

## Important Dates

June 9-12  
**SDP Graduation Window**

Thursday, June 11  
**SDP Last Day of School  
for Students (Full Day)**

Friday, June 19  
**Juneteenth**



Greetings, Scholars and Families —

We'd like to extend our warmest congratulations to the high school class of 2026! Years of hard work and determination brought you to this moment, and we couldn't be prouder.

Read on for information about upcoming summer activities (including a NEW field trip), inspiration from one of Overbrook High School's outstanding alumni, scholarship opportunities, and more!

Have questions or need assistance? Email us any time at [vpse.talentsearch@upenn.edu](mailto:vpse.talentsearch@upenn.edu).



## Class of '26 Senior Survey

Attention, graduating seniors! **We want to hear from you** about your upcoming plans and how you've been impacted by Talent Search. If you have not done so already, please help us continue to support you and better serve future students by taking our quick senior survey!

[Click Here to Take the Survey](#)

## Ministry of Awe Field Trip

Talent Search scholars entering grades 7-12 are invited to join us for a summer field trip to **Ministry of Awe** — a new immersive art experience in Philadelphia.

The 8,500 foot Ministry of Awe spans six stories inside a converted 19th century bank building. MOA is designed for all ages and levels of engagement. There's plenty of easy-to-access art, explorable play spaces, interactive elements and performers that will engage young imaginations.

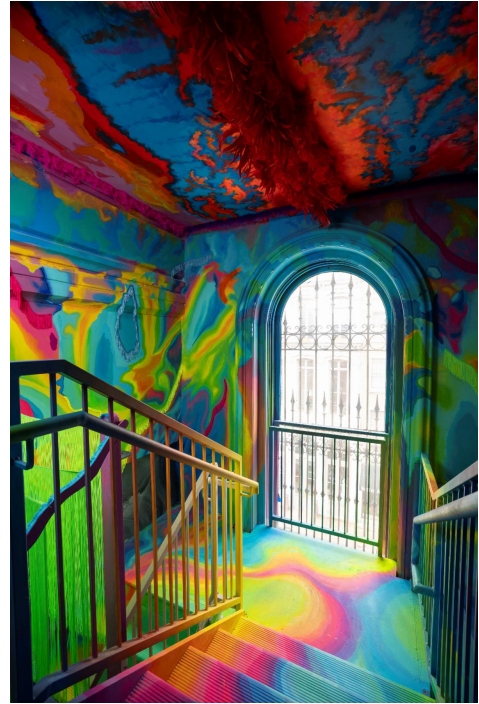
**DATE:** Tuesday, June 30

**TIME:** 10:00 am to 2:30 pm

**MEETING LOCATION:** On campus at Penn

Space is limited, and you must register to attend. Students will be added to the trip on a first-come, first-served basis.

[Click here to sign up no later than Sunday, June 14!](#)



# Spots Still Available!

Campus  
Connection Week

**Mon 7/13 - Thurs 7/16**

11:00 am to 3:00 pm

RISING 9<sup>TH</sup>-12<sup>TH</sup> GRADERS

Campus  
Discovery Week

**Mon 7/20 - Thurs 7/23**

10:00 am to 2:00 pm

RISING 7<sup>TH</sup> & 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADERS

There's still time to register for Campus Connection Week (for rising 9th through 12th graders) and Campus Discovery Week (for rising 7th and 8th graders). Sign up no later than Thursday, June 11 for these exciting summer opportunities!

**CAMPUS CONNECTION WEEK**

Dates: Monday, July 13 through Thursday, July 16  
Time: 11:00 am to 3:00 pm  
Location: University of Pennsylvania

This four-day session for **rising 9th through 12th graders** will immerse students in campus and engage them in important college prep activities.

Space is limited, and students will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. You must be enrolled in the Talent Search program to participate.

[Register for Campus Connection Week](#)

### CAMPUS DISCOVERY WEEK

Dates: Monday, July 20 through Thursday, July 23  
Time: 10:00 am to 2:00 pm  
Location: University of Pennsylvania

This four-day session for **rising 7th and 8th graders** will introduce students to campus and engage them in hands-on career exploration activities.

Space is limited, and students will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. You must be enrolled in the Talent Search program to participate.

[Register for Campus Discovery Week](#)



**ONLINE**  
**SAT**  
**PREP**

Open to  
rising  
9<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup>  
graders

<b>Reading &amp; Writing:</b>	<b>Math:</b>
July 27 and 28 3:30 - 5pm	July 29 and 30 3:30 - 5pm

The advertisement features a blue background with a white grid pattern. On the right side, there is a photograph of a young woman with glasses and a headset, smiling while working on a laptop. The text is arranged in a clean, modern layout with bold fonts and yellow accents.

Have you signed up for Online SAT Prep yet?

**Dates:** Monday, July 27 through Thursday, July 30  
**Time:** 3:30 pm to 5:00 pm

**Location:** Virtual on Zoom

This virtual course for **rising 9th through 12th graders**, designed to prepare students for both the reading/writing and math sections of the SAT, will take place over four 90-minute classes.

