



Scottsdale Preparatory Academy

A GREAT HEARTS ACADEMY

COLLEGE COUNSELING NEWSLETTER

January, 2019

Upcoming Events

Introduction to College

Freshman Families

Thurs., 1/17/19

6:00 p.m. Theater

[Interpreting Your PSAT](#)

[Scores](#)

Hosted by

Vogel Test Prep

Freshman - Junior

Families

Thurs., 1/17/19

6:30 p.m. Theater

[SAT School Day 4/9](#) at

SPA- All Juniors

Quick Links

[College Counseling Website](#)

[ACT](#)

[CollegeBoard SAT](#)

[Naviance for high school students](#)

Standardized Testing Dates

With

Registration Deadlines

ACT

April 13; Register 3/8

June 8; Register 5/3

July 13, Register 6/14

[Register](#)

SAT

3/9; Register 2/8

5/4; Register 4/5

6/1; Register 5/3

[Register](#)

College Counseling - Special Events

Great Hearts Summer College Tour: Sophomore and Juniors can start exploring colleges by participating in the Great Hearts summer college tour highlighting ten colleges in Washington DC, Philadelphia and New York City. Contact Laney Smith at lsmith@northphoenixprep.org to learn more.

Barrett Summer Program Info Session: Thur, 1/17 at 5:00 p.m. in the theater. Geared toward 7-11 grade families. Learn more about Barrett by attending a summer program. Explanation of the program and the application requirements to be considered.

Introduction to College, Thurs, 1/17/19 6:00 p.m in the SPA theater- An information night for Freshman families about what you can be doing now to prepare for college.

Interpreting Your PSAT Score Report: Thurs, 1/17/19 at 6:30 p.m. SPA theater. Learn how to better understand your PSAT score report. Information about National Merit qualification will also be presented. **Open to families of Freshman-Juniors.**

January Conference Week Appointments: There are still a few openings for a conference week appointment with College Counseling. Sign up [here](#). Please reach out to us if you would prefer to schedule an appointment *outside* of conference week. We are generally available throughout the school day and after school for parent appointments. Roslyn Fletcher: Rfletcher@scottsdaleprep.org or Diane Stemer: DStemer@scottsdaleprep.org

ASU Barrett Honors Day - Juniors, mark your calendars for Saturday, March 30th for one of two sessions: 9 a.m. or 1 p.m. A registration email will be sent to all junior families on March 1st to sign up for this event. Sign up early on that day to obtain your preferred time slot.

SAT School Day - April 9, 2019. The SAT will be administered to ALL Juniors during the regular school day replacing the AZMerit for the state of AZ testing requirements. There is no cost to families and no pre-registration is required. The test is mandatory and required by the state.

College Interview Season

Many students who applied to selective colleges or highly selective scholarships will be invited to participate in an interview. Here are some pointers to help you feel confident.

1. Take at least an hour to prepare. Research the college, program or scholarship in more detail once again the day before the interview. Verify directions on how to get to the meeting location to arrive on time. Make sure you have a thorough understanding of what is important to you and why. College blogs, YouTube videos and college or department Facebook pages can be helpful. Be able to express why this college or program is a good fit for you.

2. Dress business professional. If the appointment is after school, your uniform is fine although we suggest seniors wear their blazers. Dress slacks and a blouse for a dress with a jacket for ladies is appropriate. Young men should wear dress slacks or khakis and a button down shirt. Make sure your shoes are business casual and shoes should be shined and not scuffed.

3. Know the answers to these basic questions: What unique qualities or experiences will you bring to our institution? What do you do exceedingly well? What do you struggle with? What are your favorite subjects and why? Favorite teacher and why? What are you currently reading? What are you most proud of? How would your friends describe you? Biggest

challenge you faced in high school? Describe an experience that changed you. For a more extensive list of good interview questions, look [here](#).

4. Be prepared with three or four of your own questions. If it's an alumni interview, ask what was their favorite memory. In their opinion, what makes college XYZ different from other peer institutions? Come up with your own personalized questions!
5. When leaving the interview, make a lasting good impression. Good eye contact is always important, shaking hands, and a heartfelt thank you goes a long way. Ask for a business card and write a personal thank you note. Hand written notes are still very much appreciated.
6. Consider contacting the college to thank your admissions rep for the opportunity to interview with an alumni interviewer.

We wish you the best. Don't hesitate to schedule an appointment to practice with your college counselor.

Summer Program Applications

It is the season for summer program applications. Summer programs or camps are an excellent opportunity for students to delve deeper into a particular subject area of interest, college major, or institution. While this is not a comprehensive list, here are a few that have appealed to some of our students:

[Barrett Summer Scholars](#)
[ASU Leadership Academy](#)
[ASU Summer Programs](#)
[UA Science Summer Programs](#) including Biosphere 2
[UA KEYS Research Institute](#)
[UA Med-Start Program](#)
[UA Scrubs Program](#)
[Harvard Summer Program](#)
[UA Summer Engineering Academy](#)
[University of Iowa Summer Writers Program](#)
[Embry-Riddle Summer Camps](#)
[University of Dallas](#)

The list could go on and on because there are as many summer programs as there are colleges out there! Research your college of interest to see what is available. Some applications will require an essay, and a letter of recommendation and can be highly competitive. Investigate now so you know what you will need to apply to meet the deadlines. For a more comprehensive list, go to College Counseling's [website](#).

Your College Counseling Team

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