





National College Fairs

Montgomery County Agricultural Center

Tuesday, April 19, 2016 9:45 a.m. - 12:45 p.m. 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Wednesday, April 20, 2016 9:45 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.

Prince George's Sports and Learning Complex

> **Friday, April 22, 2016** 9:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Register at www.gotomyncf.com

Maps, Lists and Directions on Pages 19-23

FREE **Open to the Public**

Register for NCF at www.gotomyncf.com





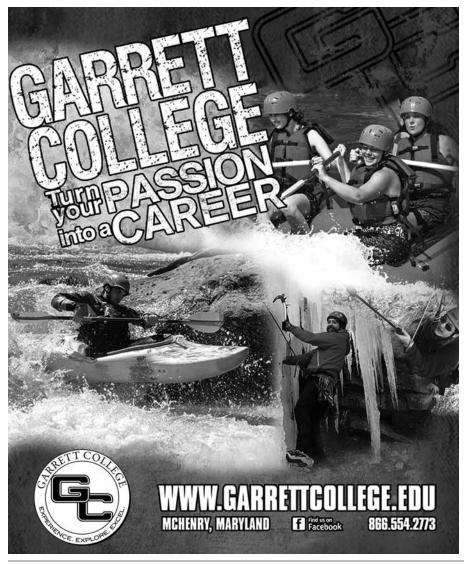


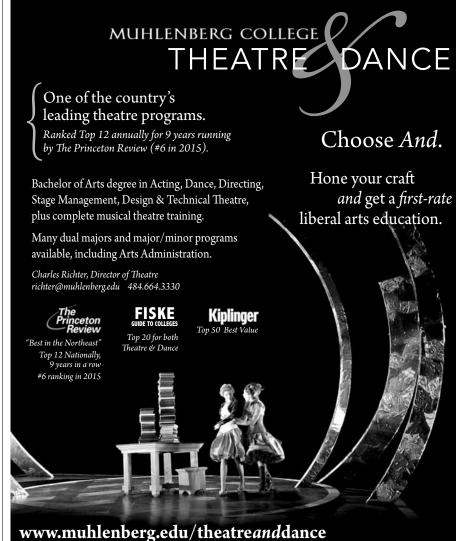


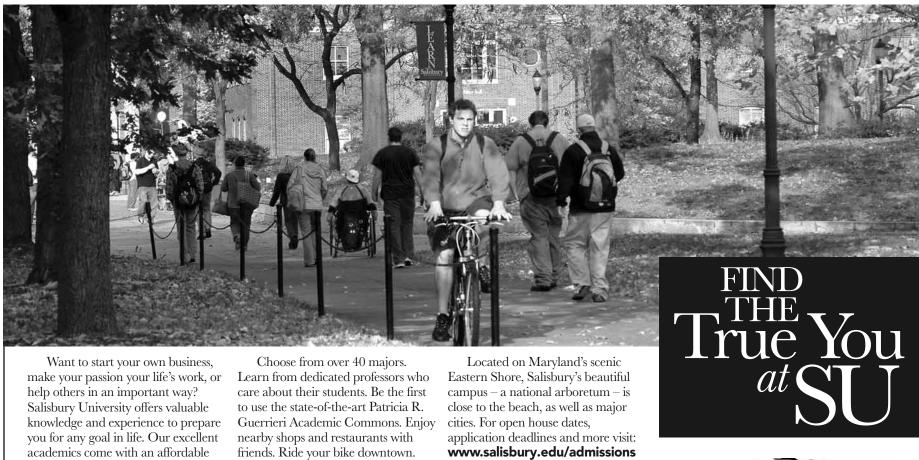
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Faring Well at a NACAC National College Fair

National College Fairs offer an exciting opportunity to talk to the people in the know.

Admission representatives from a variety of colleges are all gathered in one place, just waiting to answer your questions.

But it's easy to get caught up in the crowds and confusion. Soon you're crossing the room (or many rooms), stopping at any booth that catches your eye or seems popular. When that happens, you end up with lots of pretty brochures, but not a lot of clear impressions about which colleges you may be interested in. Making the most of a college fair means planning your strategy before you enter those double doors. You may even want to watch a short video on what to expect at the fair at www.nacacnet.org/ncfstudent.

"Treat a college fair like a buffet dinner," advises a director of undergraduate admission from Florida. "There will be more there than you can possibly take in, but then again, not everything is to your taste"

Experienced buffet diners know that it's best to scope out their choices before they start filling their plate. Savvy students can do the equivalent by looking over a list of college fair participants before

the fair. Choose the colleges you most want to find out more about. If you have time, research these colleges by reading information in your guidance office or by checking out guidebooks or Web sites.

"Know what you want to find out at the fair," says a director of admission at a college in Ohio. Write up a short list of questions to ask admission representatives. To compare several schools, plan on asking the same questions at each table.

The questions you ask should be unique to your interests and not easily found in standard college materials. "The college fair is a good time to talk personto-person with the representative of that school," says one guidance counselor. "Your job is to think of good questions."

So cross out the questions like, "How many people are in the freshman class?" Instead, ask what the two or three most popular majors are (that can give you a good idea of the main interests of the majority of the students). If you have a particular major in mind, don't ask "How good is major X?" No college representative will tell you that a program is bad. Instead, ask how many students take that major; what research faculty members are involved in (and the opportunities for undergraduates to participate in it);

or what courses you would take your first year in a particular major. Students who are undecided should ask about what services and support are available to help them explore various majors.

Other things you can ask about: extracurricular activities, what kinds of students the college is looking for, what percentage of students receive financial aid, and other concerns unique to your interests and situation.

Mapping out a strategy

You can register for all NACAC National College Fairs at www.gotomyncf. com. Save time and register prior to attending (watch a short video about student registration at www.nacacnet.org/ncfstudent). Colleges use scanners that collect your contact information electronically (name, address, phone number and email address) onsite, leaving you more time to speak with representatives at the fair.

Before you leave for the fair, make sure you have the following supplies: a copy of your registration admittance pass, a small notebook with your list of colleges and questions you want to ask; a pen or pencil; and a backpack or tote-bag to hold all of the college information you'll be collecting.

If you can't register online, students may wish to print up a few sheets of self-stick address labels. Include your name, address, phone number, email address, high school, year of graduation, intended major(s), and any extracurricular activities you're interested in. At the fair, slap the address labels on the college information cards to save you time in filling out the same information over and over at each college's table.

Although this may be a lot to consider, the real strategizing begins when you arrive at the fair. Look for a map of where each college is located and map out your route. Note where each college is located and plan the most efficient way to visit the colleges on your list. (For example, you want to make sure to visit all the colleges of interest to you in one room before moving to the next.) Also, make sure to check out the schedule of information sessions: many fairs have sessions on the search process, applications, financial aid, and other issues run by experts in the field. These sessions are a great place to ask general questions about the college admission process.

