

PRESS RELEASE

**Springwood School senior, Ashton Cowart, named National Merit Finalist
February 20, 2014**

Springwood School senior, Ashton Cowart, has been named a Finalist in the 2014 National Merit Scholarship Competition in recognition of her outstanding academic achievement and qualifying scores on the PSAT examination. Ashton is the daughter of Charles and Sharon Cowart of LaGrange.

The nationwide pool of Finalists, which represents less than one percent of U. S. high school seniors, emerges from about 1.5 million juniors in some 22,000 high schools who took the qualifying PSAT test last fall. Ashton is one of the approximately 15,000 students who have advanced to the Finalist level of this, the 59th annual National Merit Scholarship.



Springwood Headmaster Rick Johnson congratulates senior Ashton Cowart on being named a 2014 National Merit Finalist

To become a Finalist, a Semifinalist must have established and maintained an outstanding academic record throughout the high school years, be endorsed and recommended by the school principal, and earn SAT scores that confirm the student's earlier qualifying test performance. Semifinalists and a school official must submit a detailed scholarship application, which includes the student's self-descriptive essay and information about the Semifinalist's participation and leadership in school and community activities.

"Being named a National Merit Finalist is an outstanding achievement. What a great honor this is for Ashton and for Springwood School as it marks the 3rd consecutive year one of our seniors has accomplished this significant accomplishment" stated Springwood Headmaster, Rick Johnson.

Ashton is eligible to apply in March for one or more of 8,000 Merit scholarships available through the National Merit Scholarship Competition. Approximately half of the Finalists will be selected as Merit Scholarship winners, earning the Merit Scholar title. Congratulations and good luck, Ashton.

Springwood School in Lanett, AL is an independent, fully-accredited school for grades K4 through 12, providing a college preparatory education in a Christian environment. For more information about Springwood, go to www.springwoodschool.com.