23-24 National Magnet Schools of Merit Award Winners

General Information:
The Magnet Schools of Merit national award program recognizes the top Magnet Schools in the United States that show a commitment to high academic standards, curriculum innovation, positive desegregation/diversity efforts, teacher development, and parent and community involvement.

The top category given to a group of select magnet schools is the Magnet School Merit Award of Excellence Award; the second category of awards is the Magnet School Merit Award of Distinction Award.

HCPS Results:
Hillsborough County Public Schools is pleased to share that 27 of its Magnet Schools were awarded in these two categories with 5 receiving the Magnet School Merit Award of Excellence and 22 receiving the Magnet School Merit Award of Distinction.

- The 27 total awards are the highest total earned by Magnet Schools in the history of Hillsborough County Public Schools (previous high: 25, twice)!
- The 5 Excellence Awards are the most since 2021-2022
- The district had over 86% of its applying Magnet Schools receive awards—one of the highest percentages in the nation among large districts!
- Ten Magnet Schools won awards this year that did not win one last year
- Spoto High School won its first-ever National Merit Award of Excellence after numerous Distinction Awards earned
- Shore Elementary Magnet School is up for the National Elementary Magnet School of the Year Award

The Magnet Office provided opportunities for schools to collaborate and reflect on programs in an effort to put together a comprehensive and strong application. The Magnet Supervisor worked with Magnet Leads through one-on-one tutorials, whole-group collaboration, and regular guidance throughout the process.

These nationally-awarded Magnet Schools collaborated with one another at district-sponsored workshops and through their own devices. The interaction between school site and district has yielded positive results that go beyond the national awards listed above—it creates a sense of pride and ownership among all stakeholders connected with each of these schools, Magnet, and the district.
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The dedication among the Magnet Leads at each of these award-winning schools as well as the hard work of the administrators, teachers, students, and families is truly exceptional. Earning this recognition is no easy feat, and we celebrate the commitment to excellence that each of the schools has shown!

The Magnet School of Excellence Award winners are:
Lincoln Elementary Magnet School for International Studies
Macfarlane Park Elementary Magnet School (designated a National Magnet Demonstration School since 21-22)
Shore Elementary Magnet School of the Arts (designated a National Magnet Demonstration School since 23-24)
Spoto High School
Tampa Bay Technical High School

The Magnet School of Distinction Award winners are:
Armwood Collegiate Academy
Blake High School
Dunbar Elementary Magnet School
Girls Preparatory Academy at Ferrell Middle Magnet School
Boys Preparatory Academy at Franklin Middle Magnet School
Jefferson High School
Lennard High School
Leto High School
Lockhart Elementary Magnet School
Marshall Middle Magnet School
Muller Elementary Magnet School
Orange Grove Middle Magnet School
Progress Village Middle Magnet School of the Arts
Rampello K-8 Downtown Partnership Magnet School
Riverhills Elementary Magnet IB World School (designated a National Magnet Demonstration School in 21-22)
Rodgers Middle Magnet School
Roland Park K-8 Magnet School
Stewart Middle Magnet School
Tampa Heights Elementary Magnet School
Walker Middle Magnet School
Williams Middle Magnet School
Young Middle Magnet School