



# Scottsdale Preparatory Academy

A GREAT HEARTS ACADEMY

## COLLEGE COUNSELING NEWSLETTER

March/April, 2018

### Upcoming Events

Great Hearts ASU

Barrett Day 4/7/18

11th Grade

9:00 and 11:00 am

Senior Preview Night

Tues, 4/10 @ 6:00

Financial Road Map

to College

5th-10th

4/10 6:00-7:00 pm

SPA Tech Lab

Host: Monica Felton

NAU Field Trip for

Sophomores Thurs,

4/19 @ 7:45 am

Vogel Test Prep

SAT/ACT Comparison

Test - FREE Mon, 5/7

8:15 am

Senior

Dinner McCormick

Ranch Golf Club

Thurs, 5/17 6:30 pm

### Quick Links

College Counseling  
Website

ACT

CollegeBoard SAT

Naviance for high  
school students

Standardized  
Testing Dates  
With  
Registration  
Deadlines

## SENIORS

Congratulations to the Class of 2018 for the many options they have for college. Check out the latest [College Acceptances](#) list.

The Senior Dinner will be held at McCormick Ranch Golf Club on Thursday, 5/17 at 6:30. Doors open at 6:15 p.m.. This is a special evening when Great Hearts faculty toast every senior individually. Sign up at the [SPA payment](#) portal.

Seniors, did a teacher agree to write a letter of recommendation on your behalf? Don't forget to keep them in the loop when you are admitted to various colleges. They like to know what the final outcome is as well. A personal hand written note of gratitude is a very nice touch

**One of the ways we celebrate student achievements and admission decisions is through Senior Highlights on [SPA Facebook](#). Seniors should complete the Senior Facebook Survey on Naviance to get started. It's very exciting for our families to read about the journey from freshman to senior year! Send a picture to Mrs. Sterner to be included with your post.**

**Lastly, don't forget to notify College Counseling and/or update your Naviance account if you have committed to a particular college. Please reach out to us if you need help making that final decision.**

## SPECIAL UPCOMING COLLEGE EVENTS

ASU BARRETT GREAT HEARTS DAY  
THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN AREA COLLEGE FAIR  
2018 SERVICE ACADEMY CONFERENCE

Do you want to learn more about why students decide to attend college in-state and choose Barrett? ASU loves how well prepared Great Hearts students are to fully participate in the Barrett curriculum, and so they host a special day just for us! ASU Great Hearts Day at Barrett will be held at two different time slots on Saturday, April 7th at 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. The [Sign Up Genius](#) is now up. Space is limited. If it becomes full, please reach out to SPA College Counseling and we will put you on a waiting list. However, please remember, Barrett holds *numerous* information sessions all year long, so you can also select another date and time that is convenient for you.

The RMACAC College Fair will be held on the ASU Tempe Campus (1290 S. Normal Avenue in the Memorial Union Building) on April 29th from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. [Register](#) beforehand. Colleges from the Rocky Mountain area will be participating. This is *not* an ASU exclusive event.

Any student who wants to attend college at a Military Academy (West Point), the Air Force Academy, the Naval Academy or the Merchant Marines needs a Congressional nomination as part of the application process. Learn how to prepare to be a competitive applicant at the annual Academy Conference that will take place at Coronado High School on Saturday, April 28 from 10:00 a.m. to noon. Parents and students are encouraged to attend. RSVP [schweikert.academy@mail.house.gov](mailto:schweikert.academy@mail.house.gov) If you have questions, call 480 946-2411.

## INTERN OPPORTUNITIES - AGE 16 OR OLDER

Students are frequently interested in interning at a company, shadowing a medical, dental or veterinarian office or participating in research at a university. Most of these opportunities are initiated **by the student**. For example, students will reach out to their family doctor, dentist, lawyer or vet

## ACT

April 14

June 9; Register 5/4

July 14, Register 6/15

[Register](#)

## SAT

5/5; Register 4/6

6/2; Register 5/3

[Register](#)

and ask if they can shadow the professional. Many departments at ASU will consider utilizing a high school student intern if a student reaches out to the professor. For example, on a recent tour of the [ASU Biodesign Institute](#), Mrs. Sterner learned that they frequently look for high school students (age 16 or older) who have a passion for what is being done by the professor and they want to be part of it. Students, don't be afraid to reach out to professor after you have *thoroughly* researched the department and have gained some insight. You might be pleasantly surprised by the reception you receive. It's a good idea to have a resume you can send. See Mrs. Sterner if you need help creating a resume.

## FRESHMAN AND SOPHOMORES

Confused on whether to take the SAT or ACT for college admissions? Vogel Test Prep will be administering a hybrid combination test on Monday, May 7th at 8:30 a.m. in the Tech Lab for interested students. *Students should arrive at 8:15 a.m.* The results will show which test to take for optimal score results. You can then plan to study and prepare to take that preferred test in your junior year. (Rising sophomores are free to take this test to get a jump start on planning as well.) **This date is a school spring recess day, so please plan accordingly.** The test will be administered on our campus, and the results and information session will be held on Monday, May 14th at 6:00 p.m. in the auditorium. Sign up on-line at [Vogel](#). The NAU field trip date for SOPHOMORES has been confirmed for Thursday, April 19th. We will leave the campus by charter bus at 7:50 a.m. and return around 3:30 p.m. This is a great way for students to gain exposure to a college environment, learn about majors and scholarship opportunities such as the Lumberjack Scholarship that provides full tuition for four years, and even eat in the student union. There is a minimal fee of \$15 passed on to families. Payments can be made on the [SPA payment portal](#).

### NAVIANCE ACCOUNT FOR COLLEGE PLANNING

Don't have a Naviance account yet or can't remember your password? Please see Mrs. Fletcher or Mrs. Sterner and we will set you up. We just need a student email address (not parent).

## Juniors and College 101

College 101 continues in full force for all Scottsdale Prep high school juniors. College Counseling utilizes every opportunity to meet with students in the classroom frequently using the computer lab to help students create their college list, complete necessary surveys and career and interest inventories, learn about the importance of a resume, start the Common Application and begin working on the application essay/personal statement. The Common Application recently announced that the [essay prompts](#) for 2018/2019 will remain the same from last year. Another new college application platform is the [Coalition Application](#). The Common App is still the most popular application serving 747 colleges and growing. The Coalition serves 113 colleges and it is growing. A few colleges are Coalition exclusive and these include the University of Florida, University of Virginia and the University of Washington. Here are the [Coalition essay prompts](#). We utilize the Common App in College 101 because of the large number of colleges that utilize this platform including ASU and UA. At this point in the year, **every** junior should be registered to take the SAT or ACT for college admissions. We recommend taking one test with the additional *writing option* in case one of the colleges on your final list requires it. Even if your college is "test optional" meaning they do not require a standardized test for admissions, many colleges utilize these tests for placement in college level classes or for scholarships. Every student should take one or both tests at least once. Students who start at a community college are often asked to submit SAT or ACT tests if they transfer before completing two years of class work at the community college. Test optional colleges can be found at [FairTest](#).

**Fee Waivers** - Fee Waivers for standardized tests (SAT/ACT) and college application are available if a family qualifies based on significant financial need. The income guidelines are the same guidelines used by the State of Arizona for federal programs. [ESEA guidelines](#) determine eligibility. Please reach out to College Counseling if you think you may qualify so we can help you.

## Your College Counseling Team

Don't forget to check our [website](#) for regular updates!

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