Congratulations to 2013 Seniors Going to College

Congratulations to our 2013 seniors who are carrying out the mission of Educational Talent Search by continuing their education after high school. Fifty-two seniors this year have enrolled at twenty-three institutions of higher education. UC Clermont College is the most popular choice, with seventeen enrolled. Five are attending Northern Kentucky University, three each are at Shawnee State University, the Good Samaritan College of Nursing and Health Science, and the University of Cincinnati Blue Ash, and two each are at the University of Cincinnati Uptown campus, Ohio University, and Southern State Community College.

We wish our graduates the best in the future, and we hope they will carry with them wonderful memories of their experience with us.

2013 Overnight High School College Visit to St. Louis

In June 2013, Educational Talent Search students in grades 10 - 11 participated in our annual High School Overnight College Visit. Advisors Mrs. Melissa Luttmann (New Richmond and Grant Career Center), Mrs. Shari Taylor (Batavia, CNE, Goshen), and Mrs. Amy Thomas (Bethel, Felicity-Franklin, Williamsburg) welcomed students from all our high schools to UC East to board the Executive Travel tour bus for a trip west. First stop was University of Evansville (a small private liberal arts school in Evansville, Indiana), where our students enjoyed a campus tour and information session which included an overview of their strong Theater program. The students were also given t-shirts from the Home of the Purple Aces!

From Evansville, we headed to St. Louis, Missouri and enjoyed a great chicken dinner at the popular local restaurant, “Hodaks”. After checking in at our hotel for the evening, the students relaxed from the long journey in the swimming pool!

The next morning we traveled downtown to St. Louis University (nicknamed “SLU”) and the students enjoyed a campus tour and learned the origin of the school’s unique mascot The Billiken. SLU is a large Catholic, Jesuit institution on a beautiful urban campus setting. Since we were in the heart of downtown, we continued on to tour the beautiful Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis. We were all amazed by the rich history, architecture and design of this religious landmark. Our tour continued to the waterfront, where we boarded a riverboat for a tour of the city skyline. We then toured the famous Dred Scott Courthouse and rode up into the St. Louis Arch. After relaxing for a nice dinner at the Spaghetti Warehouse, we finished off the evening at the Circus Flora where we were entertained under the big top by several circus performers including the famous Flying Wallenda family!

The next morning our tour bus took us to Springfield, Illinois, where we toured the Lincoln Memorial Museum and visited the Lincoln Tomb. From Springfield we headed east to visit Milliken University in Decatur, Illinois. The students enjoyed a nice presentation from the admissions department of this small, private college and a campus tour before boarding the tour bus for the long ride home.

Even though it was an exhausting jammed-packed 3 day event, we continually received high praise from everyone we met on the exceptional behavior of the students who attended this trip. Parents and school personnel should be proud of the fine example that these students set. Thanks to all who attended!
College Visits 2013!

Educational Talent Search High School Students had the opportunity to see a variety of colleges during 2013!

We visited The Art Academy of Cincinnati, a private school with innovative programs; we were given a guided tour of the building and had time to peruse the onsite galleries. We had lunch downtown on Fountain Square and headed over to the Contemporary Art Center, where we had a docent led tour.

Morehead State University is a medium sized school that offers terrific value to our students, as they offer in state tuition to Ohio students who score an 18 on their ACT and have a 2.5 GPA. Besides being well known for its Education programs, it is one of the few schools in the U.S. that offers a bachelor’s degree in Space Science, and they work closely with NASA.

April is a beautiful time to visit the Bluegrass! In one visit we went to the University of Kentucky and Georgetown College. We walked all over the University of Kentucky’s gorgeous campus and had lunch in their dining hall. UK is a large public school with tremendous opportunities for their students. Known for Agriculture, Medicine and Engineering, UK is certainly worth a look!

Georgetown College is a beautiful liberal arts college with terrific scholarship opportunities for achieving students. Boasting a student to faculty ratio of 11:1, Georgetown is a small college that offers 46 majors. It has a rural feel while with quick access to metropolitan areas.

This school year we started off our visits with Rio Grande University/Community College. Rio Grande offers students the opportunity to live on campus and attend a community college. Lower cost, open access, no worries about getting back and forth to classes make this an excellent choice for many students. After two years students can graduate with an Associate’s Degree, transition to the University or transfer to a different university.

Marshall University was our destination after Rio Grande! We quickly traversed the medium sized campus and had a brief overview of the institution. Marshall is a beautiful campus and a very friendly environment. Well known for its Forensic Science program, Marshall has 53 other Baccalaureate Degrees, and 46 Graduate programs.

As you can see ETS students have the opportunity to see a wide variety of schools! We encourage students to visit colleges to see what different schools have to offer and learn what might be of interest to them. Students must be active ETS participants and have approval from their schools to be eligible to participate in visits.

WHAT IS ETS TUTORING —— WHO USES IT?