Continued on Page 4

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Continued from Page 3

Your notebook and pen are great tools for keeping all those conversations straight. After you leave a table, jot down your impressions of the college and the answers the admission representatives gave you. Try to do this before you visit the next table, while your impressions are still fresh

Teaming up

Depending on the time of day of the fair, both students and parents may be encouraged to attend. If a family member attends the fair with you, talk about your plan ahead of time. You may decide to split up--perhaps a parent can attend the financial aid seminar so you can visit more colleges. Another option is staying together for part or all of time. You may find that your parents or siblings ask different questions than you do. Also, it can be helpful to get a second opinion on your impressions of particular colleges.

Browsing

Planning ahead ensures that you get to visit the colleges that most interest you. But also make sure to leave time for browsing.

"Be adventurous! Don't just focus on 'name' schools," says an admission director. "You may find that a school you've never heard of offers the exact major, extracurricular program, etc., that you're seeking."

Following up

By the time the fair is over, you'll have a bag filled with information about colleges--and a possible case of information overload. Don't succumb to the temptation of just piling all those brochures in some obscure corner of your bedroom. If you're feeling overwhelmed, take a day or two away from the college search. Then get out all of those brochures, along with the notes you took while at the fair, and read through them. You may find that some colleges aren't as interesting as you first thought. Others only look better the more you research them. For those colleges, follow up by filling out the information cards in the brochures or by starting to schedule college visits.

Top 10 Financial Aid Questions

Planning for college and need to understand how to pay for college expenses? No matter what your financial resources, don't allow the cost of a college education to cut short your education plans. Financial aid to attend college is available and money may be available from a variety of sources. Once you submit information about your family's financial status, college and university financial aid administrators will take many factors into consideration to prepare a financial aid package for you.

Glossary of Terms What is Financial Aid?

It's the money that is supplied by some source outside of the family to help pay for the cost of the student's education beyond high school.

There are different types of aid that come in the form of need-based aid (based on the financial need of the family) and merit aid (based on the students' grades and test scores.)

Self-Help Aid

Self-help aid provides funds through the work and effort of the student. It includes:

- Loans: funds that are borrowed by the student or parent for a specific amount of time and must be paid back. Student loans in most cases are need-based aid.
- Work-Study: funds that provide students the opportunity to earn money through 3. campus or community employment. Federal Work-Study is need-based aid. 4

Colleges often offer student employment of their own, which is not need-based.

Gift Assistance

Scholarships and grants are a form of financial aid that is considered a gift. It is 6. money given to a student.

Grants are usually need-based aid and can come from the federal or state govern- 7. ment or from the college.

Scholarships are a form of financial aid based usually on merit, but sometimes they are based on need. Scholarships are given to students who have special skills or abilities. Scholarships come from a variety of sources.

Local awards/private sources can either be need-based or merit- based or in the form of an outright gift. Possible sources are: high schools, churches, local businesses and civic organizations. The best place to look for information about these private sources of funding is the reference section of your library or on the Internet.

Here are some questions to ask that will help you and your family understand how financial aid is awarded.

- 1. What application materials are needed to apply for financial aid, and does the college require its own form in addition to the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)?
- 2. What are the deadlines for submitting financial aid forms?
- 3. When will I be notified of my financial eligibility?
- Federal Work-Study is need-based aid. 4. Will my request for financial aid have http://www.nasfaa.org.

- any impact on my ability to be admitted to college?
- 5. Describe your financial aid program, including requirements for need-based aid, merit-based aid and scholarships.
- 6. Once my financial aid package is awarded, will additional scholarships reduce the amount of financial aid I can receive?
- 7. Will your institution meet my full financial need, and will it meet my full financial need for all four years of my attendance?
- 8. Are there state financial aid programs that I should know about?
- 9. Does this college participate in a tuition payment plan that allows installment payments for each semester's bill?
- 10. Where can I find additional sources of financial aid?

Talk with your high school counselor about information sources in the counseling office, resource center, school library or on the Internet. Many colleges and universities also may offer information about student aid on their Web sites. To view the FAFSA or apply online for federal student aid, visit http://www.ed.gov/offices/OSFAP/Students/apply/express.html or call 1-800-4-FED-AID.

We hope this information will be helpful as you begin your college search.

For more information, contact the web site of the National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (NASFAA), http://www.nasfaa.org.

Surviving Your College Search: The Adventure Begins

You seem to have more and more mail from colleges every day. Your classmates keep talking about test scores and acceptance rates. Distant relatives and total strangers seem to take delight in asking you what college you plan to attend. Let's face it—it's time to start your college search.

If those words strike terror in your heart, you're not alone. Many students feel over-whelmed at the beginning of their college search. After all, you'll be making perhaps the biggest decision of your life so far. No pressure there!

To make your college search a little less intimidating, here are some strategies for getting started—and a preview of what to expect.

Soul Survivor

Most students assume that the college search begins with a guidebook, an Internet site, or a college fair. But the best place to begin is with yourself.

"The very first thing I encourage [students] to do is to 'soul search'—sit down and make a list of all the things they know about themselves," says a director of admissions at a California College.

Start with the obvious: What do you like to do? What do you hate to do? What subjects (academic or not) make you sit up and take notice? What totally bores you? What are you good (or not-so good) at? For example, you might love to write poetry and play soccer, but history bores you and you're not that great at baseball. Or there's nothing you like to do better than to discuss politics, but you zone out when the conversation turns to music or computers.

Once you have a list of your basic interests and abilities, start thinking about more complicated issues. How do you learn best—by listening, discussing, reading, doing? Do you enjoy being part of a large group, or do smaller groups suit you better? Do you seek out diversity among your friends, or would you rather hang out with people that are very similar to you? Are you more comfortable in the city or in a rural or suburban environment? Do you want to stick close to home or move far away? Is there a particular geographical area you're most interested in? You can probably think of other questions to consider, or ask your guidance counselor for more help.

Jot down short answers to these and other

questions. Then "translate" your answers into things you'd like to see in a college. For example, that soccer-playing, poetry-writing, history-hating student above would probably want a college with a good English program and an opportunity to play varsity or intramural soccer. (Even if this student has a major other than English in mind, he or she might want to take a few poetry or writing classes as electives.) Similarly, if you love lively discussions, you should probably look for a college that encourages that kind of classroom discussion.

Winning the "I Don't Know"Challenge

OK, some people seem to know what they want before you even ask them. You probably have a friend or two who seemed destined from birth to major in engineering or political science. But the rest of us probably can't figure out whether we're more comfortable in a city or a small town. The city is so exciting, but a small town is so friendly. They both have their charms and drawbacks. If this sounds like you, forget all

continued on page 19

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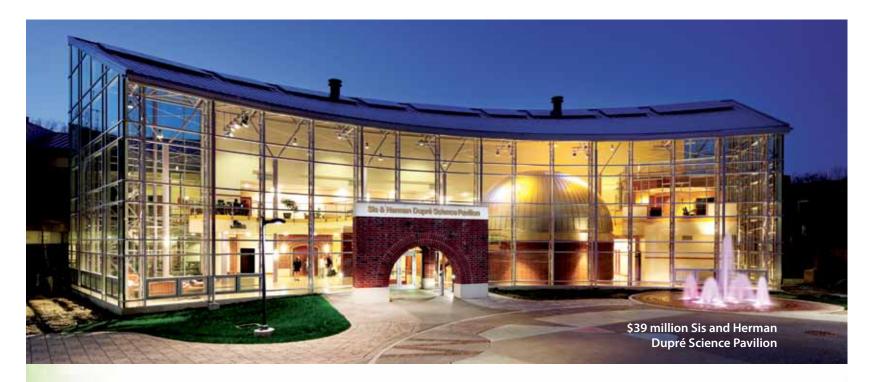
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Look for Tim O'Mara at booth 463 at Montgomery County College Fair and at booth 116 at the Prince George's County College Fair.





