



# SENIOR NEWSLETTER

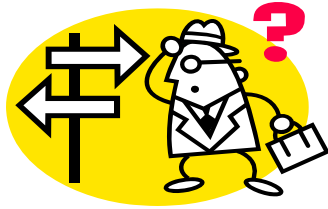
October 2009

LA QUINTA HIGH SCHOOL  
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## A MESSAGE FROM THE GUIDANCE OFFICE

Class of 2010 ... We hope that your senior year has started off to a great start. As some of you may have noticed your senior year is going to fly by, which is why it is so important to pay attention to the minor details and make sure you don't miss out on anything! In addition to staying on top of your class work, it's important that you be sure to meet all the necessary deadlines for SAT and/or ACT testing, college applications, scholarships, and financial aid. Most of you have already met with your counselor to go over your graduation requirements and discuss your plans after high school. We are here to help ensure that you take the necessary steps in reaching your goals so feel free to come into the guidance office with any questions or concerns.



### Decisions Decisions Decisions

Some of you may know exactly which schools you will be applying to within the next two months, but the reality is that there are a lot of you who have no idea and that is completely normal and okay. Deciding which college you plan on attending is a huge decision and there are multiple factors that need to be considered in order to pick the "right fit". The first step in finding the right college is to figure out what you want. Start by making a list of the characteristics that you want in a college. Think about these various factors:

- size (large or small)
- location (close to home, urban or rural, commute time)
- living arrangements (live at home, on campus, dorm life or apartment)
- major and/or field of study (does the school offer a good program in your field of study)
- classroom environment (small intimate classroom setting or big lecture halls)
- affordability/financial aid (tuition, housing, how much assistance will you need?)
- campus life (extracurricular activities, athletics, interest groups, etc)

It is important to have these things in mind as you begin to research your options. Once you have a general idea of some of the things that you want in a college you can begin to surf the internet. Some useful websites are: [californiacolleges.edu](http://californiacolleges.edu), [fastweb.com](http://fastweb.com), [csumentor.edu](http://csumentor.edu), [collegeview.com](http://collegeview.com) and [collegeboard.com](http://collegeboard.com). Attending college fairs is also a great way to gather information from individual school representatives. They can provide you with more information about the various programs, majors, campus life, housing, etc. You will find that once you have more information about various colleges you will be able to make a much better decision and begin to narrow down your options. If at all possible we strongly encourage that you take a trip out to visit the campus. You may wish to contact the campus and set up a tour if at all possible. Remember to ask as many questions as possible. If you have particular questions about searching for colleges online feel free to stop by the career center and/or see your guidance counselor.

LA QUINTA HIGH SCHOOL

## Starting your College Applications

Filling out your college application may seem completely overwhelming, which is why it is so important for you to start early. Make this process less stressful and time consuming by having your transcript, test scores, and your parent's income in order. This will help tremendously!

**Applying to California State Universities** - applications are available online at [www.csumentor.edu](http://www.csumentor.edu) beginning October 1st. The deadline to apply is November 30th.

**Applying to Universities of California** - applications are available online at [www.universityofcalifornia.edu/apply](http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/apply). Beginning October 1st you can access the application, but you cannot submit it until November 1st. The deadline to apply is November 30th.

**Applying to private and out-of-state colleges and universities** - these schools vary in their application procedures and deadlines. Please visit the college website for further information. Most private schools require letters of recommendation.

**Applying to community colleges** - community colleges begin accepting applications in March. Check out [www.californiaColleges.edu](http://www.californiaColleges.edu)

## IT'S NOT TOO LATE!!!

**You still have a chance to sign up for the SAT and/or the ACT. See your counselor for a fee waiver.**

**SAT** November 7th Late registration only 10/15

**SAT** December 5th Register by 10/30 to avoid late fee **ACT** December 12th Register by 11/6

### Requesting Letters of Recommendation

Many of you may need to request a letter of recommendation from a teacher, counselor, group advisor and/or coach. In order to get a well-written letter you must give them at least three weeks notice. It is also a good idea to provide them with a "resume/informational handout" that lists your extracurricular activities, volunteer work within the community, and/or challenges or obstacles that you have had to overcome that have influenced your education. It wouldn't hurt to take a few minutes to meet and discuss some of the things that you include in your "resume/informational handout".

