



College Counseling Crier

February 2021

Volume 4, Issue 6

Upcoming Standardized Test Dates

ACT Test Dates*

April 17, 2021
Registration deadline:
March 12, 2021

June 12, 2021
Registration deadline:
May 7, 2021

July 17, 2021
Registration deadline:
June 18, 2021

SAT Test Dates*

March 13, 2021
Registration deadline:
February 12, 2021

May 8, 2021
Registration deadline:
April 8, 2021

June 5, 2021
Registration deadline:
May 6, 2021

**If you will be taking these tests
with accommodations, please
contact Mrs. From*

Join the Testing Conversation: COVID-19's Impact

As the 2020-2021 cycle comes to a close and the 2021-2022 cycle begins, more and more colleges are extending their test-optional policies. Questions about when to test, which test is best, and when to submit scores are rising to the surface as high school juniors embark on their college search process. While so much of the application process is individualized, Applerouth Tutoring Services Founder and President Jed Applerouth, recently outlined his professional opinion about testing and best practices moving forward in a piece titled, "[What Juniors Need to Know About the SAT and ACT.](#)"

Ultimately, with the shift in the application landscape and the overall growth in applicant pools due to test-flexible admissions, more than ever, students will have a choice in how they present themselves to college admission committees.

Our colleagues at Applerouth Tutoring are hosting an [online discussion](#) this **Sunday, February 7 at 5:00 p.m.** with an expert panel of deans and directors from Georgia Tech, The George Washington University, the University of Wisconsin, and Washington & Lee University. Registration is free, and all are encouraged to join! In addition to testing, the panelists are scheduled to discuss courses and grades, extracurricular activities, college visits, and essays.



Sophomore Spring Expo

We invite the sophomore class and their families to join us on **Monday, March 15**, from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. for our Sophomore Spring Expo! Likely a virtual event, the College Counselors, Assistant Head of Upper School for Academics, Signature Program Directors, Learning Support team, and Applerouth test prep company representatives will host various sessions and will be available for questions

Save the Dates

Sophomore Spring Expo

Monday, March 15
6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Mock Admission Program for Junior Families

Thursday, April 22
7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

throughout the evening. We hope you will be able to join us. This event serves to get our sophomores thinking about their next steps at Bullis and beyond. As we get closer to the date, we will share more information about the schedule, break-out sessions, and of course, the link to join.

Mock Admission – Your Chance to be an Admission Committee Member



We are excited to present our Mock Admission program for juniors and their families on **Thursday, April 22!** Students and families will break up into groups forming admission committees tasked with reviewing applications for two unique colleges. Each committee will be monitored by one of our admissions colleagues who are fully engrossed in the reading and review process each year. This program is beneficial and eye-opening as the Class of 2022 prepares to enter the college application cycle. We find the evening provides a great perspective and insight as to how a student and their respective application is reviewed in the context of institutional priorities. In the past, we've received rave reviews of this program.

In the coming months, we will share the link with junior families. Please save the date; this isn't a program you want to miss!

Visual and Performing Arts in the Spotlight

You are invited to attend the Sandy Spring Friends School (SSFS) Annual College night for the Visual & Performing Arts on **Wednesday, February 24 at 7:00 p.m.** This virtual event offers attendees a fantastic opportunity to acquire insight into the vast possibilities the Arts offer at the collegiate level and beyond. After an Arts College Workshop from 7:00 – 7:30 p.m., there will be a virtual college mini-fair featuring the schools below with a wide variety of paths that students can take to study the arts.



Bard College and Conservatory of Music

Cornish College of the Arts

Maryland Institute of Art

NYU Tisch School of the Arts

Rochester Institute of Technology College of Art and Design

Rutgers University Mason Gross School for the Arts

Shenandoah University Conservatory

University of North Carolina School of the Arts

Registration is **required** to gain access to the virtual event platform.

Summer Programs Pour In

College and universities around the country offer summer programs for high school students. Due to the pandemic's unpredictable nature, many of these programs are now offered online! These programs are an excellent way for students to get a feel for college life by taking classes and interacting with students from throughout the United States and other countries.

With less focus on standardized test scores, participation in a summer program can help students emphasize their purpose when crafting the increasingly important supplemental essay responses.

To find these opportunities, please see the [Summer Opportunities](#) section of the College Counseling webpage.

As in the past, we've provided focal groups for a more specific search. In addition to those listed, we will continue to add programs as we hear about them. If students need help throughout the summer program application process, we in College Counseling are happy to provide guidance and assistance.

February Festivities

To date, our seniors have successfully submitted **1,388** applications and Document Request Forms! Most of our students who have applied through Early Decision, Restrictive Early Action, Early Action, and Rolling admission have received their decisions; **276** acceptances have been offered. Just this past weekend, UNC-Chapel Hill, the University of Maryland, the University of Miami, the University of Michigan, the University of Richmond, and the University of Wisconsin released their decisions. For those students who have been deferred the Regular Decision round, now is an excellent time to reconnect with their counselors. We can help suggest appropriate follow-up with the colleges and continue strategizing for the important decision-day in May.



*As a reminder to our seniors, please let us know of **all** admission decisions and scholarship awards.*

We want to celebrate with you, and provide good advice and counsel.