

# **Announcements from the School Counseling Office**

**January 27, 2012**

**Lunch Visits:** The following colleges will be visiting FHS during both lunches.

Please stop by and visit. The Admission Counselors will be in the mall.

January 31, 2012 – Delgado Community College

February 8, 2012- LOSFA representative will be here to answer questions about the FAFSA.

February 16, 2012- Paul Mitchell lunch visit by invitation only.

## **Senior Events**

**Special Financial Aid Call-In Night:** **Monday, February 6, 2012 from 6-9 P.M.** The LOSFA office will extend their financial aid hotline hours. Dial (800) 259-5626, ext. 1012 or (225) 219-1012 or Chat Live on Facebook ([www.facebook.com/LOSFA](http://www.facebook.com/LOSFA)) to obtain the answers to your questions relating to all forms of financial aid.

**FHS Financial Aid Day:** **Wednesday, February 8, 2012 at 6:30 P.M. in the Auditorium.** A representative from LOSFA will be available for seniors during both lunches. A financial aid presentation for parents will be held at 6:30 P.M. in the auditorium. It is strongly recommended that your parent/ guardian attend.

**College Goal Sunday – Sunday, February 26, 2012 from 2 P.M. – 4 P.M. at Southeastern Louisiana University in Hammond.** Need help filling out the FAFSA? College Goal Sunday is an event that will help you with the tedious process of filling out the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) in order to obtain financial aid. Free on-site assistance from area college financial aid professionals will be provided. For more information, including what you need to bring, visit the following website: [www.osfa.la.gov/CollegeGoalSunday.shtml](http://www.osfa.la.gov/CollegeGoalSunday.shtml).

## **New Scholarships:**

**Overture to the Cultural Season: Application Deadline: February 17, 2012. Seniors only!** The Overture to the Cultural Season's High School Auditions will be held March 3 in New Orleans. The awards are in the areas of Creative Writing, Dance, Instrumental Music, Theatre, Visual Arts and Vocal Music. If you are interested, please see Mrs. Englande in the School Counseling Office for an application.

**Buick Achievers Scholarship Program:** Deadline: February 29, 2012. Eligibility Requirements: High School Seniors who plan to enroll full time at a four year college in 2012-2013 and plan to major in a field of study that focuses on engineering, technology, design or business, with an interest in the automotive industry. Check out the following website for more information: [www.buickachievers.com](http://www.buickachievers.com).

**Northlake Mandeville Rotary Club Scholarship:** Deadline: March 16, 2012. It is a \$10,000 award paid to the college of the recipient's choice in \$1,250 semester installments for a maximum of 8 semesters. This scholarship is for seniors only and is for students who have exemplified outstanding academic achievement in serving the community through various volunteer, school and civic organizations. Please come to the School Counseling Office to pick up an application.

**Beyond the Cure Scholarship Program:** Deadline: March 30, 2012. Applicants must be a childhood cancer survivor; a US citizen; and accepted into an accredited educational institution in the Fall 2012. This is a competitive application process. Please come to the School Counseling Office to pick up information or visit the following website: [www.beyondthecure.org](http://www.beyondthecure.org).

**Bayou Women's Republican Club of Lacombe- Frances S. Newman \$500 Scholarship:** Deadline: March 31, 2012. Applicant must meet the following criteria: Be a 70445 resident; Be a female high school senior; Be planning on attending a Louisiana University; Submit a copy of official high school transcript with a GPA of 2.5 or above; Submit a copy of ACT or SAT score results; Submit 2 letters of recommendation. Please come to the School Counseling Office to pick up an application.

**Zeta Phi Beta Scholarship Award:** Deadline: April 1, 2012. Eligibility Requirements: Must be a senior; Minimum cumulative GPA of a 3.5; Legal U.S. citizen. Please come to the School Counseling Office to pick up an application.

