkview High:**

Han-Sung Kang -- Music/Strings (Violin)  
India Moffett -- Communicative Arts  
William Moïse -- Social Studies  
Scott Schultz -- Latin  
Yeejkoob Thao -- German

**Peachtree Ridge High:**

Nicholas Allison -- Chemistry  
Sujay Kalathoor -- Biology  
Jenny Li -- Mathematics  
Cynthia Lin -- Communicative Arts  
Lina Palancares -- French  
Seo Lim Park -- Social Studies

A function of the Georgia Department of Education, the Governor's Honors Program takes place on the campus of Valdosta State University (VSU). The 2013 summer program will be the 50th, making it the longest continually running program of its kind in the nation. Students will arrive on the campus of VSU on Sunday, June 23. For four weeks, students will spend the morning in their major area of nomination. During the afternoons, students choose one of the other areas in which to study. The curriculum in all the areas is challenging and engaging. Evenings are filled with seminars, activities, concerts, and performances.

Since the program is fully funded by the Georgia General Assembly, there is no charge for students to attend.

*For more information on GHP, visit the Department of Education at [gadoe.org](http://gadoe.org) under the division of School Improvement.*