Our tutoring goal is to help students improve their learning strategies, which is a direct route to independence and empowerment academically. For example, we cover how to understand vocabulary, how to break tasks into parts, how to outline basic points and summarize, and how to use resources to understand material. Students receive homework help, vocabulary development (particularly in social studies and science), organization, and testing help.

Students who participate in tutoring are seeking help in daily work and also in maintaining a high G.P.A. (Grade Point Average) for possible scholarships and college admission to chosen schools. We also help with standardized testing and weekly class testing.

If you are interested in tutoring, contact your ETS advisor or call the ETS office at 558-7432 to find out what day and time the tutor is at your school.
Middle School Summer Week

The 2013 Middle Grades Summer Week was a great success for the program and our students. In 2013, we included grades 6-9 for individual grade activity days followed up by a day of fun, food, sun, swimming, sliding, and rides at Coney Island.

The week began with 6th graders making a visit to Newport Aquarium followed by walk back and forth over the Purple People Bridge to enjoy some outdoor time before fun with bowling and pizza at Newport on the Levy. We finished up our day with “froyo” at Orange Leaf and a quick game of kickball in the rain at the local park. A full day to be certain!

7th graders make the annual trip to Venthaven Ventriloquist Museum in Northern Kentucky. Venthaven is a hidden gem in the tri-state where hundreds of precious ventriloquists’ dolls are housed once they have completed their days of work. The Museum has connections to Jeff Dunham and teaches visitors about the history and influence of this fun and interesting art on the entertainment of both today and yesterday. And no...it is not a “scary” place to visit! We followed up this fun and interesting trip with pizza and a visit to Lazer Craze to jump on trampolines and have awesome shoot-outs on the laser tag floor. Great fun!!

8th grade students made their way to Columbus for a trip to COSI for science the fun way. Along with the usual exhibits and interactive stations, we visited the MYTHBUSTERS traveling exhibit and everyone had an awesome time with that activity! After a nice lunch at the Spaghetti Warehouse, we headed over to the Ohio Statehouse, the oldest functioning statehouse in the country, for a tour that really gave everyone a feeling of pride in our statehouse.

9th graders were invited to attend a day of theater and cultural exploration. On our way up to LaComedia Dinner Theatre, we made a stop at the Islamic Center of Cincinnati to take a tour of the facility and learn more about the history and real facts about this religion and culture. Our tour guide, a physician from Cincinnati, was great about addressing all our students’ questions and concerns, and she made a great impression on our students. From there, we proceeded to LaComedia to lunch and experience THE SOUND OF MUSIC live onstage. The story is beautiful, the actors and songs were fantastic, and the food delicious! Many of our students enjoyed exercising their more formal dress and manners, and they also enjoyed trying some new foods like schnitzel and sauerkraut.

All in all, Middle Grades Week 2013 was one to remember. The Talent Search program encourages all students to take their families to many of the sites that we experienced. Not all are as costly as the dinner theater and some are absolutely free, or nearly so. And families, if your family has had a great experience at a local (or somewhat local) attraction, please pass it along to our office; we are always looking for new experiences for our kids!
TRIO Educational Talent Search Funding

Educational Talent Search at UC Clermont continues to be successful in achieving our objectives. Most importantly, we have students who are graduating from high school each year and entering and succeeding in postsecondary education. Of course, as a federally funded program, the continuation of our services depends on the continuation of that funding.

The federal government recently cut spending on the federal TRIO programs, including Educational Talent Search, by more than 5% for the current program year. Depending on what your experience is and has been with Educational Talent Search, you have a civic right to contact members of Congress and express your views on the effectiveness of the TRIO programs. Members of Congress do pay attention to what we say. I have visited Washington a number of times and have spoken with many members of Congress and their aides, and I have always received a respectful hearing. Those I have spoken with have been familiar with Educational Talent Search and with TRIO and have been interested in what we are doing and in the achievements of our students.

Senator Rob Portman of Ohio is a member of both the Senate Finance Committee and the Senate Budget Committee. When Senator Portman was our representative for this district, he visited our campus and met with our students. His phone number is (202) 224-3353, and he can be reached by email: https://www.portman.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/contact-form

Senator Sherrod Brown of Ohio is a member of the Senate Finance Committee. His phone number is (202) 224-2315, and he can be reached by email: http://brown.senate.gov/contact

Representative Brad Wenstrup represents Clermont County in the United States House of Representatives and has visited our campus and met with us. His phone number is (202) 225-3164, and he can be reached by email: http://wenstrup.house.gov/contact

If you have any questions, please contact me at (513) 558-7437 or at dan.schneider@uc.edu

Dan Schneider
TRIO Educational Talent Search Director

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WEB ADDRESS: www.ucclermont.edu/ets/

Our Mission

Educational Talent Search at the University of Cincinnati Clermont College encourages and enhances the intellectual, cultural and social development of middle and high school students in Clermont County through learning experiences that supplement the school experience and promote participation in post-secondary education.