**Northshore Kiwanis Club Scholarship:** Deadline: Friday, April 6, 2012. This scholarship is a \$1,000 award presented to graduating seniors who have been active Key Club members committed to service at school and in the community. Please come to the School Counseling Office to pick up an application. ***Applications must be turned into Mrs. Englande before noon on April 6, 2012.***

**George Rodrigue Foundation of the Arts 2012 Digital Art Contest:** Deadline: April 13, 2012. The George Rodrigue Foundation of the Arts, in partnership with the Louisiana Technology Council (LTC) and the Louisiana Digital Gaming Initiative (LDGI), will provide \$15,000 in college scholarships to five (5) Louisiana high school students who create the best 3D fully rendered model about our great state! This contest is open to all high school, home school and GED students. Please come by the School Counseling Office to pick up an application or go to the following website: <http://www.georgerodriguefoundation.org/site395.php>.

**B. Davis Scholarship:** Deadline: May 28, 2012. Amount of the Scholarship: \$1,000. This scholarship is available for juniors and seniors. To apply, you will need to write an essay of less than 1,000 words on how your education has contributed to who you are today, or how it will affect who you will become. Please come to the School Counseling Office to pick up a flyer or go to the following website at <http://www.studentawardsearch.com/scholarships.htm>.

## **Scholarships on File**

**Harvey L. Foster Foundation for Science Education – 2012 Science Scholarship:** Deadline: January 31, 2012.

**Ronald McDonald House Charities Scholarship -** [www.rmhc.org](http://www.rmhc.org) Deadline is January 27.

**Knights of Columbus Scholarship Program for a Catholic Boy and Girl:** [www.louisianakc.org](http://www.louisianakc.org). Deadline- January 31<sup>st</sup>.

**American Cancer Society-** Deadline is February 1.

**AXA Achievement Community Scholarship –** [www.axa-achievement.com](http://www.axa-achievement.com). Deadline: February 1, 2012.

**Louisiana Solid Waste Association- Dr. Gordon P. Boutwell, Jr. Memorial Scholarship Fund:** Deadline: February 1, 2012.

**KFC Colonel's Scholars Program –** [www.kfcscholars.org](http://www.kfcscholars.org). Deadline: February 8, 2012.

**Best Buy Scholarship -** [www.at15.com](http://www.at15.com). Deadline: February 15.

**GE-Reagan Foundation Scholarship:** Deadline: February 17, 2012.  
<http://www.reaganfoundation.org/ge-scholarship.aspx>.

**St. Tammany Parish Retired School Employees' Association Educational Grant:** Deadline: February 25, 2012.

**Louisiana Society of Professional Surveyors Scholarship:** Deadline: March 1, 2012.

**Delta Kappa Gamma Scholarship:** Deadline: March 20, 2012.

**Young American Creative Patriotic Art Award -** Deadline is March 31.

**PFLAG NO Scholarship: Deadline: March 1, 2012.**

**LHSAA Essay Contest: Deadline: April 30, 2012.**

**Big Sun Scholarships: [athleticawards@bigsunathletics.com](mailto:athleticawards@bigsunathletics.com).**

**Alexis Wilkins Scholarship: Deadline: April 30, 2012.**

**Abbott and Fenner Scholarship Program: Deadline: June 15, 2012.**

<http://www.abbottandfenner.com/scholarship.htm>.

**AES Engineers Scholarship: Deadline: October 5, 2012.**

<http://www.aesengineers.com/scholarships.htm>.

## **Programs:**

**A Day with the Doctors: Deadline: February 8, 2012.**

**Pathway to College: Saturday, February 4, 2012 from 10:00 A.M. to 2:00**

**P.M. at the First Grace Methodist Church (3401 Canal Street, New Orleans, LA 70119.**

This program is sponsored by La Semilla which is a non-profit organization that wants to help parents make college education a reality. For more information, call 504 579-6467.

**Tulane University: Focus Louisiana: RSVP by February 6.** This

program is for sophomores and juniors only. It allows students to spend a day on Tulane's campus. The program will take place Monday, Wednesday, and Friday during the week of February 13-17(students choose one day out the week to visit). To register call the TU Admission Office at 504 314-2151 or go online at

<http://tinyurl.com/TULouisianaWeek>.

**Emory Pre-College Summer Program:** This program gives current

sophomores and juniors a glimpse of academic and residential life at a top-ranked national university. For more information on dates, courses, tuition, and fees, go to

[www.precollege.emory.edu](http://www.precollege.emory.edu).

