



College Counseling Newsletter

HOLLAND HALL

Summer 2010

Holland Hall Code: 373-615

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DISPELLING MYTHS

As the college admissions process changes and becomes increasingly complex, one thing oddly stays the same — those persistent myths that hang on in spite of all evidence to the contrary. Now that this year's seniors have all found a college home it's time to dispel some of these myths for future applicants.

Myth #1 One idea resurrected annually is that any student who attains National Merit finalist standing will automatically receive a full ride to college. While National Merit finalists often receive wonderful scholarships, only a handful of schools offer full tuition. In fact, for the most competitive schools being a National Merit finalist, without an impressive resume of activities along with it, likely means relatively little; as every realistic applicant has a wonderful grade point average and great test scores.

Myth #2 Often high school sophomores or juniors will apply to attend summer programs on the college campus. Once the student has been accepted to a big name school program in engineering, play writing or any number of other disciplines parents will infer that this means the student will receive the nod from the actual admissions committee later. Many colleges have developed programs that they hope will attract able students to the campus and may even result in those students' subsequent senior year applications but it does not influence the admissions committee to admit them. Summer programs make productive use of vacant campus facilities during the slow summer school term and are a source of revenue for those who run or teach in the program but they do not necessarily increase chances of college admission.

Myth #3 Because it is one of the first important decisions high school students make and because so much is written about finding the perfect college, many future college freshmen

believe that there is only one "right school" for them. In actuality, students who have done their research well can find several schools that will have great programs of study, the right outlets for their talents and the right balance of activities and academics.

Myth #4 Doing the research is also the cure for the "shotgun myth" — the idea that applying to a large number of schools increases the chances of being admitted. Getting in really depends on applying to the right schools. Every student must have a safety school — meaning one in which he will be truly happy; not just one where he is assured of admittance. Beyond that, success depends on making sure the student's grade point average, test scores and interests are in line with those published by the university in question.

Myth #5 Only a top tier school will ensure success in life. This persistent myth has been debunked by a number of studies but obviously all the nation's political, religious and social leaders, CEO's, and entrepreneurs could not have graduated from the same few schools. This year alone nearly 200,000 very able students from America's 36,000 high schools applied to the Ivies and only about 13,800 of these were admitted. By whatever measure of success, great numbers of graduates from all kinds of colleges and universities are making the grade in later life. "Fit" is the ever important concept in choosing the right college.

And speaking of fit, here's wishing our seniors all the best experiences in college and wishing our juniors some fantastic visits to the college campus over the summer!

— Ms. Kathy Housh
Director of College Counseling & Registrar

HOLLAND HALL
COLLEGE
COUNSELING



FREE
**BOOT
CAMP**

2010

August 2, 3, 5, 6 (no class on Wednesday)

Morning session: 10:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Afternoon session: 1:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Last summer the college counseling office offered an opportunity for rising seniors to get ahead by preparing The Common Application and writing that first college essay. We called this program Boot Camp. The only actual boot camp hardship was the fact that the students were giving up a part of summer vacation. The environment was laid back, fun and very productive. Those who came were happy with the process and the final product. The only complaint received was the lack of food. So this summer we will feed you. Space is limited... only 20 students per session — so sign up in the College Counseling Office!

According to the seniors of 2010 you should go to boot camp because...

- You will be ahead when the application process starts.
- Your essay will be done.
- It will lessen stress during first semester.
- You feel comfortable completing additional applications.
- It will make the fall more enjoyable.

Just do it!

• AGNES SCOTT COLLEGE • ALLEGHENY COLLEGE • AUSTIN COLLEGE • BELOIT COLLEGE • BIRMINGHAM - SOUTHERN COLLEGE • CENTRE COLLEGE • KALAMAZOO COLLEGE • KNOX COLLEGE • LAWRENCE UNIVERSITY • LYNCHBURG COLLEGE • MARLBORO COLLEGE • MCDANIEL COLLEGE •

Colleges that Change Lives

>>> Monday, August 16
>>> 7:00 p.m.
>>> Renaissance Tulsa

For only the second time the Colleges That Change Lives Fair will visit Tulsa!

