

# C.C. College Planning Newsletter

October 2007 ♦ Issue 3

## To Do List

### Student:

- Register for the ACT, SAT Reasoning Test or SAT Subject Tests if necessary. Central Catholic's High School Code is 380850 (This may sometimes be called "CEEB Code" on applications).
- Meet with college representatives at CC. Attend college receptions and open house events. Check out this newsletter for upcoming events and visit the TCCi Family Connection site from the college counseling webpage ([www.centralcatholichigh.org/05.academics/counselor\\_college.htm](http://www.centralcatholichigh.org/05.academics/counselor_college.htm)) for the most current schedule. See Teri Calcagno if you don't remember your password or are having difficulty accessing this site.
- Decide the number of colleges and cost of applying. Organize file folders for each school, and track important information and deadlines.
- Request or download applications, make photocopies, and begin to fill in rough drafts.
- Research, compare colleges, and narrow your list to five or six schools. Identify your list in "My Colleges" through Family Connection.
- Work on rough draft essays and applications. Prepare a resume and complete the online letter of recommendation information located in TCCi Family Connection.
- Research scholarships listed in this monthly newsletter and at [www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com).

### Parent/Guardian:

- Continue to learn more about financial aid. Find out what your **Expected Family Contribution** might be at [www.fafsa4caster.ed.gov/complete001.htm](http://www.fafsa4caster.ed.gov/complete001.htm) or [www.finaid.org](http://www.finaid.org) under "Calculators" (then click on "Expected Family Contribution and Financial Aid Calculator").
- Continue having conversations with your son/daughter about their plans for after high school.
- Some private, more selective schools will require families to submit the 2007 -2008 CSS PROFILE for financial aid consideration. Visit <https://profileonline.collegeboard.com/index.jsp> for a list of participating schools.

## Oregon University System Visitation Day

On October 30, representatives from the public universities in Oregon will be at Portland State University. Students can register to attend an overview session on the public institutions in Oregon, and then participate in two individual sessions about schools of their choice. We will leave CC at 8:15 am and shuttle students to PSU in school vans for this event. Students need to see Teri Calcagno by October 12 to pre-register.

## Upcoming College Fairs (*see the CCHS Parent Newsletter regarding the National College Fair and the Performing & Visual Arts College Fair*)

**October 15 & 16 - The National Christian College Fair** will be held at Rolling Hills Community Church (3550 SW Borland Road) in Tualatin on October 15 and Portland Christian Jr/Sr High on October 16 from 6 to 8:30 pm. Students will be able to interact with representatives from over 50 Christian Colleges and Universities while at the fair. In addition, financial aid seminars will be provided to educate families on the

opportunities available to finance a private, Christian education. Visit <http://naccap.org/fairs.asp?mod=loc&loc=nw> for details.

## The Application Essay

“Ninety percent of applicants to selective colleges underutilize the potential of an essay.” The fact is that most college essays are good; few of them are exceptional. Through the essay, the author has satisfied an important requirement of the application. The reader, however, is looking for more. The task of the reader is to determine both the technical and creative merit of the essay. The task of the writer is to make the essay interesting (write about what you know) and to use proper English. Well-constructed sentences and paragraphs are evidence of technical merit. Creative merit requires that you put your own “spin” on a particular subject. Writing about what you know gives the reader insight into you as a person.

Important tips: Your first draft should never be your final draft. Be sure to ask others to look over your essay and give you feedback. Check out [www.essayedge.com/college/essayadvice/overview.shtml](http://www.essayedge.com/college/essayadvice/overview.shtml) and utilize the free essay-writing ideas. Your English teacher is also a good resource. Be thoughtful in your choice of essay topics. Filling this requirement is a real challenge and a tremendous opportunity. Do the best you can to reveal the special qualities that lie within you.

~ Adapted from “The Admission Game” Franklin & Marshall College

## Requesting Letters of Recommendation

Before students start asking for letters, they need to find out what is required by the schools. Some school may not require any letters and others may want one from someone who knows you well. There are some who may have specific guidelines, such as requiring one letter from a teacher and one letter from a counselor. When trying to decide whom you should ask to write a letter on your behalf, there are a few things to consider:

1. Identify which teachers/counselor know you well enough to write a good letter of recommendation. This should be someone who has taught you during your junior or senior year.
2. Ask them if they would be willing to write a letter for you. It is acceptable for individuals to write the same letters to various colleges/universities.
3. Prepare a resume and complete the online letter of recommendation information located in TCCi Family Connection.
4. Make a formal request for letters of recommendation through the College Counseling Office. Before making this request, students should have completed the online letter of recommendation information in TCCi and submitted a resume to help in the letter-writing process. Students should also bring any forms to be completed by the recommenders with them. Requests should be made at least four weeks in advance of the due date of the letter. Once a request is made, we will also prepare transcripts to be mailed to the schools.
5. Write a short thank-you note to each recommender who has written you a letter. It is important to let people know how much you appreciate the time and effort they have spent on your behalf.

## College Admission Representative Visits

Below is a list of schools that are planning to visit CC soon. A more up-to-date list will be available in the Daily Bulletin or online, and students can sign-up for visits in the College Counseling Office or online through TCCI Family Connection. Be sure to get a pass from the College Counseling Office and have your teacher sign it at least one day in-advance. All visits at CC are in the CCHS Conference Room unless otherwise noted.

