

March 2024 Newsletter

Important Dates

Friday, March 8
SDP Professional
Development (Half Day)

March 25-28
SDP Closed for
Spring Recess

Friday, March 29 SDP Closed for Good Friday





Greetings, Scholars and Families —

Spring is almost here! This Spring Break, our 9th-12th grade scholars will have the chance to attend writing and art workshops as well as a basketball tournament with our partner program, Upward Bound. High school students, watch your email inbox for sign-up info coming soon!

In the meantime, read on for info about upcoming College Corner sessions, the free mental health platform for SDP students, scholarships, and more!

Have questions or need assistance? Email us any time at **vpse.talentsearch@upenn.edu**.





FAFSA Survey for 12th Graders

Every high school senior should fill out their <u>FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)</u> to get help paying for college.

12th grade scholars, have you filled out your FAFSA? If the answer is *not yet*, Talent Search can help!

Click here to let us know your FAFSA

High School Survey for 8th Graders

We're very proud of our Talent Search 8th graders who are making the important transition to high school.

So that we can update our records, where are you going to high school?

Click here to let us know where you're attending high school in the fall.



College Corner: Scholarships and More!

Join Talent Search Counselor Ms. Sofia for College Corner on select Wednesdays at 6 pm. This month's session will focus on scholarships.

Wednesday, March 13 6:00 to 7:00 pm

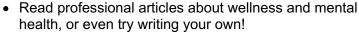
Join on Zoom:

https://upenn.zoom.us/j/92476792898? pwd=UHImZlhvdFU2NTUrUzB5VEVJbVdZdz09

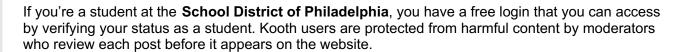
Other upcoming topics include financial aid award letters, room and board, classes, and majors.

Mental Health Platform for Students

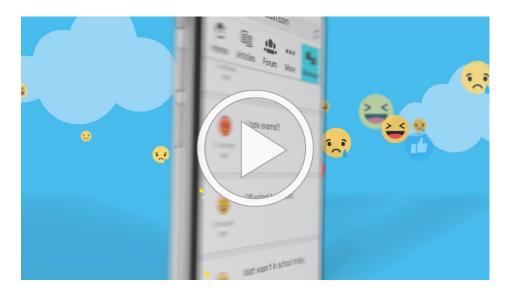
Kooth is an online platform focused on improving students' mental health. On Kooth, you can:



- Connect with others in the Discussion section
- Journal to track your emotions over time
- Use Kooth's messaging feature to talk with a counselor and get connected with mental health resources



<u>Click here to join Kooth</u> or watch the <u>video</u> below to learn more about how it works.





Opportunities for Talent Search Scholars

Yes! And... Collaborative Arts Shadow Company Summer Intensive

A performing arts company made up of **high school students**, Shadow Company members learn about all aspects of the theater-making process, including on and offstage roles. With an ensemble-based methodology, they work with a director, professional artists and industry leaders to build their skills as artists, collaborators, leaders, and citizens.

In the two-week Summer Intensive program, students learn and refine artistic skills needed for devising, rehearsing and performing a unique show for the FringeArts Festival in September. Students can participate in the intensive without performing in September, but they are encouraged to work on the show in other backstage supporting roles.

There is no cost to participate in Shadow Company.

Click here to learn more and register starting March 15.

PMAY Artists' Initiative

The PMAY Artists' Initiative supports students from communities that are historically excluded on the symphony orchestra stage and those who encounter hardships to realize their musical potential and ultimately pursue their dreams of becoming professional classical musicians.

The PMAY Artists' Initiative offers students financial support to make lessons, music classes, youth orchestra participation, and summer music camps affordable. Students will be able to attend free college and career preparation workshops, and PMAY staff will work with families to make sure each musician has a strong plan to be accepted into a music conservatory, college or university music school majoring in music.

Eligible instruments include:

- Violin, viola, cello and double bass
- Flute, oboe, clarinet and bassoon
- French horn, trumpet, trombone and tuba
- Percussion
- Harp

Black American Engineering Scholarship Award

The Black American Engineering Scholarship Award provides opportunities to underrepresented students in the field of engineering through scholarship funds and mentorship.

This flexible scholarship includes up to \$10,000 per year (\$5,000 per semester) of funding. Scholarship recipients are invited to re-apply for funding for up to four years. The goal is to provide a pathway to achievement for Black Americans pursuing careers in civil, mechanical, electrical, and chemical engineering. Selected candidates receive substantial assistance that is designed to close the financial gap left after the Pell Grant is used for tuition.

To apply, students must be:

- Black American
- Incoming college freshman/current high school senior, or a student transferring from a two-year program into a fouryear program
- Eligible for Federal Pell Grant funding
- Able to show proven financial need
- A U.S. citizen, national, or permanent resident
- In good academic standing
- Enrolling in an accredited, not-for-profit four-year institution
- Pursuing a degree in civil, electrical, mechanical, or chemical engineering, including any subfield of those disciplines

Click here to learn more and apply by March 18.

1,000 Dreams Scholarship Fund

The 1,000 Dreams Scholarship provides onetime educational assistance of up to \$1,000 for currently enrolled high school, collegeaged or graduate school women throughout the United States.

This scholarship covers extra costs outside of tuition, and can include assistance for needs including, but not exclusive to:

- · educational conferences
- instructional programs related to creative or artistic pursuits
- graduate exam application fees
- textbooks

Applications are accepted from rising 5th through 12th grade students from backgrounds that are underrepresented within the professional orchestra field, including Black/African-American, Latinx, Native American, Alaskan Native, South Asian, Southeast Asian and/or Pacific Islander. Students who identify differently may also qualify if they experience adversity such as economic disadvantages or will be the first in their family to attend college.

Click here to learn more and apply by April 1.

Needs that are ongoing (e.g., utility bills, food costs) or related to medical care are NOT covered by this fund. This scholarship is not to fund tuition. The intention is to provide access to educational opportunities beyond tuition.

Click here to learn more and apply by March 31.





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