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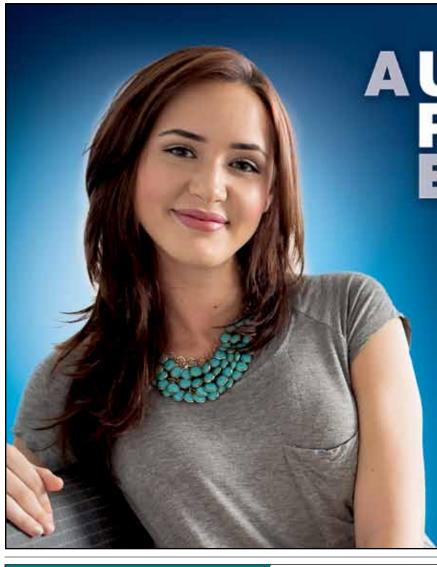
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The Balancing Act:

Choosing High School Courses for College Success

High school freshmen, sophomores, and juniors can start early to consider your courses for next year. As you ponder whether to take German or Spanish, chemistry or earth science, keep in mind that your choices today will matter tomorrow.

Building a Foundation

"Choices made as a freshman and sophomore could affect choices for the rest of the student's life," says Kristin Crouse from ACT media relations.

That's because what you study now forms the foundation of your education. Doing well in Algebra 1 will help you succeed in Algebra 2 and in even more advanced math courses. Taking an honors English course as a sophomore or junior will help you do better in senior English, write better application essays, and even influence your success in that college freshman English composition class.

In addition to preparing you for college work, taking solid high school courses makes you more competitive in the college admission process.

"Admission committees primarily focus on the strength of curriculum taken and performance within that curriculum," says a director of admission from South Dakota. "Grade point average and class rank and usually SAT or ACT results are considered third or fourth."

So what do I take?

The best preparation for college work—and college admission—is a challenging curriculum that's heavy on "core courses." Core courses are the basics: math, science, English, social studies, foreign language.

"Pick courses that keep the most options open,"says a director of college counseling from Venezuela.

"Push to take the highest level in math and English that you can handle, as these will serve you best."

For juniors, it can be tempting to slack off once you've taken the number of core courses required for high school graduation, but don't give into that temptation. Your competition in the selective college admission game is taking that extra year or two of foreign language or that senior-year advanced chemistry elective.

"Try and max out with four years in all the academic core areas, as this gives you the best breadth of options," says the counselor from Venezuela.

Although core courses are the most important, choosing your electives wisely can also make a difference. Electives

High school freshmen, sophomores, are your opportunity to follow your pasnd juniors can start early to consider sions and round out your education.

Keeping a Balance

The very best college applicants have made outstanding grades in the toughest core courses available at their high school. But it takes a very strong student, indeed, to make straight A's in an all-AP or honors line up and still have time for friends, family, activities, and sleep. So beware of overburdening yourself. You'll do yourself no favors if you sign up for a ridiculously difficult schedule.

Juniors should also take their college search into account. Many experts advise students that the college search and application process takes as much time and work as another class.

Your high school counselor and teachers can help you figure out what is challenging—but not too challenging. If you're not sure about whether you should take a particular course, ask the teacher how much work it will involve. If you're taking three AP classes in the fall, for example, it may be smart to wait until spring to take that advanced physics course taught by the hardest grader in the school.

"It's always better to start off slowly and speed up later than to overburden yourself and regret it," says a counselor from Michigan. "If you think you want to take all the hard classes to look better later, remember that doing poorly in hard classes gives you no advantage."

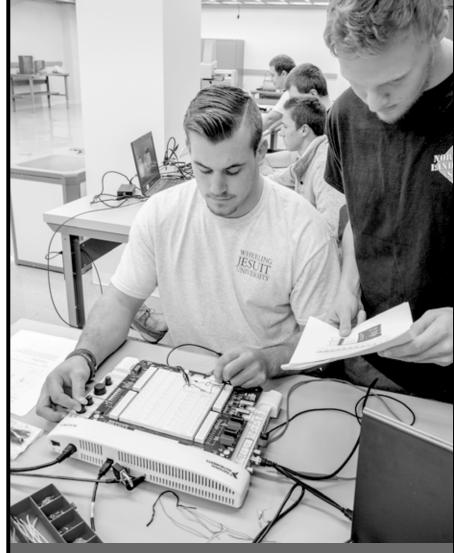
In fact, a mid-semester reality check may be in order if you're having problems keeping up. "Generally, if students are really struggling to get a B or C, they should think about dropping down a level or making some other change," says a college and career counselor from Illinois. So before you sign up for a particularly heavy course load, talk with your counselor about your options, just in case you realize in the fall that you're in over your head.

Trust Yourself

When you're making decisions about your courses, your counselor, teachers, and parents can have valuable insight. Listen to what they have to say about your strengths and weaknesses, and take into account their advice on course scheduling. But also trust your own interests and instincts.

"We encourage students to be as realistic as they can," says the counselor from Illinois. "They know themselves better than anyone else, so they have to decide how much challenge they can handle."

- Written by Jennifer Gross



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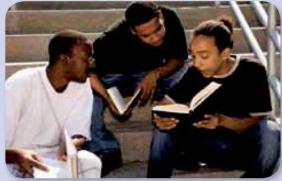
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COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES SERVING UNDERREPRESENTED STUDENTS

In an effort to better serve underrepresented students in the college admission process, NACAC collected the names of US colleges and universities that are tailored specifically to them. This list, which includes 37 Tribal Colleges and Universities, 101 Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and 220 Hispanic-serving Institutions, is now available as a resource for students, parents and counselors.

NACAC urges you to visit the Web sites of these schools to gain information about admission, financial aid and student life. This list is the first step in discovering what these schools have to offer underserved students.







Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs)

Institutions of higher education in the United States that were established before 1964 with the intention of serving the black community. These institutions include both private and public colleges and universities.

Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUs)

Institutions located on or near Indian reservations that provide access to postsecondary education, accredited degrees and vocational training for both Indian and non-Indian students. Indian culture and tradition are a part of the curricula and they all share the mission of tribal self-determination and service to their respective communities.

Hispanic-serving Institutions

Colleges, universities or systems/districts where total Hispanic enrollment constitutes a minimum of 25 percent at either the undergraduate or graduate level.