The Zoom link will be emailed to registered students. You must be enrolled in the Talent Search program to participate.

Register for Online SAT Prep

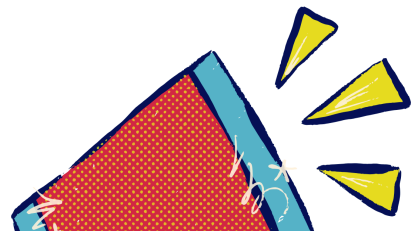
## "Education is Not Just a Ladder, But a Light" Watch Colman Domingo's Commencement Address



West Philadelphia native and Emmy award-winning actor Colman Domingo addressed the Temple University graduating class of 2026 at the Liacouras Center last month. [Click here to watch now.](#)

## Talent Search and TRIO Advocacy Update

Did you know that Penn Talent Search is a federal TRIO program?





TRIO programs operate in all 50 states, Washington, D.C., the Pacific Islands, and Puerto Rico.

Collectively, **more than 3,400 TRIO programs nationwide** help nearly one million students enter and graduate from college each year. Penn Talent Search alone serves 583 students in Philadelphia.

The Trump administration has released its **proposed 2027 budget**, requesting **a \$2.3 billion decrease in education funding**. The request would **eliminate federal TRIO programs**, which support low-income, first-generation students and students with disabilities, in addition to other college access programs.

**Policymakers in Congress need to hear from YOU** — the TRIO students, parents, and families — about the importance of protecting Talent Search and other programs, so we can continue to serve every one of our participants along their educational journey.

**Send a message to your senators and representative to ensure funding at the highest possible level for all TRIO Programs in the FY 2027 Labor-HHS-Education appropriations bill.**

Thank you for being a TRIO advocate!

## Opportunities for Talent Search Scholars

### Philadelphia Foundation Scholarships

The Philadelphia Foundation offers **more than 200 annual scholarships** to residents of the Greater Philadelphia region. Through Philadelphia Foundation's portal, applicants complete a set of basic questions and are then directed to apply to scholarship opportunities by answering required supplemental questions and writing short essays.

All applicants must meet the following eligibility requirements:

- Must be a **graduating high school senior**
- Must be accepted or enrolled at an accredited post-secondary institution (e.g., college, university or vocational/technical training provider)
- Must demonstrate unmet financial need (as determined by FAFSA). PF considers all income and assets of the student and their parents when determining financial need.

**Click here to get more information and apply no later than June 8.**

### Philadelphia Youth Poet Laureate

Administered by the Free Library of Philadelphia, the Youth Poet Laureate program gives one exceptional young poet a platform for creative expression and civic engagement through poetry.

The Youth Poet Laureate will serve a term from September 2026 through June 2027 and will:

- Serve as a leader and champion of Philadelphia's youth poetry community
- Be mentored by the Philadelphia Poet Laureate
- Participate in community projects and events that promote poetry, literacy, arts education, and youth advocacy
- Receive a **\$1,000 stipend** in two installments
- Be eligible to apply for the Regional and National Youth Poet Laureate contests administered by Urban Word NYC

Each applicant must be a **resident of Philadelphia enrolled in high school** or homeschool equivalent at the time of application. You may not graduate high school in 2026.

## Discover Swarthmore Fly-In Program

Discover Swarthmore is an all-expenses-paid overnight fly-in program offered each fall for **high-achieving high school seniors**. Participants experience Swarthmore College firsthand as they attend classes, stay with current students in residence halls, eat in the dining hall, and go to campus events.

All applicants to Discover Swarthmore will also receive:

- **\$60 Application Fee Waiver** should they choose to apply to Swarthmore for admission
- The option to use their Discover Swarthmore essay to replace their Swarthmore College Short Answer on their application for admission

Two Discover Swarthmore programs will be offered in Fall 2026: Thursday, September 24 through Saturday, September 26, 2026 and Thursday, October 22, 2026 through Saturday, October 24, 2026.

All interested rising high school seniors (U.S. citizens, permanent residents, and undocumented/DACA students attending school in the United States) are welcome to apply, though preference will be given to **students who are the first in their families to attend college, students from low-income backgrounds**, and students who might not otherwise be able to afford a trip to campus.

[Click here to get more information and apply no later than July 7.](#)

[Click here to get more information and apply no later than July 10!](#)

## Young Scholars High School Program

The Young Scholars High School Program allows **outstanding juniors attending a local high school** within commutable distance to the University of Pennsylvania to take college courses in the fall and spring semesters. In the Young Scholars Program, you can pursue your discipline beyond the level offered in secondary schools, get a head start on your college requirements, or explore a brand-new field that interests you. Students earn one course unit (1 c.u., **the equivalent of 4 college credit hours**) for each course taken.

Students who attend a City of Philadelphia public high school or charter high school may enroll in one undergraduate-level, College of Liberal and Professional Studies (LPS) course **tuition-free** in the spring and fall semesters through the Young Scholars Program.

You must be an 11th grader for the 2026-27 academic year.

[Click here to get more information and apply no later than August 1.](#)



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