Greetings Talent Search scholars, parents, and guardians -

We are excited to welcome many new participants to the program this month! All scholars and families, both new and returning, are invited to join us for a Virtual Welcome Event on Monday, December 6 at 6:30 p.m.

This is your chance to meet our team and learn more about the program. In addition, we will hear from Guest Speaker Dr. Valarie Swain Cade McCoullum, Vice Provost for Student Engagement at the University of Pennsylvania.

Students who attend the welcome event will receive special priority for upcoming field trips.

Keep an eye on your inbox: The Zoom link for the event will be sent via email. We look forward to seeing you on Monday!

Refer a Friend to Talent Search and win!

Current Talent Search Scholars, do you have a friend, sibling, or cousin who could be a good fit for Talent Search? Share our program application and get them to apply. As our thanks, you'll receive one of many super cool Talent Search prizes!

On the application, be sure your friend enters your FULL NAME on the question that asks “Did a friend refer you to Talent Search?” Refer as many friends as you like – when they successfully complete the application (and include your name), YOU will win additional Talent Search swag!
Referring students must have already completed their own 2021-22 Talent Search Program Application.

New students must attend 6th-12th grade at one of the following target schools:
- John Bartram High School
- Murrell Dobbins Technical High School
- Thomas Edison High School
- Jules E. Mastbaum Area Vocational Technical School
- Parkway West High School
- The Workshop School
- John F. Hartranft School
- Robert E. Lamberton School
- Middle Years Alternative School

Tips & Tricks for Success in Middle School

10 Ways to Finish the Semester Strong

As 2021 comes to a close, here are some tips to finish the semester strong. Before you get into holiday mode, use these tips and tricks to complete all your assignments before break.

- Select a quiet place to study.
- Don't wait until the last minute.
- Use your daily planner for assignments.
- Dedicate a space for every class in your book bag.
- Stay organized throughout the year.
- Make study cards.
- Make your own study guide.
- Talk about assignments with friends.
- If you are struggling, ask for help.
- Make academics a focus in your life.

Questions about projects and assignments due should be asked before break, so if you need to catch up you can use the time over winter break.

Click here and here for more details explaining the above tips for success in middle school!

Have questions or in need of support? Reach out to Assistant Director of Curriculum & Assessment Jalaneya Marrero-Golden at jmgolden@upenn.edu.

Opportunities for Talent Search Scholars

Community College of Philadelphia Fall Open Houses

Join CCP for an open house to learn more about the college's academic programs and how to get started. After a brief admissions overview presentation, you'll have the opportunity to learn more about different academic pathways and your program of interest. Admissions and Financial Aid staff will be available to answer questions about the

Jr. Model United Nations - Student Diplomat Program

From January to May, this exciting program introduces middle school students to international affairs and cultural diplomacy. With an emphasis on developing students' research, writing, cultural competency, and communication skills, the Student Diplomat Program offers students an exciting opportunity to examine global conflicts and trends while
steps to enrollment and paying for college.

CCP will host open houses on the following dates:
Tuesday, December 7, 6-8 p.m. (in person)
Thursday, December 16, 6-7 p.m. (virtual)

Visit the CCP website to get more details and RSVP.

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**CCP Octavius Catto Scholarship**

The Octavius Catto scholarship is a new initiative designed to put more Philadelphians on the path to success at Community College of Philadelphia.

Eligible first-time, full-time students will receive:
- FREE tuition after financial aid
- Success coaches and advisors to help you stay on track
- Connection to city services like housing assistance and child care
- Support for food, books, and more

All new admission applications to CCP will be reviewed for eligibility for the Octavius Catto Scholarship.

Visit the CCP website for more information.

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**Covering the Gap: Pieces of the Puzzle to Help Pay Your Education Bill**

Whether you’re already trying to address the costs of college or just beginning to plan for higher education, join PHEAA for a **1-hour webinar** that will emphasize best practices, remind families about additional resources, and review private/alternative loans as a last resort in the process of covering the gap and keeping balances affordable.

This webinar is offered at the following dates and times:
Tuesday, December 7 at 12 noon
Tuesday, December 14 at 6:30 p.m.

Visit the PHEAA website to register now.

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Visit the Talent Search website and follow us on social media