



SENIOR NEWSLETTER



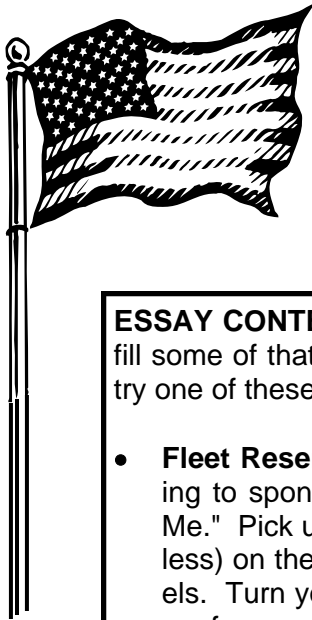
Bellevue Public Schools

Bellevue East High School

November 10, 2009

www.BellevuePublicSchools.org/East

Issue #13



COLLEGE REPS VISITING BEHS

Wednesday	Nov 11 th	Period 2	Wyo Tech, Cheyenne WY
Wednesday	Nov 11 th	Period 3	Kansas State University, Manhattan KS

SCHOLARSHIP UPDATE!

ESSAY CONTESTS CAN LEAD TO SCHOLARSHIPS OR PRIZES: Looking for something to fill some of that holiday vacation time you have coming soon? Why not ask me for details and try one of these:

- **Fleet Reserve Association Americanism Essay Contest:** Mr. Juarez has a contact willing to sponsor our students in this contest with the theme "What Memorial Day Means to Me." Pick up the rules and a cover sheet in counseling and attach your essay (350 words or less) on the assigned theme. Winners earn US savings bonds at local through national levels. Turn your work in by our **deadline of November 24th** so we can forward it to the sponsor for you.
- **National Society of the Colonial Dames of America Congressional Seminar Scholarship:** If you are interested in American Government, try the theme "Discuss a Major Supreme Court Decision you believe to be Pivotal in our Nation's History." The winners get an all-expense-paid trip to Washington DC next summer to attend a weeklong Washington Workshops Congressional Seminar. The last BEHS winner was James Newhouse in 1986, so let's get back in the game! Ask me for an application. **Deadline: January 15th**
- **Oh, the Places You'll Go! College Scholarship:** This fun one is based on a Dr. Seuss book and asks you to write a 500-word essay about what opportunities and challenges you see ahead in your education and how that relates to the theme of this book. You can go to www.OhThePlaces.org for the details and to apply online or you can stop by and pick up an application. You'll want to start working on this soon to get a good product to submit and take your chance at the \$5,000 prize. **Deadline: February 15th**
- **Ayn Rand Foundation Essay Contest:** Seniors and juniors can write an 800- to 1600-word essay about the novel "The Fountainhead." It will require you to read and analyze the book, so you might want to start reading now. By the way, Mr. Simmons is familiar with this author's work and would probably be glad to help you understand her objectivist philosophy. Prizes range from \$50 to \$10,000. See www.aynrand.org/contests or stop by and pick up the details. **Deadline: April 25th**
- **Holland & Knight Charitable Foundation Holocaust Remembrance Project:** Submit an essay that analyzes "why it is so vital that the remembrance, history, and lessons of the Holocaust be passed to a new generation," and suggests what you, as a student, "can do to combat and prevent prejudice, discrimination and violence in our world today." Finalists get an all-expense-paid trip to Los Angeles, CA and a scholarship of between \$2,500 and \$5,000. Prizes of \$250 and \$500 are also awarded. See <http://holocaust.hklaw.com> for details and to apply. **Deadline: April 2nd**

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Say
thanks
to a
Veteran
on
Nov 11th

SCHOLARSHIPS DUE SOON

(See previous senior newsletters for details):

November 15th:

Jeffrey S. Raikes Honors (UNL) and UNL Honors Program (Early Notification)

November 24th:

NASSP and Herff Jones Principal's Leadership Awards

November 30th:

ACLU Student Activist Scholarship and DIA Undergraduate Training Assistance Program

December 1st:

