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NEWS RELEASE

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PHS Grad Awarded Marshall Scholarship



HOUSTON COUNTY, GA – Matt Sellers, Perry High School Class of 2008 graduate, has been awarded the 2012 Marshall Scholarship to attend graduate school in the United Kingdom. Sellers is in an elite group of only 36 in the U.S. and only two in Georgia. Currently enrolled at the University of Georgia, he is also only the sixth UGA student ever selected for this opportunity.

As a Marshall Scholar, he will be able to study for up to three years at a U.K. university of choice. Sellers will attend Oxford College. His university fees, living expenses and fares to and from the U. S. are covered costs. More than 1,000 students applied for this scholarship.

In the application, Sellers wrote, “I plan to build on this research at Oxford, interrogating how literature ... explores the changing experience of individuality in a globalized world while asserting the importance of selfhood – a celebration of difference rather than of divisiveness.”

Angela Heath, Perry High gifted education teacher who taught Sellers, described him as “wonderful, humble, witty and absolutely brilliant.” She commented, “What a privilege and an honor it has been to be a small part of this young man’s life! His vision for empowering people through literature inspires me to look beyond the classroom to the world for creative and enduring stories that enliven and connect humanity. The foundation for Matt’s thesis on Robert Penn Warren began in AP English Literature; he continues to support our program by providing resources, insight, and encouragement to our students. Perry High School is indeed proud of this outstanding young man.”

According to the Marshall Scholarships Web site, <http://www.marshallscholarship.org/>, “As future leaders, with a lasting understanding of British society, Marshall Scholars strengthen the enduring relationship between the British and American peoples, their governments and their institutions. Marshall Scholars are talented, independent and wide-ranging, and their time as Scholars enhances their intellectual and personal growth. Their direct engagement with Britain through its best academic programmes contributes to their ultimate personal success.”

MORE

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This scholarship was established in 1953 as a show of gratitude to U.S. for assistance the U.K. received after World War II under the Marshall Plan. Only U. S. citizens who earned a degree from an accredited U.S. college or university with a minimum 3.7 GPA are eligible.

Dr. Darryl Albritton serves as principal of Perry High. Heath may be contacted at Angela.Heath@hcbe.net. Sellers may be reached at matthew.r.sellers@gmail.com or 478-550-2012.

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