

COUNSELING CENTER ANNOUNCEMENTS

November 6, 2009

Nov. 9	Eastern University, PA
Nov. 10	University of Scranton
Nov. 11	Howard Community College
Nov. 12	Ferrum College
Nov. 13	Case Western Reserve

JUNIORS AND SENIORS ARE WELCOME TO SIGN UP TO MEET WITH ANY REPRESENTATIVES. SIGN UP IN THE COUNSELING CENTER AT LEAST ONE DAY IN ADVANCE IF INTERESTED IN ATTENDING.

The Software Applications I Credit by Exam is scheduled on Saturday, January 9, 2010
at Long Reach High School.

Any junior or senior has the option of establishing credit for the Software Applications I by taking and passing this exam. A student may take the exam as long as the student meets all of the following criteria: is not currently enrolled in Software Applications I, has not previously enrolled in the course, and has not taken the Credit by Exam in the past 12 months.

Registration is online at

www2.hcpss.org/bcms.

The online registration will begin on Thursday, October 22, 2009, and will close when all of the seats have been allocated. No registrations will be taken after Thursday, December 10, 2009. Seating for this exam is limited. Questions should be directed to Sharon Kramer either through email at skramer@hcpss.org or by phone at 410-313-6797.

Soroptimist International of Howard County is seeking students for the Violet Richardson Award – an award honoring young women for volunteer action. This award, sponsored by the Soroptimist Federation of the Americas, recognizes a young woman age 14-17 who has had significant and noteworthy accomplishments as a volunteer. Winners of this award have demonstrated initiative in both identifying a problem and trying to solve it. The application involves completing a one-page information sheet and a short essay describing where and why they volunteer; the goals of the organization and its impact on the problems it addresses; and the applicant's achievements as a volunteer. The winner will receive \$300 and \$200 will be awarded to the winner's charity. If you have questions, contact Eileen Singleton at VRA.SIHC@gmail.com. More information and applications are also available in the counseling center. The application deadline is December 1, 2009.

Staff Sergeant Upshur from the U.S. Marines will be in the counseling center on Monday, November 16 at 9:00 a.m. to meet with any students who are interested in finding out more about the Marines and the Naval/Marine ROTC Program. If you are interested in meeting with him you must sign up in the counseling center at least one day in advance.

How To Choose A College That's Right For You (Part 2) “Reprinted from Colleges That Change Lives”

Don't Be Scared By The Stories

If you pay attention to the headlines when it comes to college admissions, you might believe that no one is getting in anywhere! The truth is, the majority of the colleges and universities in this country admit more students than they reject. If you are worried about your chance for admission and are willing to explore beyond the very narrow band of highly selective colleges, you will find many options that could be a great fit for you. Compare your academic profile to those of recently admitted and enrolled students at any college you're considering. (Most colleges provide this information on their website, but contact the school if you can't find it.) Ask your high school counselor for additional advice and guidance as it applies to your record and school.

You Can Afford To Go To College

If you assume that you cannot afford college based on the “sticker price”, you will miss out. It may be difficult for you to talk about money, but if you investigate all the options and ask for help and advice, you will find affordable choices. Online resources as well as financial aid workshops sponsored by high schools in your community are widely available to get you started. College and university financial aid websites offer useful information and links as well. Investigate early and ask for help.

The Most Important Factor Is Fit

Choosing a college because your friends are going there or because of where it ranks on a list does not take into account who you are and who you will become. College is a match to be made, not a prize to be won. Finding a good fit requires time and introspection. Visiting a college's website, learning about campus events and guest speakers, and getting in touch with current students and faculty are good ways to supplement a campus visit-or decide if you even want to spend the time and money on a visit. Check college websites to identify the admission officer assigned to your region of the country and email him or her. Ask if you can get in touch with students from your area or students with interests similar to yours. When you visit, take the time to sit in on classes, eat in the dining hall, and hang around in the student center or other high-traffic areas. Imagine yourself as part of the community. Talk to students, and ask if they would make the same college choice if they had to do it again.

Donate Life Maryland Mascot Search Contest Donate Life Maryland, a non-profit organization dedicated to saving and enhancing lives by registering organ, eye and tissue donors, needs your help in creating a mascot to represent the organization at community outreach and awareness events.

Illinois has Morgan D'Organ. Dottie the Dot represents Wisconsin. Use your imagination and create a mascot for Maryland. The contest is open to all middle and high school students in Maryland. Contest guidelines are available in the counseling center. One grand prize winner will be selected and the mascot will be professionally reproduced and used in Donate Life Maryland marketing materials. Winners will be announced at the beginning of Donate Life Month in April 2010. All entries must be received by November 20, 2009. Entries can be submitted to: Donate Life Maryland, Attn: Jennifer Gelman, 1730 Twin Springs Road, Suite 200, Baltimore, MD 21227

St. John's University in Queens, New York is holding a Fall Open House at the Staten Island Campus on Sunday, November 15, 2009. If you are interested in attending register at www.stjohns.edu/open_house

Cooper Union Art Open Houses are held Fridays, November 6, 13, 20 and December 4 in New York. Registration is required. If interested register at www.cooper.edu/administration/admissions/tours.html

West Virginia Tech will hold an Open House on Saturday, November 14, 2009. Save your spot now by registering on-line at www.wvutech.edu If you have any questions please call 888-554-TECH.

Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri invites students who may have an interest in architecture and their parents to meet with Andrea Kohashi from the College of Architecture at Washington University. The meeting will be held on Monday, December 7, 2009 from 7:00 – 8:00 pm at Cunningham/Quill Architects, 1054 31st Street NW, Suite 315, Washington, DC. Website: www.cunninghamquill.com Please RSVP by Monday, November 23 by e-mail to kohashi@samfox.wustl.edu

From time to time the Counseling Center is sent information regarding summer programs that are available to students who are looking for ways to use their summer break to participate in enriching experiences. As we receive this information we will share it with you.

Phillips Exeter Academy Summer School in Exeter, New Hampshire welcomes more than 700 students for five weeks (July 4 – August 7, 2010) of academic study, athletics, and exploration. The Upper School, comprised of students who have completed grades nine, ten, eleven or twelve, enrolls approximately 500 students from more than forty states, Puerto Rico, Washington, D.C. and thirty foreign nations. Students have a common desire to challenge themselves academically and an eagerness to live in a dynamic, multicultural community of students and faculty. Beyond the classroom, students participate in athletics and have opportunities to sing in choral groups, play musical instruments and bring dramatic productions to life on stage. For more information visit www.exeter.edu/summer