**National Merit Finalist**

**Abigail Keith and Sawyer Putnam**

The National Merit Scholarship Program is an academic competition for recognition and scholarships that began in 1955. Approximately 1.5 million high school students enter the program each year. Of the 1.5 million entrants, some 50,000 with the highest PSAT/NMSQT® Selection Index scores qualify for recognition in the National Merit Scholarship Program. In early September, more than 16,000 students, or approximately one-third of the 50,000 high scorers, were notified that they had qualified as Semifinalists. To ensure that academically talented young people from all parts of the United States are included in this talent pool, Semifinalists are designated on a state- representational basis. Semifinalists are the highest scoring entrants in each state.In February, over 15,000 Semifinalists are notified that they have advanced to Finalist standing. All winners of Merit Scholarship awards are chosen from the Finalist group based on their abilities, skills, and accomplishments. A variety of information is available for NMSC to evaluate: The Finalist's academic record, information about the school's curriculum and grading system, PSAT/NMSQT Selection Index score, the high school official's written recommendation, information about the student's activities and leadership, and the Finalist's own essay. Our two National Merit Finalists will be notified in June regarding their standing. Congratulations to our two 2023 National Merit Finalists:

**Abigail Keith**

**Sawyer Putnam**

**Governor’s Scholar Program**

**Alexis Lewis and Clariah Royse**

Garrard County High School would like to congratulate Alexis Lewis and Clariah Royse for being named a Kentucky Governor's Scholar Program recipient.  The Governor’s Scholars Program is a summer residential program for outstanding high school students in Kentucky who are rising seniors. ​​​​​​​​​​​​​​​​​​​​​​​​​​​​​​​​​​​Over 2,000 applications are received at the state level each year, with approximately 1,000 students selected to attend- we would like to congratulate our two recipients this year- Alexis Lewis and Clariah Royse.

**Governor's School of the Arts Program**

**Elise Culross**

Garrard County High School would like to congratulate Elise Culross for being named a Governor's School of the Arts Program Recipient.  GSA is an arts education program of The Kentucky Center for the Performing Arts. Elise will focus on the Creative Writing Disciple for 3 weeks at the University of Kentucky this summer. Kentucky's most promising high school sophomores and juniors can apply in nine different arts disciplines: Architecture + Design, Creative Writing, Dance, Drama, Film + Photography, Instrumental Music, Musical Theatre, Visual Art and Vocal Music.

**Rogers Scholars**

**Addison Comley and Wyatt Fielder**

The Center for Rural Development’s flagship youth program—provides leadership and college scholarship opportunities to help upcoming high school juniors in Southern and Eastern Kentucky develop the skills they need to seize their potential as the region’s next generation of business and entrepreneurial leaders.

During this intensive week-long program, Rogers Scholars work on building their leadership skills, participate in a series of team-building exercises; receive hands-on instructional training from professional experts in engineering, healthcare, and civic engagement; and interact with nationally recognized business leaders and entrepreneurs. The program focuses on developing skills in leadership, technology, entrepreneurship, and community service. Congratulations to our two Roger Scholar recipients, Addison Comley and Wyatt Fielder.

**Entrepreneurial Leadership Institute**

**Abigail Travis**

Congratulations to Abigail Travis for being selected  as the 2023 Entrepreneurial Leadership Institute recipient.  This program is an intensive, weeklong program focused on developing creativity, teamwork, business and leadership skills held at The Center for Rural Development Center in Somerset, Kentucky.

**Odyssey of the Mind (1st Place in East Central Regional Tournament)**

**Abigail Travis, Abigail Bailey, Milli Crace, Eliza Fuller, Natalie Clark, and Zoe Tuggle**

Garrard County High School is proud to recognize Abigail Travis, Abigail Bailey, Milli Crace, Eliza Fuller, Natalie Clark, and Zoe Tuggle for earning 1st Place in the Odyssey of the Mind East Central Regional Tournament. Odyssey of the Mind is an international educational program that provides creative problem-solving opportunities for students from kindergarten through college.  Team members apply their creativity to solve problems that range from building mechanical devices to presenting their own interpretation of literary classics.  Students bring their solutions to competition on the local, state and World level. Congratulations to our team on their first place finish!