Date	College	Time
Mon October 1	Loyola Marymount University	10:15 AM

Tue October 2	University of Portland	11:40 AM
Wed October 3	Oregon College of Art & Craft	12:00 PM
Thu October 4	University of San Francisco	1:30 PM
Fri October 5	University of San Diego	8:00 AM
	University of Puget Sound	12:15 PM
Mon October 8	Pitzer College	8:00 AM
	Franklin College Switzerland	9:00 AM
Wed October 10	Marquette University in the CCHS College Counseling Office	9:00 AM
	Whittier College	12:15 PM
Thu October 11	St. Edward's University	9:30 AM
Mon October 15	University of Washington	12:00 PM
Tue October 16	Boston University	10:30 AM
	Oberlin College	1:15 PM
Tue October 23	Lehigh University	10:15 AM
	University of Notre Dame	1:45 PM
Wed October 24	Gonzaga University	8:30 AM
Thu October 25	The Catholic University of America in the CCHS College Counseling Office	11:30 AM
	Saint Mary's College of California	12:00 PM
	Worcester Polytechnic Institute	1:00 PM
Mon October 29	Dominican University	10:15 AM
Tue October 30	Colgate University	2:00 PM
Wed October 31	Tulane University in the CCHS College Counseling Office	11:45 AM
	College of Saint Benedict & Saint John's University	1:45 PM
Thu November 1	Providence College	9:30 AM
	Creighton University	10:30 AM
	Simmons College	11:30 AM
	Ohio Wesleyan University	12:45 PM
	DePauw University	1:30 PM

### Upcoming College Visits in the Greater Portland Metro Area

Date	College	Time
Sat September 29	New York University at the Hilton Portland	2:00 PM
Sun September 30	Dartmouth College at the Multnomah County Central Library (801 SW 10TH AVE)	2:00 PM
Sun September 30	Loyola Marymount University at Jesuit High School	3:00 PM
Thu October 4	Massachusetts Institute of Technology at the Crowne Plaza Lake Oswego, Main Ballroom	7:00 PM
Sat October 13	Yale University at the Multnomah County Central Library (801 SW 10TH AVE)	4:00 PM
Tue October 16	Emory University, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill University of Virginia at the Residence Inn Portland North Harbour	7:30 PM
Sat October 20	University of Puget Sound at the Westin- Portland	1:00 PM
Mon October 22	University of Notre Dame at Jesuit High School (Cafeteria/Student Center)	7:00 PM
Sat October 27	Fashion Institute of Design and Merchandising, Los Angeles at the Hotel Monaco (506 SW Washington at 5 <sup>th</sup> Ave.)	10:30 AM or 1:30 PM

### Scholarship Information

If you see a scholarship that you may qualify for, stop by the "Scholarship File" in the library near the College Counseling Office for further details or to pick up an application. You are also encouraged to check out the free scholarship search programs listed on the website for the most current scholarships available.

## **OCTOBER**

Coca-Cola Scholars Program. Scholarships will be awarded to high school seniors on the basis of leadership, character, and achievement, both inside and outside the classroom. Students must apply online. Printed online applications will not be accepted. Visit [www.coca-colascholars.org](http://www.coca-colascholars.org) to apply. Receipt deadline: October 31.

Horatio Alger Association Scholarship. The Association seeks to assist students who have financial need and have exhibited integrity and perseverance in overcoming personal adversity. Visit <http://www.horatioalger.org/scholarships> to complete an application. Deadline: October 30.

New York University Martin Luther King Jr. Scholars Program. NYU annually offers scholarships to freshmen who demonstrate exceptional academic achievement and a commitment to the principles of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., including community service, humanitarianism, and social progress. See Teri Calcagno by October 25 to be considered for a nomination.

Outstanding Students of America Scholarships. The scholarships are \$1000.00 each and are payable to the college of the student's choice. Outstanding Students of America is seeking a well rounded, intelligent student as a recipient. The focus of the scholarship committee will be the students who are participative in community/school involvement and maintain a GPA of 3.0 or above. Visit [www.outstandingstudentsofamerica.com](http://www.outstandingstudentsofamerica.com) for an application. Deadline: October 10.

Prudential Spirit of Community Award. The award offers a unique opportunity to be recognized for community service. Each winner will receive \$1000, a silver medallion, and an all-expense-paid trip to Washington, D.C. Each school may nominate one candidate for consideration. Visit [www.prudential.com/community/spirit](http://www.prudential.com/community/spirit) or see Mrs. Sinnott in the Community Service Office for further information. Deadline to submit application to Mrs. Sinnott: October 18.

## **NOVEMBER**

Emory University - Emory Scholars Program and Goizueta Scholars Program. Central Catholic may nominate outstanding seniors as Emory Scholars for those interested in Business, Goizueta Scholars. Awards range from two-thirds tuition to full tuition, room, board and fees. Nominees have outstanding academic records along with extraordinary personal qualities in such areas as creativity, leadership and volunteer service. Visit [www.emory.edu/ADMISSIONS/admission-aid/emory-scholars.htm](http://www.emory.edu/ADMISSIONS/admission-aid/emory-scholars.htm) for more information. Postmark deadline: November 1.

Ron Brown Scholar Program. The Scholar Program provides assistance to African American students who demonstrate academic excellence, leadership potential, community service, and financial need. A minimum of ten students will be designated and receive \$10,000 per year. Visit [www.ronbrown.org](http://www.ronbrown.org) for further information. Deadline: November 1.

Seattle University Sullivan Leadership Award. The University annually awards renewable full-tuition scholarships to high school graduates from the states of Alaska, California, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, and Washington who have shown outstanding leadership skills. Candidates must have completed an application to Seattle University, have a minimum GPA of 3.5 and must show outstanding leadership ability. Visit [www.seattleu.edu/sullivan](http://www.seattleu.edu/sullivan) for further information. Receipt Deadline: November 15.