

# April 2025 Newsletter

### Important Dates

April 14-17 SDP Closed for Spring Recess

Friday, April 18 SDP Closed for Good Friday

Monday, April 21 PSSA Testing Window Begins





Greetings, Scholars and Families -

Thanks to everyone who attended our TRIO Career Day on Saturday! We had a great turnout of **45 students and 21 volunteers**. Students were able to network with professionals from a variety of industries and engage in meaningful conversations, in addition to learning new tips for creating a resume and personal elevator pitch.

There are more exciting Talent Search activities coming up this spring and summer! Read on for info on upcoming events, Earth Day volunteering opportunities, and more.

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





### **TRIO Decathlon**

Talent Search scholars in grades 9-12 are invited to join us for a special Spring Break Decathlon event



with our partner program, Penn Upward Bound, and other Upward Bound / Upward Bound Math Science programs from the area. Events will include athletic, academic, and creative competitions. We want you on our team!

#### Thursday, April 17 9:15 am to 2:45 pm

Our group will travel by bus from Penn's campus to Harcum College in Bryn Mawr, and return to Penn at the end of the event. Lunch will be provided in the Harcum College dining hall.

Space is limited! <u>Click here to sign</u> <u>up no later than Thursday, April 10.</u>

### **Otherworld Field Trip**

Talent Search scholars in grades 6 to 8 are invited to join us for a Spring Break field trip to Otherworld Philadelphia, an immersive art and entertainment experience! Our group will meet on campus at Penn and travel by bus to Otherworld Philadelphia.

Monday, April 14 9:45 am to 1:45 pm

Spots are going fast!

<u>Click here to get more information and sign</u> <u>up today.</u>







We still have a few spots left for our Summer 2025 sessions! Students can enroll in one of three FREE, immersive education experiences: Veterinary Science, Design & Architecture, or Business & Entrepreneurship. Join us for hands-on activities, field trips, guest speakers, college and career prep, financial literacy instruction, and more!

Participants must be entering grades 7-12 in the fall and enrolled in the Penn Talent Search program. <u>Click here to register no later than April 11.</u>

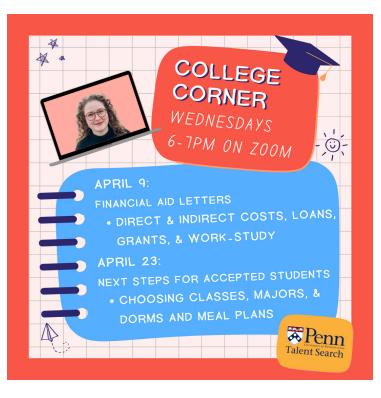
## **April College Corner Sessions 4/9 and 4/23**

Scholars, parents and guardians, join Talent Search for two College Corner sessions this month!

On Wednesday, April 9 at 6:00 pm, we'll go over Financial Aid Letters, including information about direct and indirect costs, loans, grants, and work study.

On Wednesday, April 23 at 6:00 pm, learn Next Steps for Accepted Students, including choosing classes and majors, dorms, and meal plans.

Hosted by Talent Search counselor Ms. Sofia, College Corner is a free, virtual webinar series covering all things college. Although College Corner is especially helpful for high school seniors, all Talent Search scholars (and parent/guardians!) are welcome to attend.



Zoom Link for both sessions:

https://upenn.zoom.us/j/98004055663?pwd=JM4SCmbQPF6BWDOn3na187AcqKcJyb.1

## **Philly Spring Cleanup and Earth Day Events**

Looking for ways to serve the community and protect our planet this month? Check out these spring volunteering and Earth Day events!

#### Philly Spring Cleanup Saturday, April 5 Various locations

Every year, City government, residents, and organizations partner to kick off the spring season by cleaning and beautifying Philadelphia's neighborhoods through Philly Spring Cleanup. This Office of Clean and Green Initiatives event takes place at hundreds of locations across the city. Residents and organizations



can register as volunteers or submit projects, including park and neighborhood cleanups.

Activities include picking up trash, sweeping sidewalks, removing graffiti, painting benches, planting bulbs, and more! Philly Spring Cleanup is Philadelphia's largest city-wide, single-day clean-up event. Since its 2008 launch, a total of 200,000 volunteers have removed more than 11.4 million pounds of trash and 950,000 pounds of tires from city streets at nearly 6,750 project sites.

