The 2014 McDermott Scholars

The 2014 class of Scholars is made up of 10 women and 15 men. It includes 14 students from Texas and 11 from 10 other states. Collectively, this class has an average two-part SAT score of 1545. 22 of the 25 received recognition from the National Merit Scholarship program, 10 were high school valedictorians, and 5 were Presidential Scholar nominees. Click here to read more about the '14 Scholars.

Hans Ajieren
- **Hometown:** Houston, Texas
- **High School:** Texas Academy of Mathematics and Science
- **Major:** Electrical Engineering

Stephen Badger
- **Hometown:** Ocean Grove, New Jersey
- **High School:** High Technology High School
- **Major:** Electrical Engineering

James Ballard
- **Hometown:** New Port Richey, Florida
- **High School:** River Ridge High School
- **Major:** Software Engineering

Preston Butler
- **Hometown:** Maryville, Tennessee
- **High School:** Maryville High School
- **Major:** Neuroscience

Matara Hitchcock
- **Hometown:** Overland Park, Kansas
- **High School:** Blue Valley Southwest High School
- **Major:** Emerging Media and Communications
Anishka Kappalayil  
**Hometown:** Plano, Texas  
**High School:** Liberty High School  
**Major:** Biology

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Elyse Mack  
**Hometown:** St. Louis, Missouri  
**High School:** Ladue Horton Watkins High School  
**Major:** Art and Performance

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Reilly Martinez  
**Hometown:** Aubrey, Texas  
**High School:** Billy Ryan High School  
**Major:** Electrical Engineering

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Grace McClure  
**Hometown:** Plano, Texas  
**High School:** Coram Deo Academy  
**Major:** Cognitive Science

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Dhruv Narayanan  
**Hometown:** Tyler, Texas  
**High School:** Robert E. Lee High School  
**Major:** Mechanical Engineering

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Derrick Ngo  
**Hometown:** Austin, Texas  
**High School:** Lake Travis High School  
**Major:** Biomedical Engineering & Molecular Biology

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Ali Peterkort  
**Hometown:** Newberg, Oregon  
**High School:** Saint Mary's Academy  
**Major:** Psychology & Arts & Performance
Christy Purnadi
Hometown: Coppell, Texas
High School: R.L. Turner High School
Major: Finance & Economics

Raja Reddy
Hometown: Harlingen, Texas
High School: Science Academy of South Texas
Major: Neuroscience

Matthew Salm
Hometown: Grafton, Wisconsin
High School: Grafton Senior High School
Major: Mathematics

Pooshan Shah
Hometown: Austin, Texas
High School: McNeil High School
Major: Computer Science

Sanaa Tejani
Hometown: Plano, Texas
High School: Plano Senior High School
Major: Biology

Rebecca Tjahja
Hometown: Cerritos, California
High School: Gretchen Whitney High School
Major: Finance

Alex Tomkovich
Hometown: Lewisville, Texas
High School: Lewisville High School
Major: Computer Engineering
Samuel Vallejo
Hometown: Rancho Cordova, California
High School: Mira Loma High School
Major: Biomedical Engineering

Sahana Venkatesh
Hometown: Raleigh, North Carolina
High School: Leesville Road High School
Major: Biology

Aaron Weittenhiller
Hometown: Hallsville, Texas
High School: Hallsville High School
Major: Electrical Engineering

John Will
Hometown: Virginia Beach, Virginia
High School: Ocean Lakes High School
Major: Biomedical Engineering

Ximone Willis
Hometown: Austin, Texas
High School: Liberal Arts and Science Academy
Major: Biomedical Engineering

Ben Wroblewski
Hometown: McKinney, Texas
High School: McKinney North High School
Major: Biology