



News

from the MNPS Public Information Office

Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools

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MNPS Students to Study at Vanderbilt

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (May 14, 2009) – Twenty-six incoming MNPS freshmen have been selected to the School for Science and Math class of 2013, which is a collaborative project of Vanderbilt University Medical Center and Metro Nashville Public Schools. The incoming freshmen for the 2009-2010 school year are:

- **Sarah Lindley** - Thurgood Marshall Middle School, Cane Ridge High School
- **Braxton Brakefield** - J.T. Moore Middle, Hillsboro High School
- **Nastassia Reed** - J.T. Moore Middle, Hillsboro High School
- **Melenka Reed** - J.T. Moore Middle, Hillsboro High School
- **Joshua Wagner** - J.T. Moore Middle, Hillsboro High School
- **Maximilian Carter** - West End Middle, Hillsboro High School
- **Ann Manning** - J.T. Moore Middle, Hillsboro High School
- **Jonathan Davies** - Bellevue Middle, Hillwood High School
- **Zachary Anderson** - Croft Design Center, Hume Fogg Magnet High School
- **Zoe Turner-Yovanovitch** - J.T. Moore Middle, Hume Fogg Magnet High School
- **Abhinav Goyal** - Meigs Magnet Middle, Hume Fogg Magnet High School
- **Aditya Gudibanda** - Meigs Magnet Middle, Hume Fogg Magnet High School
- **Havisha Munjal** - Meigs Magnet Middle, Hume Fogg Magnet High School
- **Meera Patel** - Meigs Magnet Middle, Hume Fogg Magnet High School
- **Jacob Seloff** - University School of Nashville, Hume Fogg Magnet High School
- **Rachel Waters** - DuPont Hadley Middle, McGavock High School
- **Gabriel Allensworth** - Head Middle, MLK Magnet High School
- **Melissa Guo** - MLK Magnet, MLK Magnet High School
- **Ranine Haidous** - MLK Magnet, MLK Magnet High School
- **Samuel Klockenkemper** - MLK Magnet, MLK Magnet High School
- **Kerry Sommers** - MLK Magnet, MLK Magnet High School
- **Jenny Zheng** - MLK Magnet, MLK Magnet High School
- **Jake Williams** - Croft Design Center, Overton High School
- **Jana Abdelhadi** - Oliver Middle, Overton High School
- **William Cox** - Croft Design Center, Overton High School
- **Scherly Gomez** - Bailey Middle, Stratford High School

Students were selected on the basis of test scores, grades, personal essays and teacher recommendations. The top candidates were interviewed before the final selections were made. These

students will begin a four-year interdisciplinary, research-based program that utilizes hands-on learning and pairs students with Vanderbilt scientists and researchers.

SSMV is a unique learning opportunity. It is designed for students eager for an advanced, challenging curriculum that will prepare them for 21st-century careers.

“This is the School’s third year, and the science education these students have experienced has risen beyond even our already high expectations,” said Dr. Glenn McCombs, Director of the School for Science and Math at Vanderbilt. “We are proud to partner with MNPS and offer these students an opportunity to study under an interdisciplinary team of scientist educators and among our nation’s leading researchers. Our students learn by asking questions in a culture that reflects the collaborative spirit of exploration and discovery. The tools they carry forward should prove useful in any MNPS course, college major or future profession.”

The School’s curriculum integrates the practical content, connecting various sciences, technology, engineering and mathematics. Students are engaged in hands-on research projects that increase in depth over the course of the four year program. Students are also able to participate in national science competitions, release journal publications and apply their projects to community outreach programs.

Freshmen will have an orientation meeting July 30, and all students will report to classes at the School Aug. 24. Students will attend classes on the Vanderbilt campus one day per week and will attend their regular schools the other four days of the week.

This is the third year of operation for the School for Science and Math at Vanderbilt. All 8th grade students are eligible to apply. This program is available only to students attending MNPS high schools. There is no additional cost associated with attending this school. The school is supported by grants and other sources outside the MNPS budget. For more information about the school, visit www.mnps.org or www.scienceoutreach.org/school.

Metro Nashville Public Schools provide a range of educational opportunities to more than 74,000 students in Nashville and Davidson County. The governing body for MNPS is the Metropolitan Nashville and Davidson County Board of Public Education, a nine-member group elected by residents of Metropolitan Nashville. For more information, please visit www.mnps.org.

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