## **Nicholls University: Louisiana Girls Leadership Academy:**

**June 10-13, 2012.** **Application Deadline: February 27, 2012.** This program is designed for girls entering grades 9, 10, and 11. This program helps to develop high-potential leaders in the community and public service through reasonable citizenship. Girls will network with peers and be mentored by experienced women to develop knowledge and skills. Eligibility Criteria: participation in service and leadership organizations in the school, church and community; office held in organizations; honor's and rewards received; school GPA minimum of .6; one letter of recommendation; and a student essay. ***If you are interested, you must see Mrs. Englande in the School Counseling Office in order to be nominated.***

## **Summer Employment:**

**Louisiana Lions Camp:** The Lions Club is currently recruiting high school students, ages 16 and above to fill summer staff positions. The summer camp runs for 7 weeks starting the third week of June. To request an application, interested students may complete the request form on the website or download the application itself at [www.lionscamp.org](http://www.lionscamp.org) or students may call 1-800-348-657 and request one by phone.

## **Financial Aid**

It is time to apply for financial aid. **Follow the steps below.**

1. **Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at the following website: [www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov).** Using FAFSA on the Web is faster than using the paper copy. If you do not have access to a computer and need a paper FAFSA, the school counselor's office will be receiving a few paper copies within the next month. This is the form you complete to be considered for pell grants, loans, work study programs, etc. If you prefer to fill something out in writing before applying online, you can download and print the ***FAFSA on the Web Worksheet***. The counselors have requested copies of the worksheet for the entire senior class. They will be distributed as soon as they arrive. Seniors who are applying to **out of state or private** schools may need to complete an additional form called the **CSS/ Financial Aid Profile**. If you are not sure, please check with the individual colleges and ask about their deadlines.
2. **Apply for a Federal Student Aid PIN, Personal Identification Number. Apply at [www.pin.ed.gov](http://www.pin.ed.gov).** The PIN allows you to sign the FAFSA electronically. For dependent students, both you and a parent must have a PIN. The PIN allows you to make corrections to the FAFSA online.

3. **Apply as soon as possible after January 1, 2012.** You have until June 30, 2013, to submit your FAFSA, **BUT YOU NEED TO APPLY EARLY!** Schools often use FAFSA information to award nonfederal aid. The deadlines are usually early in the year. You should check with the schools you are interested in for their deadlines.
4. **Review your Student Aid Report (SAR).** After you apply, you will receive a Student Aid Report. Your SAR contains information reported on your FAFSA. Review your SAR when you receive it and make any necessary changes or corrections. The colleges you list on your FAFSA will get your SAR data electronically.

## **TOPS**

1. **There are two methods for applying for a TOPS scholarship. (1) FAFSA** (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) [www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov) **and (2) TOPS Online Application** – [www.osfa.la.gov](http://www.osfa.la.gov). **The TOPS online application** may be completed by students who can certify that they do not qualify for federal grant aid. NOTE: In the event of a budget shortfall, students completing the TOPS online application will be the first to lose their TOPS award.
2. **Application Deadlines for 2012 Graduates:** If your initial FAFSA is received **after** July 1 immediately following your graduation from high school, the payment of your TOPS award could be delayed depending on the date your application is received and the date you enroll for the first time as a full time student in an eligible college or university. If you enroll for the first time as a full time student **before** your FAFSA is received, you must meet the TOPS Continuation Eligibility Requirements to receive payments of your TOPS award after the first semester, quarter, or term of your full time enrollment at an eligible college or university
3. **ACT Deadlines for 2012 Graduates:** **April 14, 2012** is the deadline to take the ACT and earn a composite of at least a 20 without any penalty. If you take the ACT on June 9, 2012 and earn an ACT composite of 20 you will lose one semester of eligibility. Students who fail to achieve a qualifying ACT score by July 1 of the graduating year shall not be considered for an award.

Do you have the GPA to qualify for TOPS? You can use the following website to calculate your predicted TOPS GPA: <http://college.stpsb.org/TOPS.htm> You may also contact LOSFA (Louisiana Office of Student Financial Aid) by calling 1-800-259-5626 or contact them by e-mail at [custserv@osfa.state.la.us](mailto:custserv@osfa.state.la.us) or [www.osfa.state.la.us](http://www.osfa.state.la.us).