For those of you who have not heard, these 40 colleges travel together to many larger cities throughout the United States. The schools organized as a result of the Loren Pope book, *Colleges That Change Lives, 40 Schools That Will Change the Way you think About Colleges*. Mr. Pope's long career as education editor of The New York Times and as a college administrator led him to research colleges in an attempt to remedy what he saw as a lack of information necessary to make an informed college selection. His book includes schools that he feels live up to the ideals of liberal arts education; schools that take students "where they are" and educate the whole person. It is refreshing to find colleges and universities chronicled because students give testimonials regarding effective teaching practices, nurturing environments and profound effects on their later lives, hence the name Colleges That Change Lives.

Please mark your calendar — you will not want to miss this chance to visit with one or all of the 40 CTCL representatives. The tour only comes to Tulsa every other year.

• HIRAM COLLEGE • HOPE COLLEGE • JUNIATA COLLEGE • KALAMAZOO COLLEGE • KNOX COLLEGE • LEHIGH COLLEGE • WABASH COLLEGE • WHEATON COLLEGE, IL • WHITMAN COLLEGE • COLLEGE OF WOOSTER

• CLARK UNIVERSITY • CORNELL COLLEGE • DENISON UNIVERSITY • EARLHAM COLLEGE • ECKERD COLLEGE • MILLSAKS COLLEGE • NEW COLLEGE OF FLORIDA • OHIO WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY • REED COLLEGE •

• EMORY & HENRY COLLEGE • THE EVERGREEN STATE COLLEGE • GOUCHER COLLEGE • GUILDFORD COLLEGE • HAMPSHIRE COLLEGE • HENDRIX COLLEGE • RHODES COLLEGE • SOUTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY • ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE, MD • ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE, NM • ST. OLAF COLLEGE • URSINUS COLLEGE

Class of 2010 College Acceptances

American University	Kalamazoo College	Texas Christian University
Arizona State University	Kansas City Art Institute	Texas Woman's University
Arkansas State University	Kansas State University	Trinity University
Auburn University	Knox College	Tufts University
Austin College	Lawrence University	Tulane University
Bard College	Louisiana State University	Vanderbilt University
Belmont University	Loyola University Chicago	Vassar College
Beloit College	Lynchburg College	Villanova University
Bennington College	Marquette University	Washington University in St. Louis
Berklee College of Music	McDaniel College	Webster University
Boston University	Michigan State University	William Jewell College
Brown University	Middlebury College	Wittenberg University
California Institute of the Arts	Missouri State University	University of Arkansas
Carleton College	Newman University	University of Central Oklahoma
Clark-Atlanta University	Northeastern University	University of Colorado Boulder
Clemson University	Northwestern University	University of Denver
College of Charleston	Occidental College	University of Evansville
College of William and Mary	Oklahoma City University	University of Kansas
College of Wooster	Oklahoma State University	University of Michigan
Colorado College	Providence College	University of Mississippi
Colorado School of Mines	Regis University	University of Missouri Columbia
Covenant College	Rhodes College	University of Nevada @ Las Vegas
Creighton University	Rice University	University of Oklahoma
Dartmouth College	Rocky Mountain College of Art and Design	University of Pittsburgh
DePaul University	Rollins College	University of Puget Sound
DePauw University	Saint Louis University	University of Richmond
Drake University	Savannah College of Art & Design	University of the South
Earlham College	School of the Art Institute of Chicago	University of Tampa
Eckerd College	School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston	University of Tennessee Chattanooga
Emerson College	Smith College	University of Tulsa
Fordham University	Southern Methodist University	University of Vermont
Full Sail University	Southwestern University	University of Washington Seattle
George Washington University	Spelman College	
Grinnell College	St. Edwards University	
Hendrix College	St. Olaf College	
Hollins University		
Howard University		
Indiana University		
John Brown University		
Juniata College		

**Bold indicates matriculation*



Summer Reading

By Ronda Cooper

Aldous Huxley, author of *Brave New World* once said, "Every man who knows how to read has it in his power to magnify himself, to multiply the ways in which he exists, to make his life full, significant and interesting." Juniors as you prepare to enter the brave new world of college admissions make sure you are prepared. This summer instead of flipping on the TV or spending hours playing computer games, challenge yourself to read. You will increase your vocabulary, improve as a writer, develop your imagination, and help increase your SAT/ACT test scores. Get out of your routine and take the challenge. Colleges often ask you to write about a favorite book or to share the title of your most recent read. Compile your own reading list, you may find it useful.

