

SENIOR NEWSLETTER

November 2016

LA QUINTA HIGH SCHOOL DENISE HALSTEAD, PRINCIPAL (714) 663-6375

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A MESSAGE FROM THE GUIDANCE OFFICE

Our counseling staff would like to commend all of you as you complete the first quarter of your senior year. It's normal to feel a little overwhelmed with academics, extracurricular activities, athletics, and college applications...it will pass. The deadline for your college applications is quickly approaching. Cal State and/or UC must be submitted by November 30, 2016 Send your SAT and/or ACT scores! Go to your CollegeBoard or ACT account and find your score reports. The link to scores can be found on the left column. Once you see your scores, click on "send score reports" option. Then search for the schools you are applying to. Students applying to multiple Cal State Universities may use the code 3594 (CSU Mentor, Long Beach) which will send SAT scores to all Cal States for FREE. Collegeboard.com will also send your scores to all UC's as long as you choose one UC to receive your scores and **include your social security number**. You may be asked to pay a small fee if you have no free submits remaining. Free submits only last up until the day of your exam so make sure you request to send your scores before test day! Scores must be sent electronically by Collegeboard.com or ACT.org. Colleges request official scores and will deny admission if they do not receive them.

UC Personal Insight Question Tips! The personal insight questions are about getting to know you better—your life experience, interests, ambitions and inspirations. Think of it as your interview with the admissions office. Be open. Be reflective. Find your individual voice and express it. While this section of the application is just one part they consider when making their admission decision, it helps provide context for the rest of your application. It is an opportunity for you to become an individual by sharing your experiences and/or challenges, your personality, and lifelong goals. Making a list of accomplishments, activities, awards or work will lessen the impact of your words. Expand on a topic by using specific, concrete examples to support the points you want to make. Use "I" statements. Talk about yourself so they can get to know your personality, talents, accomplishments and potential for success on a UC campus. Use "I" and "my" statements in your responses.

Mark your calendarsimportant upcoming events!!!!!

Nov 12 UC Santa Cruz Tours - reservations must be made in

advance: https://admissions.sa.ucsc.edu/see/ tour reservation tool/visitor/welcome.cfm

Nov 19 UC Riverside Discover Day

Jan 20, 21, 22 Mt St Mary's University Application Days - LA 1-5pm RSVP: www.msmu.edu/RSVP

OUINTA HIGH SCHOOI

La Quinta High School Fall 2016

Q: Where do I enter Economics on the CSU application?

A: Economics appears under the *College Preparatory Elective (AREA G)*, the very last section. A frequent mistake students make is entering Civics and Economics as full year courses. These are semester courses (Two Semester Grades); however, they are In Progress for one side only. If you are taking Civics in the Spring, enter *In Progress* on the Spring side and leave the Fall grade blank. The Social Science section should appear similar to the example above and remember to save Economics for *College Preparatory Elective (AREA G)*.

Q: How do I enter SAT or ACT scores if I have not received the scores yet?

A: Enter only the test date (example: 11/2016) and leave the score area blank. Colleges will wait for your scores to arrive directly and they will choose the best scores.

Q: Which class do I choose for English 4P?

A: Senior English or English 4P must be entered as ERWC, Expository Reading and Writing Course. Do not enter it as English 4P.

An Important Message to all Students Applying to California State Universities

Congratulations to those of you who have already submitted applications to Cal State Universities, you are one step closer to finishing the application process. However, there are a few more steps left to complete the process. All students applying to CSUs will receive a letter in the mail or email with their assigned student ID and password to log onto student Portals. Please check your email or have your family look for this letter.

You must use the information from the letter to create an account and log into each CSU's website for updates and "To Do" items. You can also check your admission and financial aid status through this portal. This is the only form of communication CSUs will utilize to inform you of your status. Keep all your letters and emails in a safe place.

Please go to La Quinta's website and look under "News" on the front page or step-by-step tutorial on where to find important information on the CSUF Portal.

Quinta High School Fall 2016

Private College and Out-of-State College Applications FAQ

Q: How do I apply to private or out-of-state colleges?

A: Many private colleges use the common application www.commonapp.org. Some private and out-of-state schools use their own applications. Please check the college websites to see which type of application they accept. To view all of California's private and independent colleges, please visit www.aiccu.edu.