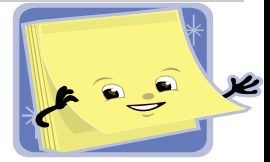


### Personal Statement

Writing your personal statement is another key component to your UC application. The personal statement allows you to really introduce yourself to the college admission readers. It is an opportunity for you to become an individual by sharing your experiences and/or challenges, your personality, and lifelong goals. Your personal statement consists of responses to two prompts. Be sure to read each prompt carefully and respond to all parts. Use concrete examples to help support your responses. It is important that you take the time needed to write and edit each individual response. Your English teachers will be a great resource when it comes to questions regarding the editing of your personal statements.



# La Quinta High School Fall 2009



## *Mark your calendars ...important upcoming events!!!!* **DISTRICT COLLEGE FAIR**

When: Monday October 12, 2009

Where: Bolsa Grande H.S.

Time: 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

- Take part in this unique opportunity to meet with college representatives, college alumni, and other representatives from a variety of postsecondary options. Stop by and get information from your favorite colleges!
- Representatives from both California and out-of-state colleges and universities will set up booths to share information about their programs. Over 44 colleges and universities will be there, including 5 CSUs, 7 UCs Yale University, University of Notre Dame, and USC!

### **UC Application Workshop**

**When: Wednesday October 28 @ 6:00 p.m.**

**Where: LQ Cafeteria**

UC Riverside will hold a UC application workshop at La Quinta. This is a great opportunity to get help filling out your UC application and completing your personal statement. Don't miss this chance to ask questions from the experts. We strongly encourage all senior students who are considering a UC to attend.

Students will need to bring a copy of their transcript as well as an estimate of parents income in order to best complete the application.

## **CHECK OUT THE UPCOMING CAMPUS PREVIEW DAYS OR COLLEGE INFORMATION**

### **COLLEGE PREVIEW INFORMATION DAYS**

- Oct 13 **Point Loma Nazarene University - 7:00-9:00 Irvine Hilton**  
18800 MacArthur Blvd. Irvine, CA 92612
- Oct 10, Nov 6, & Nov 14 **University of San Francisco Open House - 2130 Fulton St., San Francisco, 94117**
- Oct 15 **Tulane University - 7:00 pm Fairmont Newport Beach, 4500 MacArthur Blvd., Newport Beach, CA 92660**
- Oct 17 **University of California, Merced - Preview Day 10:00 am 3:00 pm 5200 N Lake Road, Merced, CA 95343**
- Oct 18 **Brown University - 2:00 pm Webb School of California, Ahmanson Lecture Hall, 1175 W. Baseline Rd, Claremont, CA**
- Oct 25 **Washington University in St. Louis - noon - 1:00, The Director's Guild of America Theater 1, 7920 Von Karman Ave., Irvine, CA**
- Oct 22 **Carnegie Mellon University - 4240 La Jolla Village Drive, La Jolla, CA 92037**
- Oct 24 **California State University East Bay - 8:00 am 12:30 pm University Union 25800 Carlos Bee Blvd., Hayward, CA**
- Oct 25 **Loyola Marymount University -Open House! 11:00-4:30 ILMU Drive, LA, 90045**
- Oct 31 **Chapman University - 8:30 - free lunch, One University Dr, Orange 92866**
- Oct - April **UC Riverside Host Program** once a month, overnight housing, meals, & parking, to reserve a spot call (951) 827-5471 or email [HOSTPROGRAM@UCR.EDU](mailto:HOSTPROGRAM@UCR.EDU)
- Oct 15 **Georgetown University - 7:00 pm Sage Hill School, Argyros Family Lecture Hall, 20402 Newport Coast Drive, Newport Coast, CA 92657**

# How to Apply for Scholarships

Each month a section of the newsletter will be devoted to giving a brief description of scholarships that are being offered by colleges, private organizations, and corporations. You may pick up scholarship applications from Ms. Grelle.

In completing the applications, be sure to follow all the directions and meet the necessary deadlines. Take time to work on the application because it will be time well spent. If you need help in completing your application see Ms. Grelle.