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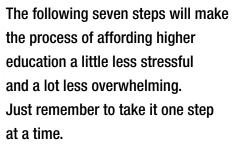


The Good News



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Seven Easy Steps



Applying for Financial Aid at: http://tinyurl.com/maw73rt

Quick Links

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COASTAL CAROLINA UNIVERSITY

Save on tuition at Coastal Carolina University

Coastal Carolina University is one of the fastest-growing universities in the South. Located in Conway, South Carolina, nine miles from Myrtle Beach, CCU offers undergraduate degrees in 70 major fields of study, 17 master's degree programs, two educational specialist degrees and

a Ph.D. in marine science. Explore coastal.edu to discover why more than 10,000 students choose Coastal.

CCU participates in the Academic Common Market tuition savings program, which allows Maryland residents in certain majors to attend CCU at in-state tuition rates. The participating majors for Maryland are: hospitality, resort and tourism management; intelligence and national security studies; middle level education; musical theatre B.F.A.; or physical theatre B.F.A. For more information on the Academic Common Market, visit coastal.edu/admissions/acm.html.

Coastal also offers two accelerated degree programs to help students earn degrees in less time than traditional, four-year degree programs. Students can earn an undergraduate degree in three years through the Degree in Three program. Students who want to earn a master's degree can do so through the Get More in Four program, which integrates a one-year master's degree with the Degree in Three program. These accelerated degree programs give students a head start on their futures while saving tuition by spending less time in college classes. As an incentive to participate in one or both of the accelerated degree programs, students have the potential to earn a \$5,000 Trustee Award for completing the accelerated degree program in the specified time period. Visit coastal.edu/accelerate for details and the Trustee Award criteria.

The best way to discover Coastal Carolina University is by visiting campus. We offer tours on weekdays and on select Saturdays. To reserve your campus visit online, go to coastal.edu/admissions/ visits.html or call 800.277.7000.

GARRETT COLLEGE

Garrett College, a two-year community college with two residence halls, is situated in scenic Western Maryland at Deep Creek Lake. The college serves more than 1,000 students annually in transfer programs leading to the Associate in Arts (A.A.) degree, Associate of Arts in Teaching (A.A.T.), and Associate of Science in Engineering (ASE) degree, as well as career programs leading to the Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) degree along with several creditbearing certificate programs.

Garrett's 62-acre campus is in close proximity to the forests, lakes, farms and whitewater rivers that are the outdoor classrooms for its signature programs in Adventure Sports Management (AVS) and Natural Resources and Wildlife Technology (NRWT). These programs, which have acquired strong regional, and in the case of Adventure Sports, national and international reputations, focus on sustainable use of the natural environment. Another distinctive program, Electrical Engineering, enhanced by the college's new Engineering and Robotics Lab, leads to an A.S.E. degree for transfer to a four-year

institution.

Garrett graduates are well prepared for success in their chosen careers and for successful transfer to the many institutions with which Garrett holds transfer and/or articulation agreements. For more information visit www.garrettcollege.edu.

MONTGOMERY COLLEGE

Established in 1946, Montgomery College is widely recognized for the quality of its academic programs in the liberal arts, the sciences, business, and technology. More than 130 degree and certificate programs prepare students to earn an associate's degree, enter the workforce, or transfer to four-year institutions. The College offers a wide range of career and technical programs in such fields as automotive technology, biotechnology, building trades, health sciences, hospitality management, and web careers, to name just a few.

Four competitive honors programs are available for high-achieving students:
Montgomery Scholars Program; Macklin Business Institute Honors Program; The Scholars Circle and Renaissance Scholars. Offerings are varied and include specialized classes and seminars, unique projects, and independent study.

Small classes, award-winning faculty and programs, personalized instruction, affordable tuition, and strong support services are hallmarks of the Montgomery College experience. Classes are offered days, evenings, and weekends at three convenient campuses in Germantown, Rockville, and Takoma Park/Silver Spring. Classes are also offered online and at off-campus sites throughout Montgomery County.

For more information visit us at montgomerycollege.edu or call 240-567-5000

MUHLENBERG COLLEGE - THEATRE & DANCE

Muhlenberg's Theatre & Dance Department offers one of the leading production programs in the country, according to The Princeton Review (ranked Top 12 for nine straight years). The Fiske Guide ranks both the Theatre and Dance programs in its top 20.

At Muhlenberg Theatre & Dance, you'll receive intensive studio training and incredible production opportunities. But you will also get a first-rate liberal arts education, from one of the country's best small liberal arts colleges. We think excellent studio training and breadth of knowledge are equally important. If you're planning a dual major, or you want to explore other careers in addition to the performing arts, then the choice becomes even clearer. Here you'll have the freedom of academic exploration — and the opportunity to pursue all your goals.

Your professors and instructors are respected theatre artists pursuing active careers. These artists will be your teachers, mentors, and collaborators, working with you in the studio and

on the stage. More than 100 students are cast each season in nine Mainstage shows, ranging from experimental studio productions to Broadway musicals. Numerous opportunities are available for directing, choreography, stage management, and design.

More information: 484-664-3335 or muhlenberg.edu/theatre&dance

NEUMANN UNIVERSITY Nine Things You Didn't Know about Neumann University

- Last year, 90.5% of our nursing graduates passed the state licensure exam on their first try.
- In 2014, Money magazine ranked us as one of the 25 Most Affordable Private Colleges in the country. In 2015, they ranked us as a top college for providing students with merit aid.
- We're building new TV and radio studios with top-notch professional equipment, production rooms and studios, all set to open by fall 2016.
- Our graduates have jobs with CBS News
 (New York), Children's Hospital of
 Philadelphia, Comcast, NFL Films, the
 Philadelphia Eagles, Price Waterhouse, the
 U.S. Department of Commerce, WHYY,
 and many other respected employers.
- Bethany, a 2015 graduate, was one of 13 students in the country to win an NCAA Women's Enhancement Postgraduate Scholarship,
- Since 2014, our undergraduates have won a
 Student EMMY, a National Production
 Award for best television comedy, and a
 \$10,000 prize for a healthcare video that
 features zombies.
- We just launched a new major in Social Work and a 3+3 program that leads to a bachelor's degree and juris doctor.
- Programs like MayMester (3 credits in 3 weeks) and the European Study Tour provide options to keep students on track to graduate in four years.
- Last year, more than 500 students acquired professional experience through internships, nursing clinical placements and student teaching assignments.

To learn more, visit www.neumann.edu/BeYou.

NEW JERSEY INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

One of the nation's leading public polytechnic universities, New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT) prepares students to be leaders in the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) fields where the demand for graduates exceed the supply. The university offers a multidisciplinary curriculum and computing-intensive approach that provide the technological

proficiency, business know-how, and leadership skills necessary to succeed in today's economy.

NJIT has earned national prominence by developing relevant academic programs taught by leading practitioners in their fields. Six specialized schools – College of Architecture and Design; College of Computing Sciences; College of Science and Liberal Arts; Newark College of Engineering; Martin Tuchman School of Management; and the Albert Dorman Honors College – offer over 50 undergraduate and 59 graduate degree programs, including 19 doctoral degree programs.

"NJIT is committed to excellence in teaching and research. We're a dynamic university with over 11,300 undergraduate and graduate students who are developing into global leaders," states NJIT President Joel S. Bloom.

