



**COLLIER COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
DISTRICT COMMUNICATION & INFORMATION OFFICE  
5775 Osceola Trail  
Naples, Florida 34109  
(239) 377-0180  
(239) 377-0181 FAX  
E-mail: [landonjo@collier.k12.fl.us](mailto:landonjo@collier.k12.fl.us)  
Web site: [www.collier.k12.fl.us](http://www.collier.k12.fl.us)

4/27/09

**NEWS RELEASE – “IMMOKALEE HIGH STUDENT NAMED GATES MILLENNIUM SCHOLAR”**

Congratulations to Immokalee High School senior Amalio Montez, Jr. for being named a Gates Millennium Scholar (GMS). Amalio will now receive a good-through-graduation college scholarship that he can use at the college of his choice. The GMS Program, founded and funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation in 1999, attracted over 20,500 applicants this year. Amalio is one of only 1,000 students nationwide to be named to the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Class of scholars.

The goal of GMS is to promote academic excellence and to provide an opportunity for outstanding minority students with significant financial need to reach their highest potential. Amalio has successfully done this by maintaining high academic standards with a weighted grade point average (GPA) of 4.89. He is also the president of CROP (College Reach Out Program), a four-year member of Renaissance, a member of Guadalupe Tutor Corps, a member of the Academic Team, and a member of the Varsity Track and Wrestling teams.

“Amalio was chosen as a Gates Millennium Scholar based upon his strong leadership, community service, and academic achievements” says Larry Griffith, Vice President of Gates Millennium Scholars. Immokalee High School Principal Linda Salazar adds, “Amalio has worked hard for this award and it is a well-deserved recognition of his ability and commitment to his education and his future. He is a shining example of the many talented students we have at Immokalee High School.”

Amalio will attend Florida Gulf Coast University (FGCU) in the fall where he will double major in Biology and Chemistry. His goal is to become a dentist. Amalio is also Bright Future Medallion Scholar and a Take Stock in Children recipient. He is the son of Amalio and Patricia Montez.

To learn more, please contact the school at 377-1800.