

News Release

Dobbs Ferry High School Senior Sofia Checa Named 2016 National Merit Scholarship Winner

Dobbs Ferry, N.Y. May 11, 2016—Dobbs Ferry High School senior **Sofia Checa** has been named a **2016 National Merit Scholarship winner** and will receive a \$2,500 award from the National Merit Scholarship Corporation. Winners of the approximately 7,400 National Merit Scholarships were chosen from a group of 15,000 distinguished finalists.

Sofia is an International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma candidate and member of the National Honor Society and Spanish Honor Society. At Dobbs Ferry High School she is a member of the Math League. An accomplished cellist, Sofia was selected to play with the National Youth Orchestra and participated in a nine-city tour last summer traveling throughout China. The Orchestra played two concerts in the United States at Carnegie Hall and the Performing Arts Center at SUNY Purchase. During the school year, she performs with the New York Youth Symphony. Sofia is also a 3rd degree black belt in karate and teaches karate on the weekends. She will be attending Yale University in the fall and would like to major in a STEM-related field.

Sofia was one of two Dobbs Ferry High School students named semifinalists this past fall in the 61st annual National Merit Scholarship Program. Three other Dobbs Ferry seniors were also named National Merit Commended Students. Sofia went on in the competition to become a finalist and ultimately a scholarship winner.

“To become an actual National Merit Scholarship recipient is an amazing accomplishment, said Dobbs Ferry High School Counselor Michelle Propersi. “This recognition honors outstanding academic achievement and all of us at Dobbs Ferry High School are extremely proud of her.”

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For more information, please contact:

Public Information Officer, Elizabeth Hausman (914) 693-1500 x3013