NJIT students graduate prepared with workplace experience and degrees in the hottest fields such as engineering, physics, biology, architecture, design, computing sciences and business. Students graduate with the skills that recruiters are seeking through the university's successful internship and co-op programs.

With 489 full-time and adjunct faculty, the university maintains a student-to-faculty ratio of 18 to 1. NJIT has over 40 dedicated outreach centers and laboratories from robotics to sustainable design to nanotechnology. The National Science Foundation ranks NJIT in the top 10 among universities whose main research is in engineering.

NJIT also offers 19 Division I sports, as well as club and intramural programs. The Highlanders are part of the Atlantic Sun Conference.

To learn more about NJIT (njit.edu/moreinfo), visit us at Booth #199 in Montgomery County and/or Booth #133 at Prince George's County College Fairs.

PRINCE GEORGE'S COMMUNITY COLLEGE (PGCC)

Named a National Center of Academic Excellence in Information Assurance designated by the National Security Agency and Department of Homeland Security (2010-2015), Prince George's Community College (PGCC) provides high quality education and training for the progressive and career-oriented residents of Prince George's County.

From new high school graduates and career seekers, to more seasoned professionals and senior citizens looking to enhance their skillsets, PGCC comprises students representing a wide range of ages, backgrounds and goals.

Located across six campuses, serving more than 44,000 individuals annually, offering more than 200 academic programs and workforce development and continuing education courses, the college is the first choice for higher education for residents of Prince George's County.

Collaborative partnerships, responsive degree and training programs, and a commitment to student success enables PGCC to address diverse education and workforce development demands. For more information, visit the college website at www.pgcc.edu.

SAINT VINCENT COLLEGE

Offers Up to \$82,000 Aid to Top Students, 100% of Freshmen

Saint Vincent College, a Catholic, Benedictine, liberal arts and sciences college in Latrobe, Pennsylvania, offers four-year merit scholarships of up to \$82,000 to top students who apply for admission. One hundred percent of freshmen receive financial aid.

The opening of the new \$39 million Sis and Herman Dupré Science Pavilion marked the latest in a series of major campus improvements at Saint Vincent during the past ten years which have enhanced the national reputation of this beautiful college in the Laurel Highlands recreation region of southwest Pennsylvania.

More than \$100 million in capital development projects have been completed on the scenic 200-acre campus which provides one of the top facilities for serious study and productive extracurricular activity in the United States.

A diverse student population of undergraduates and graduate students hails from 26 U.S. states/territories and 12 foreign countries.

Saint Vincent offers majors in 50 fields of study plus pre-law, pre-med and pre-health professions. Its quality educational programs have earned recognition by U.S. News and World Report (First Tier of National Liberal Arts Colleges). In addition to USNews, Saint Vincent College's quality educational programs have earned recognition by Money magazine (25 Best Private Colleges in the U.S. for Merit Aid), Forbes business magazine (America's Top Colleges), College Factual (No. 1 Best for the Money in Pennsylvania), NerdScholar (one of Pennsylvania's Biggest Bank for Your Buck Colleges), Barron's (One of Best Buys in College Education) and Washington Monthly (Best Bang for the Buck).

Saint Vincent students find success after graduation with 95% of the Class of 2015 who responded to a recent survey now in graduate school or employed professionally. More than 80% of freshmen advance to sophomore year, 20% above the national average.

The Saint Vincent campus is located at the gateway to the Laurel Highlands recreation region of southwestern Pennsylvania with convenient highway access via I-70 and the I-76 (Pennsylvania Turnpike). The campus is also serviced by Grayhound Bus Lines, Amtrak railway and the Arnold Palmer Regional Airport (direct non-stop scheduled flights to Ft. Lauderdale, Orlando, Fort Myers, Myrtle Beach and other

locations.

For further information this welcoming, supportive community, contact: Office of Admission, 800 782-5549 or admission@stvincent.edu. Learn more at: www.stvincent.edu.

SALISBURY UNIVERSITY

Salisbury University is a Maryland campus on the move. Nationally recognized for academic excellence, SU has a challenging curriculum emphasizing undergraduate research, study abroad, professional internships and community engagement.

SU has been named among "America's Best Bang-for-the-Buck Colleges" by *Washington Monthly*, "The Best Colleges for Your Money" by *Money* and "America's Top Colleges" by *Forbes. Kiplinger's Personal Finance* also placed SU among its Top 100 "Best Values in Public Colleges" and its "24 Best College Values Under \$30,000 a Year." SU also is one of *U.S. News & World Report's* Best Regional Universities in the North.

"Salisbury provides undergraduates with a variety of majors and small class sizes coupled with the benefit of a state school price tag," said *The Princeton Review's Best 380 Colleges*.

A proud member of the University System of Maryland, SU is home to nearly 8,700 students and offers 42 undergraduate majors, 14 graduate programs and two new doctorates in nursing practice and education. All four of its schools are endowed—a rarity among public institutions nationwide.

Building for a better tomorrow, SU's new Sea Gull Stadium and the Patricia R. Guerrieri Academic Commons, with a state-of-the-art library, both open in 2016. Other new facilities in recent years include Perdue Hall, home to the Franklin P. Perdue School of Business; Sea Gull Square, an apartment and retail complex; the Richard A. Henson Medical Simulation Center; and the Teacher Education and Technology Center.

Founded in 1925, SU is located on the scenic and historic Eastern Shore, just 2.5 hours from Baltimore and Washington, D.C. The Sea Gulls are a Division III athletic powerhouse with 18 NCAA national championships in field hockey, and men's and women's lacrosse. The beautiful 182-acre campus has national arboretum status.

Exceptional students, a highly regarded faculty and dynamic administration have made SU *A Maryland University of National Distinction*. For more information, visit www.salisbury.edu.

SHENANDOAH UNIVERSITY

Creatively vibrant and intellectually vital, Shenandoah University offers more than 80 areas of study, a wealth of study abroad programs, 21 Division III NCAA athletic teams, and more than 90 student organizations and clubs within a close-knit, diverse, and high-energy community. Shenandoah combines scholarship, experiential learning and sophisticated technologies through its unique blend of the liberal arts and professional studies, preparing graduates for lives as principled professionals and leaders.

An All-Steinway

School, Shenandoah has a strong performing arts culture and conservatory, boasting more than 400 concerts and performances annually.

As an emerging leader in health care, Shenandoah encourages inter-professional cooperation, particularly in its Health & Life Sciences Building, which houses a variety of health professions programs. Across all disciplines, the university values a global perspective and embraces the future.

Shenandoah's main campus location in the Northern Shenandoah Valley provides students with both abundant outdoor recreation opportunities and access to the cultural and professional offerings found in the Washington, D.C., and Baltimore metropolitan areas.

Additionally, the university, established in 1875, features campuses in Winchester and Northern Virginia, including the nearly 200acre River Campus at Cool Spring Battlefield in Clarke County, which open to the public from dawn to dusk for walking, hiking, bird-watching, cycling and nature study. For more information, visit www.su.edu.