Nebraska Softball Foundation Scholarship, Nebraska State College System Governor's Opportunity Scholarship, Omaha World-Herald Kearney Hub Scholarship (+UNK Honors Program), USAF ROTC Scholarships, Wayne State College Merit Scholarships, and Wayne State Rural Health Opportunities Program

OTHER REMINDERS

Dec 5th SAT Registration: Nov 12th is the late deadline (add \$23), www.collegeboard.com

Morningside College Fall Visit Days: Nov 13th or 20th, www.morningside.edu

Nebraska Methodist College Senior Visit Day: Nov 13th, 1 - 3 pm, call admissions at 354-7200

South Dakota State University TGIF Visit Day: Nov 13th or 20th, 9 am to 2 pm, www.sdstate.edu

Creighton University Jay Days: Nov 13th, 9 am - 2:30 pm, <http://admissions.creighton.edu>

Clarkson College Preview Day: Nov 14th, 9 am - noon, www.ClarksonCollege.edu/Admissions

University of Missouri - Columbia Meet Mizzou Day: Nov 14th, call 573-882-2456

Nebraska Wesleyan Prairie Wolf Day: Nov 14th, 9 am - 1 pm, call 800-541-3818, ext. 2218 or see www.FindOutNWU.com

Dana College Scholarship Days: Nov 14th (Music, Theatre), 15th or 22nd, www.dana.edu/scholarshipday

K-State Senior Days: Nov 16th, 9 am - 4 pm, see www.consider.k-state.edu

UNO Maverick Monday: Nov 16th, 8:15 - noon plus optional activities, www.BEaMAV.com

Dec 12th ACT Registration: Nov 20th is the late deadline (add \$21), www.actstudent.org

Explore Augustana Day: Nov 20th, call 800-727-2844, <http://augie.edu/admission>

Fridays@WSC: Nov 20th, see Campus Visits at www.wsc.edu/admission

THINGS TO CONSIDER

Harvard's Financial Aid Policy: Most of the time, financial aid packages include student and parent loans to meet your needs. However, Harvard, like many other elite schools, is changing this for talented students who come from low to moderate income families. If your parents have income lower than \$60,000, the parent will not be expected to contribute to your educational costs. If their income falls between \$60,000 and \$180,000, they will only be required to contribute from 0% up to 10% of that income. In other words, if you can qualify for admission, your share of the cost will be very limited and will not include student loans. They are redefining the "Need-Blind" admissions promise to make a quality education truly available to the exceptionally talented students they admit who demonstrate need. This might be cheaper than funding an education at an in-state school. Check it out! www.harvard.edu

Applying For Financial Aid: Many of you have asked how to apply for grants. That falls under the category of "Financial Aid" and they are distributed to applicants for admission based on established "Financial Need."

- Most schools and organizations determine your "Need" from the government once you complete the **FAFSA** (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) form. This form will be available soon, but can't be submitted until January 1st. It is best to complete and file this form online at www.FAFSA.ed.gov and we have worksheets to help you prepare to file that way. If you must use the paper form, you will have to call 800-4-FED-AID to have one mailed to you.
- You can get an early estimate on the "Expected Family Contribution" number that will come from the FAFSA. One easy way is to use the EducationQuest Foundation's **College Funding Estimator**. You can go to www.EducationQuest.org to find this tool. There is also a new function at www.FAFSA.ed.gov called the **FAFSA4caster**. It is also an estimator and it sets you up to pre-populate your actual FAFSA form when you get ready to do that.
- In addition, some schools (mostly private, expensive ones) require you and your parents to file the **CSS/Financial Aid Profile**. See www.collegeboard.com, click on For Students and look under Pay for College for instructions. NO COLLEGES IN NEBRASKA require the Profile. There is a cost associated with filing this form.
- **Some organizations have a completely separate process** for determining your financial need within their application process. **An example** is the **Air Force Aid Society's General Henry H. Arnold Education Grant Program**. This \$2,000 grant opportunity is for sons and daughters of active duty or retired Air Force or Air National Guard members with financial need. They have their own Family Financial Data Form. I'll put the applications for this one in the scholarship rack, since I brought it up. You have until March 12th to meet their deadline, but you can apply now. Visit www.afas.org/Education/ArnoldEdGrant.cfm for details and click on the menu items at the top of each page for the rest of the story.