

Dunbar fields two winners of corporate merit scholarships

Twin brothers at Paul Laurence Dunbar High School are among only eight Kentucky students awarded corporate-sponsored scholarships through the 2009 National Merit Scholarship Program.

Elliott W. Rosenberg, who intends to study engineering or physics, and Kyle R. Rosenberg, who is leaning toward chemical engineering, both will receive awards from Georgia-Pacific LLC.

Nationally, roughly 1,000 distinguished high school seniors were awarded scholarships financed by about 200 companies, foundations and other business organizations. These scholars were selected from among the finalists in the National Merit Scholarship competition who met the criteria of their sponsors. Corporate sponsors provide awards for finalists who are children of their employees, residents of communities the company serves, or who plan to pursue college majors or careers the grantor wishes to encourage.

Most of these awards are renewable for up to four years of college undergraduate study and provide annual stipends ranging from \$500 to \$10,000 per year. Some provide a single payment between \$2,500 and \$5,000.

Last fall, 39 Fayette County Public School seniors were named National Merit semifinalists. In January, 37 of those students became finalists. Throughout the spring, the National Merit Scholarship Corp. will announce the names of students who receive scholarships.

On May 6, the National Merit Scholarship Corp. will release the names of National Merit \$2,500 scholarship winners, and on May 27 and July 13, the winners of college-sponsored merit scholarships. The announcements will be posted on the FCPS home page under "latest news."

By the conclusion of this year's competition, some 8,200 academic champions will have won scholarships worth nearly \$36 million. The recipients are judged to have the strongest combination of academic skills and achievements, extracurricular accomplishments and potential for success in rigorous college studies.

For more details, visit www.nationalmerit.org.