



# NEWS RELEASE

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*News Media Contact: Communication and Media Relations, 678-301-6020*

## **Full scholarships to top colleges for three Berkmar students**

Three **Berkmar High** seniors recently learned that their college career will be paid in full. The students were selected as 2012 QuestBridge National College Match Recipients, earning a full scholarship. The Berkmar High students and the colleges they plan to attend are:

- **Steffany Ibanez** -- Notre Dame University
- **Elvira Salgado** -- Northwestern University
- **Jose Segura** -- Columbia University

QuestBridge is a non-profit organization that links high-achieving, low-income students to some of the nation's most selective colleges. According to their website, Questbridge serves as a "meeting point" that can help bridge the gap that exists between high-achieving, low-income students and top colleges. Their site states that "Most top low-income students in American don't apply to top colleges who want them. In one study, only 3% of the students attending the nation's top 146 colleges and universities were drawn from families in the lowest economic quartile."

QuestBridge seeks to close that gap, partnering with colleges that offer generous financial aid packages that cover 100% of demonstrated financial need, making them very affordable for low-income students. Each year, thousands of high school seniors from across the nation apply to QuestBridge's National College Match program. The organization matches the students with its partner colleges, more than 30 of the nation's premier universities. Other postsecondary partners include Brown University, Emory University, MIT, and Yale University.

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437 Old Peachtree Road, NW  
Suwanee, GA 30024-2978  
678-301-6000  
www.gwinnett.k12.ga.us

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