Q: What is the deadline to apply?

A: Colleges have various deadlines, please check their websites. Many colleges have deadlines in January, so it's not too late. Visit La Quinta's homepage to download a list of California private college deadlines and minimum requirements.

Q: How do I obtain a fee waiver for private or out-of-state schools?

A: If you qualified for an SAT fee waiver then you also qualify for a fee waiver for private and out-of-state schools. You may pick up a CollegeBoard Request for Waiver of College Application Fee from your counselor. You may only use this fee waiver if the college you are applying to accepts it. Some colleges use other types of fee waivers.

Q: Is there a limit on the number of Fee Waivers?

A: There is no limit, you may have a fee waiver to each private or out-of-state college you apply to.

Q: How do I request recommendations and Secondary School Reports from counselors?

A: Ask your counselor first and provide them a resume or "brag" sheet. Then send them a link to complete your forms electronically. Here is a list of counselor emails:

Ms. Grelle – Sgrelle@ggusd.us

Ms. Esquivel – Aesquivel@ggusd.us

Ms. Tran – Ptran2@ggusd.us

Ms. FitzRandolph – Lfitzrand@ggusd.us

Q: What is our CEEB code?

A: La Quinta's school code is 053737

Apply for Scholarships

WHAT ABOUT SCHOLARSHIPS?

Few scholarships will find their way to you. In the majority of cases you must look for them yourself. While many scholarships are available, their requirements vary greatly. Applying for scholarships takes work. Time has to be devoted to researching different kinds of scholarships. Not all scholarships require strong GPA's. Many scholarships require membership in service organizations or involvement in community and extracurricular activities. The trick is to find a scholarship that fits you. Check these out! fastweb.com, meritaid.com, www.collegeboard.org, www.salliemae.com, www.csac.ca.gov, www.edfund.org, www.mapping-yourfuture.org, http://www.yahoo.com/Education/financial_Aid, www.ed.gov/index, www.usnews.com, www.scholarships.com, www.gocollege.com, www.educatorsconnection.com/register.php www.scholarshipcoach.com, www.HighFiveScholarships.com, http://www.scholarsnapp.org/, meritaid.com, scholarships.com, zinch.com, weirdscholarships.net

GRANTOR	REQUIREMENTS	DEAD- LINE
Moose Youth Awareness Program	 All-expense paid, round trip to the international Youth Awareness Congress in Kenosha, WI & one of five scholarships awarded: \$2,000, \$3,000, \$5,000, \$8,000 or \$12,000 You must first attend & receive a certificate as a Kids Talk Presenter, at the Association Youth Awareness Congress at: Buena Park Moose Lodge #195. Free Breakfast, lunch, parents welcome Go to: http://www.mooseintl.org/members/wp-content/uploads/2014/08/Youth-Awareness-Brochure.pdf Application: http://www.mooseintl.org/portal/pdf/YouthAware/StudentApplication.pdf 	November 10, 2016
Seattle University Sullivan Leadership Award	 4-year scholarship: full tuition, room and meals Essay required & 2 letters of recommendation 3.5 GPA or higher and Must attend Seattle University in the fall Leadership in school and community activities, public service Academic Rigor, Spirituality and Global Awareness Apply: www.seattleu.edu/sullivan 	November 15, 2016
AEDSuperstore Scholarship	 \$1,000 bi-annual college scholarship Submit a 3 minute max video or 500 word max essay responding to a prompt about defibrillators and sudden cardiac arrest Apply online: http://www.aedsuperstore.com/scholarship.html 	November 30, 2016
Elks National Foundation Most Valuable Student Scholarship	 500 four-year scholarships Must be citizens of the US Based on Scholarship, Leadership, Financial Need Must have taken either the SAT or ACT by November 5, 2016 Apply: www.elks.org/enf/scholars/mvs.cfm More info visit: www.elks.org/enf/scholars 	November 30, 2016
Education Matters Scholarship	 \$5,000 Submit an online short written response (250 words or less) for the question: "What would you say to someone who thinks education doesn't matter, or that college is a waste of time and money?" http://www.scholarshipexperts.com/apply.htx (many others too) 	November 30, 2016