*Scholarships are the ideal form of student aid, as they are basically gifts that never have to be paid back! Ü*

GRANTOR	REQUIREMENTS	DEADLINE
<b>United States Senate US Service Academy Nominations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Accepting applications Fall 2010 for the United States Military Academy at West Point, the United States Naval Academy at Annapolis, the United States Air Force Academy at Colorado Springs, and the United States Merchant Marine Academy at Kings Point.</li> <li>Application &amp; materials found at <a href="http://boxer.senate.gov/services/academy-recs">http://boxer.senate.gov/services/academy-recs</a> or email <a href="mailto:academy@boxer.senate.gov">academy@boxer.senate.gov</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>November 1, 2009</b></li> </ul>
<b>Garden Grove Elk's Lodge Most Valuable Student scholarship</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Up to \$60,000</li> <li>Academic Scholar</li> <li>Leadership</li> <li>Applications available and complete contest details on website: <a href="http://www.elks.org/enf/scholars">www.elks.org/enf/scholars</a>.</li> <li>Turn in applications to Ms. Grelle by November 1</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>November 1, 2009</b></li> </ul>
<b>Seattle University</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Full tuition, room, and meals for 4 years</li> <li>School leadership, public service, community</li> <li>Commitment to justice, good of others thru service.</li> <li>Effective oral and written communication skills.</li> <li>Demanding course selection</li> <li>3.5 or higher GPA</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>November 15, 2009</b></li> </ul>
<b>Dr. Seuss Oh, the Places You'll Go!</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>High School Senior</li> <li>understands &amp; values limitless possibilities education can offer</li> <li>500 word, Personal essay/memoir</li> <li>\$5,000 Scholarship to your choice of post-secondary educational institution</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>February 15, 2010</b></li> </ul>
<b>National Commission for Co-operative Education</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If you plan to attend: Drexel Univ., Johnson &amp; Wales Univ., Kettering Univ., Pace Univ., Rochester Institute of Technology, Univ. of Cincinnati, Univ. of Toledo, Wentworth Institute of Technology</li> <li>\$6,000</li> <li>Apply online <a href="http://www.co-op.edu">www.co-op.edu</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>February 15, 2010</b></li> </ul>

GRANTOR	REQUIREMENTS	DEADLINE
<b>California scholarship Foundation Miss Teenage California 2010</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Female, high Academic Achievement</li> <li>• Activity involvement</li> <li>• Personality, Poise &amp; Presence</li> <li>• \$10,000 College Scholarship</li> <li>• www.Missteentageca.com, or email: Danfrancprod@aol.com</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>October 30, 2009</b></li> </ul>
<b>CSULB President's Scholars Program</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Valedictorians</li> <li>• National Semifinalists and Finalists</li> <li>• Must apply to Cal State Long Beach via CSUMentor.edu by November 30.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>January 4, 2010</b></li> </ul>
<b>Boston University</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Four-year, full-tuition to BU</li> <li>• Top 10% in Senior class</li> <li>• Active Leaders in school, community</li> <li>• Essay</li> <li>• Apply www.bu.edu/admissions/trustee</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>December 1, 2009</b></li> </ul>
<b>Willamette University Music Scholarship Auditions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scholarships to music majors</li> <li>• Must Audition</li> <li>• Go to Willamette.edu/cla/music</li> <li>• To schedule an audition: 503-370-6687</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>November 7, 2009</b></li> <li>• <b>January 23, 2010</b></li> <li>• <b>February 15, 2010</b></li> </ul>
<b>Washington University in St. Louis Danforth Scholarship</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Up to full-tuition to Washington Univ.</li> <li>• Service, leadership</li> <li>• High academics, rigorous curriculum</li> <li>• Strong moral character, selflessness, maturity, commitment to community</li> <li>• Application, essay, SAT I or ACT</li> <li>• See Ms. Grelle for application</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>October 15, 2009</b></li> </ul>
<b>Sister City of Garden Grove Student Exchange 2010</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Juniors and Seniors</li> <li>• Top students and AVID students</li> <li>• Must live in GGUSD boundaries</li> <li>• April 8 -17, during spring break, live and eat with families in Anyang Korea</li> <li>• Personal essay</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>November 5, 2009</b></li> </ul>
<b>Solorio Scholar</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Win \$250 for application fees</li> <li>• Attend workshops for personalized help with college applications, personal statement, and Financial Aid</li> <li>• Get application from Ms. Grelle</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>November 6, 2009</b></li> </ul>

**Find more scholarships on your own:** [www.scholarships.com](http://www.scholarships.com), [www.college-scholarships.com](http://www.college-scholarships.com), [www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com), [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov), [www.collegesportscholarships.com](http://www.collegesportscholarships.com), [www.student.gov](http://www.student.gov)

**Types of scholarships available:** College, Athletic, Academic, Departmental, Private Organizations, Corporations, Religious Organizations, Unions, High School or School District, Chamber of Commerce, Military

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