

Seton Guidance Corner

October 5, 2023

HOBY 2024 Leadership Program for Sophomores

Sophomores are invited to apply as Seton's ambassador at the 2024 Hugh O'Brian Youth (HOBY) Leadership Program that will be held May 31-June 2, 2024, at James Madison University in Harrisonburg. The HOBY program was founded in 1958 and is designed to help high school sophomores recognize their leadership talents and apply them to become effective, ethical leaders in their home, school, workplace and community. Although there is a cost to attend (\$275), this is a great opportunity to develop or enhance leadership skills as well as strengthen your student resume which can be valuable when applying to colleges, military, and trade schools. To apply and be considered to attend as Seton's ambassador, please email Mrs. Guyant at cguyant@setonschool.net by November 1. For more information about the program, visit <https://www.vahoby.org/about/>.

2023 FCPS College Fair

Date: Sunday, October 15, 2023

Time: 4 to 7 p.m.

Location: Eagle Bank Arena at George Mason University (4500 Patriot Cir, Fairfax, VA 22030)

Fairfax County Public Schools along with the Office of Admissions at George Mason University present the 48th Annual College Fair. It is one of the largest College Fairs in the region and features 200 colleges and universities from around the nation as well as representatives from the U.S. Service Academies. To register, visit <https://www.fcps.edu/family-resources/college-and-career-planning/college-fair-and-college-night>.

Questions to Ask a College Representative:

How many students attend?

What is the average class size?

What majors are offered?

Which majors are most popular?

Do you offer credit for AP Exams?

What scholarships are offered?

Is the college/university test optional?

What careers are popular with graduates?

Are opportunities available for research, independent study, and/or internships?

Is there a study abroad program?

What are the admission requirements?

Is there a Catholic Campus Ministry?

What sports and clubs are offered?

Why should you consider going to the college/university?

For additional tips on maximizing a college fair visit, click [here](#).

Liberal arts colleges won't prepare you for a career after graduation. Is this true?

While it's true that the majority of liberal arts colleges don't offer the same level of academic specialization as larger universities, they still provide students with the value of a comprehensive and well-rounded education, which for many employers is seen as equally, if not more, valuable. This level of academic freedom also allows students more flexibility in switching majors and career interests.

<https://acceptu.com/blog/college-planning-5-common-misconceptions/> For a more in-depth article on this topic, visit <https://www.ivywise.com/ivywise-knowledgebase/resources/article/the-value-of-a-liberal-arts-education-in-todays-world/>.

Date Change for the FAFSA

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is used by colleges and universities to determine student eligibility for federal, state, and college-sponsored financial aid, including grants, scholarships, educational loans, and work-study programs. In the past, the FAFSA became available on October 1st.

Due to changes and improvements to the application, the 2024-2025 award year FAFSA will open this December. The federal government and many states award financial aid on a first-come, first-served basis, so it is recommended to submit the form as soon as possible after the application becomes available.

Upcoming College Visits at Seton

Thursday, October 12 – Benedictine College

Monday, October 30 – The Catholic University of America

CLT, SAT, and ACT Registration Deadlines Coming Up

CLT Test Date – October 14 (Remotely Proctored)

Registration Deadline – October 9

Click [here](#) to register.

[Signup](#) for CLT's free practice test.

SAT Test Date – November 4

Registration Deadline – October 5

Click [here](#) to register.

[Signup](#) for free SAT practice test.

ACT Test Date – December 9

Registration Deadline – November 3

Click [here](#) to register.

[Signup](#) for free ACT test prep.

Scholarship Opportunities

Smart Owl Scholarship

Amount: \$1,000

Deadline: October 29, 2023

<https://studentscholarships.org/scholarship/19879/smart-owl-scholarship>

"A Daring Path" Scholarship

Amount: \$1,000

Deadline: October 31, 2023

<https://calvinrosser.com/scholarships/a-daring-path-scholarship/>

National Driving and Traffic School Essay Contest

Amount: \$500

Deadline: November 30, 2023

www.dmvedu.org/scholarship/

Lands' End School Starboard Scholarship (Seton School Preferred Number: 900057647)

Amount: \$5,000

Deadline: January 19, 2024

<https://learnmore.scholarsapply.org/leschool/>

**Please note, opportunities in the Guidance Corner are not endorsements of the programs. They are shared as options for students and parents to carefully consider.*