



**For Immediate Release**  
**Carli Kistler-Miller**  
**Communications Director**  
**330.867.0148**  
[cmiller@theelms.org](mailto:cmiller@theelms.org)

### **Elms Announces Eight National Merit Commended Students Representing 19% of Class**

AKRON, Ohio (September 23, 2010) — Lisa Massello, Principal of Our Lady of the Elms High School, announced today that eight Seniors have been named a Commended Students in the 2011 National Merit Scholarship Program. The eight Commended Students, who represent 19% of the senior class are **Rachael Kosco, Katrina Muller, Sophia Paul, Victoria Sampsel, Carrie Slivka, Ellen Turk, Margaret Waickman** and **Rachael Whitehouse**. A Letter of Commendation from the school and National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC), which conducts the program, will be presented by Miss Massello to these scholastically talented seniors.

About 34,000 Commended Students throughout the nation are being recognized for their exceptional academic promise. Although they will not continue in the 2011 competition for National Merit Scholarships, Commended Students placed among the top five percent of more than 1.5 million students who entered the 2011 competition by taking the 2009 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT).

“Recognition of high-achieving students is essential to advancing educational excellence in our nation,” commented a spokesperson for NMSC. “As demonstrated by their outstanding performance in our highly competitive program, the young men and women named Commended Students represent some of the most academically talented students in our country.”

Our Lady of the Elms is an independent Catholic college preparatory school immersed in the Dominican tradition of education and dedicated to meeting the intellectual, spiritual, social, and personal needs of girls grades one through 12 and co-ed preschool through kindergarten. The Elms welcomes girls of every religion, race, nationality and ethnic origin. For more information, please contact Carli Kistler-Miller at 330.867.0148.

###