ST. JOHN'S UNIVERSITY

Build Your Future Today at St. John's University St. John's University is the right choice for students who aim to become leaders in today's global society.

Founded in 1870 by the Vincentian Fathers, St. John's is a leading Catholic university with three New York City campuses (Queens, Staten Island, and Manhattan); an academic center in Oakdale, NY; and study abroad locations in Rome, Italy; Paris, France; and Seville, Spain. Students come from 47 states and 115 countries to pursue more than 100 majors in the arts; business; education; pharmacy; the sciences and technology; and academic preparation for today's most dynamic careers.

St. John's popularity continues to grow. This year, the University enrolled the largest freshman class of any Catholic college in the nation.

The Benefits of an International Education

Our students benefit from the cosmopolitan character of their classmates—U.S. News and World Report ranks St. John's as the second most diverse campus community in America.

Studying abroad enriches every student's St. John's experience—starting as freshmen. And international study is available in all four years. For example, Discover the World: Europe offers 15 credits for living and learning in three foreign cities in a single semester. Students also can spend a semester in Paris, Rome, or Seville,

along with winter, spring, and summer experiences throughout Europe, Asia, and Latin America.

Making a Difference

Through Academic Service-Learning—course-related volunteer experiences—students have a positive impact on communities beyond the campus gates. They and their professors dedicate thousands of hours to helping others each year, ranging from "Midnight Runs" that provide food for the homeless to service "plunges" in other countries.

Beyond the Classroom

There are more than 180 student clubs and organizations, including Greek societies. Students also enjoy cheering for the Red Storm—St. John's 17 men's and women's Division I, BIG EAST athletic teams.

Learn More at Office of Undergraduate Admission, Queens and Manhattan Campuses, St. John's University, 1-888-9STJOHNS or 718-390-4500, admission@stjohns.edu

UNIVERSITY OF CHARLESTON

The University of Charleston is an independent, co-educational, residential university, with a main campus in the state capital of West Virginia. It is one of twelve colleges chosen as a model for the First-Year-Experience, and is nationally recognized for its outcomes-based curriculum. Our Liberal Learning Outcomes embed critical thinking, communication, citizenship, creativity/innovation, ethical practice and inquiry into courses for each major, providing our students the foundation to think, act and develop skills that are necessary to thrive in the workplace and in the future.

UC provides a rigorous academic experience for over 2,300 students on campus and online, offering both undergraduate and graduate studies programs. The campus is located on the banks of the Kanawha River in Charleston, West Virginia with a panoramic view of the Capitol building as a dramatic backdrop.

UC has been ranked as a "Military Friendly School" for six consecutive years by Victory Media and 90% of its graduates are employed or in graduate school within six months of their graduation.

UC's mission is to educate students for a life of productive work, enlightened living and community involvement.

To learn more: www.ucwv.edu or 1-800-995-4682 (GOUC).

WAYNESBURG UNIVERSITY

Waynesburg University, a Christian, liberal arts University in Southwestern Pennsylvania, provides students with opportunities to prepare for successful careers through rigorous scholarship, academic excellence and creative expressions.

Academics | Waynesburg offers more than 70 major concentrations and three integrated

bachelors-to-masters programs in business, counseling and education, as well as several agreements with regional medical and law schools. These agreements afford increased opportunities for acceptance into professional degree programs.

Beginning freshman year, hands-on learning opportunities abound. Students might find themselves analyzing crime scene blood spatter in the Forensic Science Lab, leading a local youth group, writing for the award-winning student newspaper or participating in a variety of other experiential learning opportunities applicable to their major.

Faith | As a proud member of the Council for Christian Colleges and Universities (CCCU), Waynesburg helps students build an academic career on the foundation of faith. Students also have opportunities to discuss theory and application of faith in their future professions.

Service | Waynesburg connects faith, service and learning, a distinguishing feature in academia. Students, faculty and staff at Waynesburg spend 50,000 hours each year working to improve the lives of others. Service opportunities include service learning courses and trips, the Bonner Program and personal service initiatives, among others.

Affordability | More than 90 percent of students receive some form of financial aid each year. Tuition, room and board is \$11,000 below the national average for a private, non-profit, four-year college.

Outcomes | 95 percent of 2014 graduates reported working full-time or attending graduate school within one year of graduation.

The Career Services Center works to ensure the successful transition from college to a career for each student. The Center assists with everything from resume composition to interviewing skills and offers job and internship fairs, one-on-one career coaching, mock interviews and employer networking opportunities.

Learn more at: www.waynesburg.edu

WHEELING JESUIT UNIVERSITY Teaching students to use their YOU to Impact the World Around Them

At Wheeling Jesuit University, our philosophy is rooted in the Jesuit educational tradition that spans more than 475 years. Academic excellence, a commitment to serve others and the desire to educate the whole person — these are the values that make a Jesuit education unique.

We prepare students for thinking in a moral context about relevant, global topics. No matter their career path, our graduates are making a difference in the world.

Use Your Classroom: Taking advantage of everything Wheeling Jesuit has to offer — a 65-acre campus with modern facilities coupled with a 550-acre retreat farm and research preserve

— means that your classroom isn't equipped simply with a whiteboard.

Whether classes are held in traditional rooms, at the creek or in a fine arts studio, at Wheeling Jesuit you will hear something far too infrequent in education today — conversation. Our 12-to-1 student-to-faculty ratio ensures that classrooms will never be mistaken for amphitheaters or arenas

Fifty-two percent of undergraduates participate in research projects at Wheeling Jesuit. The Acker Science Center contains modern teaching resources and state-of-the-art laboratories, providing you with the means to undertake cutting-edge research projects.

Serving Others: A key component of the Jesuit outlook is taking part in service. It means getting your hands dirty, serving alongside those in need, challenging injustice, seeking reform and making a difference. But it also means having fun, learning about yourself and finding friends who share your passions.

Our Service for Social Action Center arranges service immersion trips across the country and the world. Nearly every student on campus is involved in service during his or her four years at WJU. Our students contribute more than 20,000 hours of service annually.

Campus Life: Involvement on campus is a hallmark of our students. You could be standing on stage in a production at Troy Theater, join Campus Ministry, play an instrument in the pep band or end up auditioning for Jesuit Idol. Whatever it is that interests you, you'll find an outlet on our campus.

Weekends at Wheeling Jesuit are full of excitement. The Ratt, our on-campus pub, hosts a band every Friday, and the Campus Activities Board plans activities year-round for students.

Use your Faith: We are a Catholic university, but students at Wheeling Jesuit focus on discovering and exploring their own faith. An hour from campus, the Lantz Farm offers the perfect setting for retreats and spiritual reflection. The Jesuit conviction of "finding God in all things" is especially prevalent at Wheeling Jesuit, fueled by the curiosity and varying beliefs of our students.

Use Your U! We help you discover who you are and what you dream to become.

We focus on your individual development and discovery, as you become a successful student and person. Wheeling Jesuit will help you to exercise, develop and share your unique gifts.

Whether deciding on a school or deciding on a major, you are looking for what best suits you — you are looking for the right fit. We will help you discover the greatness inside of you, harness it and prepare you for a successful and rewarding life after graduation.