GRANTOR	REQUIREMENTS	DEAD- LINE
Boston University Trustee Scholarship Competition	 Trustee Scholars rank top of their classes & demonstrate exceptional leadership in school & community. Recipients selected by faculty committee from competitive pool of applicants. Full tuition, orientation & mandatory student fees for four years Apply: bu.edu/admissions/trustee 	December 1, 2016
NFIB Yef Young Entre- preneur Foun- dation	 Between \$2,000 - \$15,000 scholarships so far, over 2.5 million! Are you a young entrepreneur? Have a business, babysitting, lawn care, dog walking, tutoring, etc. Must enter a 2 or 4-year university, or vocational school in Fall 2016. Graduating high school seniors who operate your own small business are eligible to receive a 2016 NFIB Young Entrepreneur Award from the NFIB Young Entrepreneur Foundation Submit typed 1,000 word essay describing your entrepreneurial experience & involvement w/small business. Financial need not a factor Apply: www.nfib.com/YEA 	December 18, 2016
Odenza Marketing Group Volunteer Schol- arships	 \$500 Minimum GPA 2.5 or higher Must have contributed at least 50 hours of volunteer (non-paid) service within his/her community over the last 12 months. Apply: http://www.studentscholarships.org/college.php 	December 30th, 2016
University of La Verne Performance Scholarships	 \$25,000 a year with a full tuition paid fourth year in Art, Music, Theatre, Photography, Speech and Video Production. Many students qualify for financial aide that covers a large portion of the remaining tuition costs. Visit: sites.laverne.edu/performance-scholarships/ You can also contact Don Pollock at 909-448-4751 for more information 	December 31, 2016
2016 Profile and Courage Essay Contest	 \$20,000 first place prize, cash award to top 25 essays! Essay no more than 1,000 words but must be a minimum of 700. Must describe an act of political courage by a U.S. elected official who served during or after 1917, the year John F. Kennedy was born. Go to: www.jfklibrary.org/essaycontest 	January 4, 2017
California Association of Educational Office Professionals	 \$1,000 This scholarship is to assist business education students who wish to continue higher education and pursue a career in business administration or education Must apply to college in fall 2017 with the intentions of majoring in a business related field To apply: www.caeop.org and click programs 	December 12, 2016
Orange County Mensa Scholarship Information	 \$300 to \$2,000 Must enroll in a degree program & be an Orange County resident Essay 550 word max Winner is all about the essay, nothing more Apply: http://www.mensafoundation.org/scholarships 	January 15, 2017

GRANTOR	REQUIREMENTS	DEAD- LINE
Ronald McDonald House Charities	 Must be A-G eligible Minimum 2.7 GPA The RMHC scholarship program seeks to invest in students who are exemplary role models in their communities and have the initiative to fulfill their educational goals Apply at: http://aim.applyists.net/RMHC 	January 18, 2017
California Association of Collectors, Inc	 \$1,500-\$2,500 Attend college, university or vocational school full time in the Fall Fill out a 1 page application Write 700-1000 word essay on "The Importance of Establishing and Maintaining Good Financial Credit During Your College years Apply at: www.cacesf.org 	January 20, 2016
I Have a Dream Scholarship	 \$1,500 Must enroll in University or Community College Fall 2017 Respond: 250 words max "what do you dream about?" Apply: http://scholarshipexperts.clickmeter.com/em5k/ 	January 31, 2017
GE-Reagan Foundation Scholarship Program	 \$10,000/year for 4 years toward Bachelor degree at university Exceptional student leaders are invited to apply in honor of the legacy and character of President Ronald Reagan. Academic achievement minimum GPA 3.0 & financial need Community service and demonstrated leadership potential Apply: http://www.reaganfoundation.org/GE-RFScholarships.aspx 	February 19, 2017
Sweet and Simple Scholarship	 \$1,500 Submit an online short written response (250 words or less) for the question: "Not every gift has to be expensive or extravagant. In fact, sometimes it's the sweet and simple things that make a real difference in our lives. Think back and tell us about something you received as a gift and why it meant so much to you." Apply: http://www.scholarshipexperts.com/apply.htx 	February 28, 2017
Power Scholarship	 \$2,500 Submit an online (250 words or less) on: Which superhero or villain would you want to change places with for a day and why? Enroll in the Fall to college or university Apply: http://www.scholarshipexperts.com/apply.htx 	March 31, 2016