



Junior FYI Newsletter

Sumner Senior High
School

December 06, 2011
2011/2012
Issue 3

A publication produced through the Sumner High School Guidance Office – December 06, 2011

SAT Dates SHS School Code 481345

Register online at www.collegeboard.com

<u>Registration Date</u>	<u>Test Date</u>
12/30/11	01/28/12 (BLHS)
02/10/12	03/10/12
04/06/12	05/05/12
05/08/12	06/02/12 (BLHS)

(BLHS) Bonney Lake High School is a test site.

Registration must be through College Board.

ACT Dates SHS School Code 481345

Register online at www.actstudent.org

<u>Registration Date</u>	<u>Test Date</u>
01/13/12	02/11/12
03/09/12	04/14/12
05/04/12	06/09/12

IMPORTANT DATES TO KNOW

02/02/11 Running Start Information Night – details available in January 2012

VARSITY LETTER IN COMMUNITY SERVICE

Each year, United Way of Pierce County partners with Pierce County schools to recognize and reward students for their volunteer efforts in the community. Students who volunteer 145 or more hours of service in a year can earn a school varsity letter, the same as those earned by athletes and musicians. Stop by the Guidance Office to pick up information or call United Way at 253/597-6685 or go online at www.youthunited@uwpc.org.

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES: VALUABLE EXPERIENCE

How can your activities affect your future?

- **Scholarships:** Sponsors often ask for a list of jobs, volunteer and extracurricular activities. Gained skills and accomplishments can set you apart from other scholarship applicants.
- **Colleges:** Show an admissions office how your participation in activities has enriched life at your high school, and by extension, how you can enrich your prospective college's campus.
- **Essays:** Quality participation in activities is a great topic for college and scholarship essays.

What can you do now to enhance the activities you're already involved in?

- Identify your strengths and preferences with hands-on experience.
- Keep hard copies of materials from events or projects you help to organize.
- Maintain a personal record of tasks, responsibilities and achievements.
- Get more deeply involved with fewer organizations instead of just showing up to many. Use those organizations to develop leadership skills.

PREPARE AND PLAN: USE HIGH SCHOOL RESOURCES

- **Meet with your counselor early.** Plan your high school curriculum to be sure you're covered for college requirements.
- **Take more rigorous classes.** Course difficulty is as important as grades. If you think you can meet the challenge, opt for an academically rigorous course over an easy "A."
- **Master the basics.** Strengthen your reading, writing, math and vocabulary skills for college and scholarship essays, as well as standardized tests.
- **Do your best in your classes.** Remember: class rank and GPA are still key factors in college admissions. Explore your interests through your classes. Take classes in a variety of subjects to find out what interests you.
- **Perform community service or get a part-time job.** Show that you're a well-rounded person who knows how to manage your time.
- **Participate in a summer program.** A quality hands-on program can help you decide if a certain career path is right for you.
- **Make and maintain connections with teachers.** You may have to ask a teacher to write a recommendation down the road.

Junior FYI 3 Scholarship List – December 06 , 2011

Instructions: Read the description for each scholarship and decide which you would like to apply for. If the description includes a website, you must apply and/or get the information through that website.

StudentCam - C-SPAN's Annual National Video Documentary Competition *Deadline: 01/20/12* High school students where applicants create a five- to eight-minute documentary that presents multiple views on a specific topic and includes C-SPAN video. Each entry should reflect this year's theme: "The Constitution and You: Select any provision of the U.S. Constitution and create a video illustrating why it's important to you." Please visit <http://www.studentcam.org/> for more information and application materials.

Sylvia K. Burack Writing Award *Deadline: 03/15/12* This is a writing contest for Juniors and Seniors. To enter, submit a previously unpublished 600- to 800- word personal essay on the following topic: "Select a work of fiction, poem or play that has influenced you. Discuss the work and explain how it affected you." Please visit <http://www.writingclasses.com/ContestPages/Burack.php> for more information and application materials.

WyzAnt College Scholarship *Deadline: 04/01/12* Juniors and Seniors compose an essay of 300 words or less that answers the question: "What is the most important lesson you have learned in your life. Please visit <http://www.wyzant.com/scholarships/v2/about.aspx> for more information and application materials.

Young Naturalist Award *Deadline: 03/09/12* Students must plan and conduct your own scientific expedition, one which will provide original data, questions, and observations on a topic in the natural sciences. An essay is required to be considered for this award. Please visit <http://www.amnh.org/nationalcenter/youngnaturalistawards/> for more information and application materials.