Learn more at www.wju.edu/admissions, 1-800-624-6992, or admiss@wju.edu

WEDNESDAY • APRIL 13 • 2016 | A NEWSPAPER IN EDUCATION SUPPLEMENT TO THE WASHINGTON TIMES

Tips for Attending a NACAC National College Fair

Before the Fair... Answer the following questions to help determine what kind of school would be best for you:

- Do you want to attend a two-or four-year institution? *
- ☐ Co-ed or single sex?
- ☐ What size school do you want to attend?
- ☐ What programs of study are you considering?
- ☐ How far from home do you want to go?
- ☐ Do you wish to participate in any specific extra-curricular activities or athletics?
- ☐ Do you want to attend a school in an urban, suburban or rural environment?
- ☐ Do you require any special services (i.e. tutoring, note takers, readers, TDD or interpreters)?

- 1. Discuss your college plans with your guidance counselor, family, teachers and friends.
- 2. Research your colleges of interest on the Internet and in your guidance office/library.
- 3. Check dates and registration deadlines for college entrance examinations.
- 4. Register before heading to the fair! Watch the video about student registration at www.nacacnet.org/ncfstudent.
- 5. Watch a video for more information about what happens at a NACAC College Fair at www.nacacnet.org/ncfstudent!
- 6. Download and print the checklist to take with

you to the Fair.

At the Fair...

- 1. Pick up a bag and a fair directory.
- 2. Visit with colleges and universities which you feel meet your criteria.
- 3. Talk with a college counselor at the Counseling Center if you have any questions or need help with your college search.
- 4. Attend a workshop.

After the Fair...Be sure to watch the videos about preventing anxiety during your college search and financial aid options at www.nacacnet.org/ncfstudent.

College Categories

As you plan for college you have many options. Listed below are the College Categories that describe the different types of institutions available to you.

Non-Profit

Private

These Colleges and Universities:

- Receive funding primarily from student tuition and endowments. Some funding comes from governmental support in the form of tax breaks and student loans
- Follow the leadership of a board of trustees
- Develop own institutional plans since they operate mostly on private support
- Rely on private funds, which leads to a higher average cost
- Offer financial aid opportunities to reduce the total cost

Public

These Colleges and Universities:

Receive a large part of funding from state or local taxes. Some funding comes from tuition and endowments.

- Follow performance standards set by the state.
- Most are state-run which lowers the tuition for in-state students.
- Typically categorized as two-year, four-year, research, comprehensive, or community colleges.

For-Profit / Proprietary

These Colleges and Universities:

- receive up to 90 percent of their revenue from federal student aid
- operate under the demands of investors and stockholders
- usually offer a non-traditional format,
- have come under federal scrutiny for high pressure sales/recruitment tactics

A close examination of the academic, social and financial factors will lead you to a best-fit college. To read more on the differences in college categories, please visit our web site at www.nacacnet.org/ncfstudent.



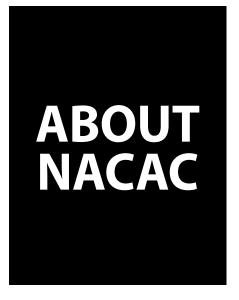
Mobile Registration

Register today at: www.gotomyncf.com

The benefits of online student registration:

- Students register for the fair one time.
- It also eliminates the need for college contact cards.
- Entering the information one time allows the student to elaborate on special interests, extracurricular activities, and accomplishments.





The National Association for College Admission Counseling (NACAC), founded in 1937, is an organization of more than 15,000 professionals from around the world dedicated to serving students as they make choices about pursuing postsecondary education.

NACAC is committed to maintaining high standards that foster ethical and social responsibility among those involved in the transition process, as outlined in the NACAC Statement of Principles of Good Practice (SPGP).

A member-directed organization, NACAC is governed by its voting members; an Assembly of delegates elected by voting members in NACAC's state and regional affiliates and by an elected Board of Directors.

The Board of Directors sets the strategic direction for NACAC. Additionally, 10 standing committees, ad hoc committees, and an Affiliate Presidents Council lend their expertise and experience to the issues, programs and governance that keep the association vibrant in its service to members, the profession, and students.

NACAC's award-winning publications and other media resources, professional development programs and practical research efforts have all been designed to give counseling and admission professionals the tools they need to improve the counseling services they provide to students.

Test your imagination. Close your eyes and envision your ideal college. Think about walking around campus. What do you see? Now you're sitting in your favorite class. What does the classroom look like? What are you and your classmates doing? What is the professor doing or saying? Pretend it's Saturday on campus. What are you and your friends doing? Where are you spending your weekend? What's coming up that evening?

While you have that picture in your mind, write down all of the details you can. Describe the college as accurately as possible.When you're finished, read through your description.

"Usually, the characteristics found in the ideal college serve college search," says a director of admissions at a collage in Ohio. If the first picture that came to mind was strolling down the paths of a quiet campus, surrounded by trees, you should probably consider colleges that are in small towns or rural areas. On the other hand, if you envisioned walking down a city sidewalk on your way to your highrise dorm, a more urban campus may be more for you.

Of course, there are plenty of colleges in between those two extremes, which is why the following strategy can also be helpful.

Sort through your options. "Corral all those college viewbooks [you've] gotten in the mail and acquire three cardboard cartons," says Nancy Scarci, post high school counselor at Roosevelt High School (HI). "A little at a time, skim the

as a good starting point for the viewbooks, look at the pictures, try to get a feel for each school, and make one of the following decisions: OH YES, NO WAY, and?" Put the viewbook in the carton labeled with that decision. When you're done, bring the "no's" to the guidance office so the material can be made available to your classmates. Go through the "?" box one more time, trying to sort into "yes" and "no." Then, on your own or with the help of your parents or counselor, go through the "yes" box. What do the "yes" colleges have in common?

> "This is a way to start developing the concept of 'what are you looking for' that is so crucial to the search and selection process," says Scarci. In addition, the viewbooks can give students a better feel for what things like "urban" or "rural" might look

Going Fishing

Once you have some idea of what you're looking for, it's time to do some fishing for colleges that have the characteristics you seek. This is the time to whip out those guidebooks, visit those Internet college sites, and talk to your guidance counselor. That "yes" box can also be helpful now, especially if you keep it up to date as more college material arrives in the mail.

The goal at this point is to put together a list of 15 to 20 colleges that look promising. They should have most of the characteristics you want. They should also be colleges where you realistically have a shot at getting accepted. A number of "stretch" schools is fine, but if your list contains all of the Ivy League plus Stanford and MIT, you may want to add a few less selective colleges for balance (and to take a little pressure off the admis-

sion process). Your guidance counselor can help you assess your academic record in light of the requirements of various

Coming Up Next

As you might have guessed, the adventure doesn't end with that preliminary list of 20 or so colleges. In fact, a lot of the fun stuff is yet to come: exploring a variety of colleges, visiting college campuses, voting certain colleges off the island (oops, wrong adventure). In the coming weeks and months, you'll become an expert in finding out the real story about the colleges on your list. You'll refine your idea of the ideal college. And you'll learn more than you imagined about yourself. So stay tuned—your adventure is just beginning!