#### Darby Creek Clean-Up

#### Saturday, April 12, 9:00 am - 12:00 pm John Heinz National Wildlife Refuge at Tinicum

Volunteers needed! Join up with the Student Conservation Association youth conservation crew and other community volunteers to lend a hand to wildlife and wetland habitat. Meet at the Pavilion near the Visit Center for sign-in and supplies. Lunch will be provided. For more information, contact hannah\_thompkins@fws.gov or call 267-969-3206.

#### Earth Day at Awbury Arboretum

Saturday, April 19, 12:00-4:00 pm The Farm at Awbury, 6336 Ardleigh Street

Friends, neighbors, and the entire Philadelphia community are invited to come out for a fun day of volunteering, fun with The Philly Goat Project, live demos, and so much more! This is a FREE event.

#### Earth Day at the Library

Wednesday, April 23, 4:00-6:00 pm West Oak Lane Library, 2000 East Washington Lane

Volunteer to prepare the West Oak Lane Library garden for the 2025 growing season. Urban gardens provide a wide range of benefits for the people who tend them and the communities they nourish. These productive green spaces support climate resiliency, a healthier environment, and health & wellness. Urban gardens like the one at the West Oak Lane Library are an integral part of a healthy neighborhood providing an avenue for food sovereignty.

### **Opportunities for Talent Search Scholars**

#### Independence Seaport Museum Teen Ambassador Summer Program

The Teen Ambassadors Summer Program at the Independence Seaport Museum is an eight-week paid work and learning experience for Philadelphia teens entering 10th-12th grade. The program trains teens to work as ambassadors of sustainability, STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, and math), and history at Independence Seaport Museum for visitors and their communities!

Eligibility requirements:

- Entering grades 10-12 or equivalent high school level enrollment.
- Available for the duration of the program: June 23rd-August 19th Monday – Thursday and select Saturdays in September 10am-3pm.
- Enrolled in a high school within the city of Philadelphia.
- Eligible to work in the city of Philadelphia.
- Able to secure a <u>work permit</u> (if under 18 years old).

## Click here to get more information and apply no later than April 11.

#### Dunkin' Philadelphia Regional Scholarship Program

Dunkin' and its franchisees are committed to a strong local community. The Dunkin' Philadelphia Regional Scholarship Program has been established to recognize the importance of education and provide support to residents of the community and our extended corporate family. This program will award up to twenty \$5,000 scholarships to qualified students throughout the region.

Applicants to the Dunkin' Philadelphia Regional Scholarship Program must:

> Be high school seniors who are residents of one of the counties listed\* or current undergraduate students attending school in one of the counties listed\*, who plan to enroll in part-time or full-time undergraduate study at an

# Wilt Chamberlain Memorial Fund Scholarship

The Wilt Chamberlain Memorial Fund Scholarship Program is available to high school seniors with financial need who are furthering their studies in the fall at a four-year college or university, a two-year community college, or a vocational school.

This competitive scholarship includes:

- Up to \$5,000 per year to attend a fouryear accredited undergraduate school; up to \$2,500 per year to attend an accredited community college or vocational school\*
- Ability to pursue any area of study
- Mentoring support during and after the transition to post-high school schooling

Wilt Chamberlain Scholars are selected based not only on their academic accomplishments and financial need, but also their embodiment of Wilt Chamberlain's characteristics of hard work and the pursuit of greatness, as well as a passion for volunteering and serving others.

## <u>Click here to get more information and apply no later than April 22.</u>

#### Philadelphia City Rowing Summer Learn-to-Row Camp

Philadelphia City Rowing's summer learn-torow camp is a place where expert coaches, local alumni, varsity student-athletes, and new rowers come together for an unforgettable couple of weeks on the beautiful Schuylkill River. During camp, you will learn basic rowing technique and receive a general introduction to fitness, nutrition, and the sport of rowing.

Summer camps run from 9:30 to 12:30 Monday to Friday and are open to **anyone in grades 7 through 12** in a Philadelphia public or charter school. All camps are FREE, and PCR provides students with daily SEPTA passes and snacks.

Space is limited. Proof of swimming ability is requested for participation but is not required. Students who cannot swim two lengths of the pool or tread water for two minutes will be accredited two-year or four-year college, university, or vocationaltechnical school for the entire upcoming academic year.

• Have a minimum grade point average of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale (or its equivalent) or higher.

\*Eligible counties include the Pennsylvania counties of Berks, Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Lehigh, Montgomery, Northampton, or Philadelphia.

#### <u>Click here to get more info and apply no</u> later than April 15.

asked to wear a life jacket when they are on the water. All abilities are welcome to join!

#### <u>Click here to get more info and enroll no</u> later than May 1.





Follow us on social media and visit us online at https://vpse.upenn.edu/ets!

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