College Board List

<http://www.collegeboard.com/parents/plan/hs-steps/21276.html>

Education Planner

http://www.educationplanner.org/education_planner/preparing_article.asp?sponsor=2859&articleName=College_Bound_Reading_List

The Holland Hall Book Club's Summer List:

"The Imperfectionist", by Tom Rachman

"Little Bee", by Chris Cleave

"Nineteen Minutes", by Jodi Picoult

"The Hunger Games", Suzanne Collins

"I am Nujood: Age 10 and Divorced", by Nujood Ali and Delphine Minouri

Practical Advice from Graduating Seniors

Visiting helps A LOT. I almost went to a school that looked perfect on line, but didn't fit me when I visited.

Get started early! It will take a big load off of your first semester.

Apply to all types of schools, even a few you don't think you'll like because a lot can change about you from the time you apply to May 1.

Don't let your GPA be ruined!

Take pictures and write notes on each visit

Meet your deadlines!

Meet with your college counselor regularly.

When you visit colleges stop a current student and ask them questions about the school.

Go to Boot Camp!

Deans' Night 2010

By Brent Casey

The College Counseling Department at Holland Hall was honored to welcome a distinguished group of deans to campus this past March. Joining us were Douglas Christiansen, Vice Provost for Enrollment and Dean of Admissions at Vanderbilt University, James Miller, Dean of Admission at Brown University and Theodore Spencer, Associate Vice Provost and Executive Director of Undergraduate Admission at the University of Michigan.

The deans' visit begins with a wonderful gourmet meal prepared by Maro Desjardins at Mark and Maro's home. The next day, our guests were able to spend time with students and faculty in the upper school while attending classes, touring campus and hosting information sessions about their universities. During a mid-morning brunch, the deans were entertained by the a few members of the Holland Hall's Jazz Band. The day concluded with dinner at a local restaurant and then a return to Holland Hall for an evening presentation and discussion for parents in the Holliman Gallery.

It is College Counseling's hope that the deans leave with a better understanding of Holland Hall, our curriculum, our students and our city. This is a tremendous opportunity for the Holland Hall community to meet prominent professionals in the world of college admissions. Please plan to join us for Deans' Night on February 21, 2011!



From Left: Theodore Spencer, Associate Vice Provost and Executive Director of Undergraduate Admission at the University of Michigan, Douglas Christiansen, Vice Provost for Enrollment and Dean of Admissions at Vanderbilt University, James Miller, Dean of Admission at Brown University, Brent Casey, College Counselor, Ronda Cooper, College Counselor and Kathy Housh, Director of College Counseling.

**SAT Reasoning Test and SAT Subject Tests:
Registration Deadlines and Test Dates**

Test Date	Registration Deadline	Late Registration Deadline (Added Fee)
Oct. 9, 2010	TBA	TBA
Nov. 6, 2010	TBA	TBA
Dec. 4, 2010	TBA	TBA
Jan. 22, 2011	TBA	TBA
March 12, 2011	TBA	TBA
May 7, 2011	TBA	TBA
June 4, 2011	TBA	TBA

ACT: Registration Deadlines and Test Dates

Test Date	Registration Deadline	Late Registration Deadline (Added Fee)
Sept. 11, 2010	Aug. 6, 2010	Aug. 7-20, 2010
Oct. 23, 2010	Sept. 17, 2010	Sept. 18-Oct. 1, 2010
Dec. 11, 2010	Nov. 5, 2010	Nov. 6-19, 2010
Feb. 12, 2010	Jan. 7, 2011	Jan. 8-21, 2011
April 9, 2010	March 4, 2011	March 5-18, 2011
June 11, 2010	May 6, 2011	May 7-20, 2011

Students may register online for the SAT by visiting: www.collegeboard.com.

Cost is \$32 without writing and \$47 with writing.

To register online for the ACT, visit: www.act.org. Cost is \$45.

Test dates are also available on the College Counseling Web site.

Calendar of Events

**Free Summer College Counseling Boot Camp
August 2,3,5,6**

Morning Session: 10:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Afternoon Session: 1:30 – 4:00 p.m.

Must Register in the CC Office

**Colleges That Change Lives
Monday, August 16**

7:00 p.m.

Tulsa Renaissance Hotel

**Senior Application Night
Monday, September 13**

6:00 p.m.

Or

Monday, September 20

6:00 p.m.

PSAT

Wednesday, October 13

8:00 a.m.

PLAN

Saturday, October 23

8:00 a.m.

Financial Aid Night

Monday, November 8

7:00 p.m.

SENIOR COLLEGE T-SHIRT DAY 2010