- Written by Jennifer Gross

2016 Montgomery County National College Fair Committee

Theresa Dethlefsen Northwest High School - Co-Chair

Angela Mastromatteo....... Winston Churchill High School - Co-Chair

James Cappuccilli......Poolesville High School

Gary Carter...... Winston Churchill High School

Paul Craft Richard Montgomery High School

Karen Crews.....MCPS Central Office Rosalie DeOto......Poolesville High School Janet Harris Rockville High School

Nikki Jarquin...... Wheaton High School Falesia Jones Northwood High School Tammy Patterson Springbrook High School

Adam Saltzman Watkins Mill High School Geri Sliffman Gaithersburg High School

Phalia West Montgomery Blair High School

Carolyn West-Gipson Gaithersburg High School Paul Young Watkins Mill High School

2016 Prince George's County **National College Fair Committee**

Tia Harris, Chairperson, Largo High School Tamara Benjamin, Forestville High School Brenton Brady, Potomac High School Cristin Caparotta, Friendly High School Gillian Caruth-Hunt, Bladensburg High

Mary Chapman Rocque, Bladensburg High

Courtney Donnell, Largo High School Fern DuBose, Charles Flowers High School Michele Gardiner, Bowie High School Brenden Gegwich, CMIT Academy North Alicia Grant, Parkdale High School Triana Hayes, Croom High School

Quanna S. Inman, Frederick Douglass High

Elisha Janifer, Kenmoor Middle School Andrea Johnson, DuVal High School Roger Jones, Issac Gourdine Middle School Meghann Kaplan, Central High School

Tiffany Kelly, Issac Gourdine Middle School Ikone Mason, Gwynn Park High School Debra Morrow, Tall Oaks High School Maxine Mosely, Charles Flowers High School Stephanie Nelson Butler, Suitland High

Pamela Parker Toombs, Nonpublic Office Cynthia Pegues, Surrattsville High School Joseph Pham, International Student Counseling Office

Pamela Roberts, Eleanor Roosevelt High

Robin Rubain, Dr. Henry A. Wise, Jr. High

Druscilla Saunders-Faulk, Crossland High

Yvette Thommason, Forestville High School Lia Thompson, Fairmont Heights High School T'Wana Warrick-Bell, Oxon Hill High School Donna Yearwood, High Point High School

Driving Directions To The Montgomery County Agricultural Center (Fairgrounds)

16 Chestnut Street,

Gaithersburg, Maryland 20877 (301) 926-3100

From Washington, DC:

Take the Route 495, the Capital Beltway, to I-270 north to exit 11 Montgomery Village/ Fairgrounds.

From Howard County:

Take I-95 south to I-495 west to I-270 north. Take Exit 11, Montgomery Village/Fairgrounds.

Take I-270 south to exit 11, (Montgomery Village/Quince Orchard Rd.) then make left onto Montgomery Village Ave.

From Northern Virginia:

I-495 North to I-270 North, take Exit 11, Montgomery Village/ Fairgrounds).

From All Locations

After Exiting Route 270 Onto Montgomery Village Ave.: At next light make a right onto Route 355 South (Frederick Ave.); make a right onto Perry Parkway; Fairground entrance will be on the left: 1/2 mile.

By Metro:

Take Red Line to Shady Grove Metro Station. Then take the following ground transportation: Take Ride-On Bus number 54,55, or 56 for stops within one block of the fairgrounds.

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$^{\star}\, USDE\, Shopping\, Sheet$

NACAC member colleges marked with an asterisk (*) have voluntarily begun using the U.S. Department of Education's Financial Aid Shopping Sheet as the method they will use to let you know about your financial aid package. You will be able to make direct, clear comparisons between financial aid award letters for colleges using the Shopping Sheet.

For more information about the Shopping Sheet and the colleges using it, visit the NACAC Web page at www.nacacnet.org.

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Driving Directions To The Prince George's Sports and Learning Complex

8001 Sheriff Road, Landover, MD 20785 | 301-583-2670

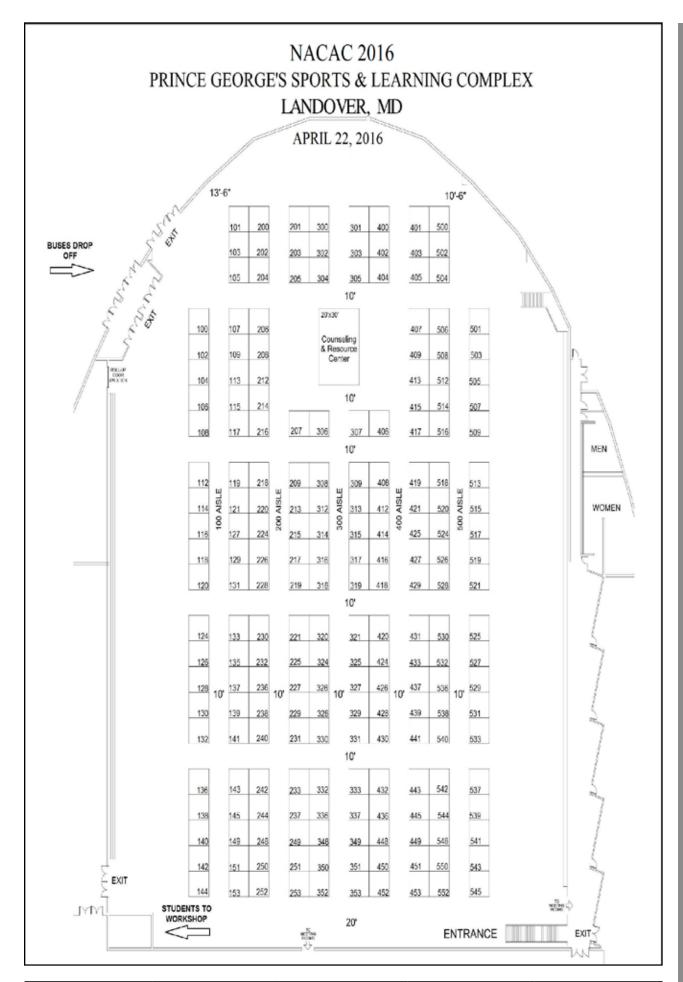
From I-95 take exit 17B (202 North towards Bladensburg adjacent to FedEx Field). Turn left onto Brightseat Road. Turn right onto Sheriff Road. Turn left at the first light (Harvey Drive). Drive up the hill onto the grounds of the Complex. For more information visit: http://www.pgsportsandlearn.com

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High School / Room	10:15 - 10:45 AM	10:55 – 11:25 AM	11:35 - 12:05 PM	12:15 – 12:45 PM
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Landover Room A/B	SAT Redesign	NCAA Clearinghouse	SAT Redesign	NCAA Clearinghouse
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Bluebird	Social Media & Branding	Social Media & Branding	Social Media & Branding	
Annex	Poetic Justice/ Self Advocacy	Poetic Justice/ Self Advocacy	Poetic Justice/ Self Advocacy	





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