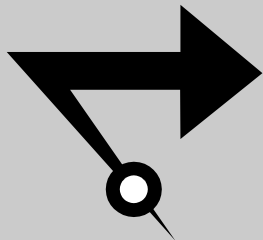


NINDE SCHOLARS PROGRAM

FALL NEWSLETTER 2008



Oberlin's Ninde Scholars Program

*Improving College
Access for Oberlin's
Young People*

Bo Arbogast
Director

Will Torres
Assistant Director

NINDE PROGRAM TURNING FIVE!

This year the Ninde Scholars Program will select its fifth class of scholars. Our program has become a well-known entity in the Oberlin community, dedicated to the vision of Dick and Nan Ninde, who sought to improve college access for Oberlin's young people. In 2004 the Nindes offered a generous challenge grant of \$450,000. The challenge was met, thanks to a concerted community fundraising effort.

The goal of the Ninde Scholars Program is to provide dynamic college access services to students from Oberlin High School who demonstrate a drive for learning and advancement but who lack the full support and resources to apply to college. Most services through the Ninde Program are available to all Oberlin High School students, but some are specifically tailored for a

small group of high-achieving "Ninde Scholars," who commit to rigorous weekly academic and college-application activities.

Ninde Scholars:

- meet weekly with a tutor from Oberlin College to work on test preparation, college essay writing, financial aid forms, and college applications;
- attend a series of workshops on the college search process;
- participate in an intensive summer writing program;
- complete weekly assignments related to college search and application; and
- participate in the program until they graduate from high school.

The Program will begin accepting applications in September. To apply, please see Will Torres at Oberlin High School or call 774-1295.

FOURTH CLASS OF NINDE SCHOLARS OFF TO COLLEGE



(from left: Will Torres, Nick Chmura, Rachel Luzckowski, Shaqwe Lawson, Rachel Daniels, Angela Daugherty, Bo Arbogast)

The fourth class of Ninde Scholars heads to college this fall:

Nick Chmura - University of Tampa,
Rachel Daniels - Cleveland State
University, Angela Daugherty, Lorain
County Community College, Shaqwe
Lawson - Notre Dame College of
Ohio, Alexa Fazekas - Lorain County

Community College, Rachel
Luzckowski - Oberlin College,
Congratulations to all - and don't
forget we're still here to help!

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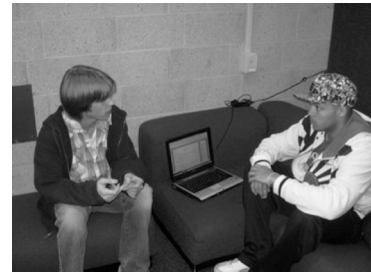
*“YOUNG PEOPLE
NEED TO HEAR THAT
THEY’RE DOING
WELL.”*



PROFILES OF THIS YEAR’S NINDE TUTORS

This year's tutors from Oberlin College are looking forward to a great year with the Ninde Scholars Program. The tutors are: Jerome Goings, Sophie Schacht, Katharine Sontag and Amanda Van Allen. **Jerome Goings** is a third-year student from Las Vegas, Nevada who is majoring in sociology and looks forward to his second year with the program. History major **Sophie Schacht** is from Rochester, New York, has worked with Big Brothers Big Sisters and has worked in the Oberlin schools before. **Katharine Sontag** is from Hastings-on-Hudson, NY. She has worked in the Oberlin schools as well, and as a writing tutor

at Oberlin College. Finally, **Amanda (Mandi) Van Allen** returns for her third year as a Ninde tutor. Mandi is planning to go into broadcast journalism after graduating this spring. She has really enjoyed her work with Oberlin High School students. We'll miss you, Mandi!



(Tutor Jerome Goings on right works with Chris Hall Ninde Scholar class of 2010)

PARENTS’ CORNER — HOW TO HELP YOUR TEEN SUCCEED IN SCHOOL AND BEYOND

Here are some time-tested tips for helping your teen succeed in school.

1- Talk to your teen every day about what happens in school.

Ask daily about messages from school and upcoming events.

2- Spend some relaxed time with your teen. Share a meal or a snack – praise them for what they’ve done well. Young people need to hear that they’re doing well!

3- Listen. Try to avoid scolding and arguments when your teen brings home bad news. Listen to their explanations and offer your help to improve the situation.

4- Make a connection between sports and school. Make sure your teen has regular time to do homework. Athletes need regular practice to succeed in sports; the

same is true for schoolwork.

5- Help your teen take the “Plan-Do-Finish” approach to schoolwork, especially for larger projects.

Step 1: Plan – make sure your teen understands all of the parts of a project. Are there different due dates? Does the project have different parts? Are special materials needed?

Step 2: Do – Make progress towards the goal every day. Check on your teen's work. If work has been stopped, try to find out why.

Step 3: Finish – An important part of any project is adding the finishing touches. Help your teen understand that the extra effort often makes the difference between an A and a B, or even between success and failure.

HOW WILL I PAY FOR COLLEGE?

Paying for college can seem like an impossible dream with today's prices. Here are some things to think about when it comes to paying for college:

1. Scholarships: You don't have to be the top in your class to get a scholarship. Some scholarships are available to students with a 2.5 GPA. Others are tied to specific fields, such as teaching, medicine, or journalism. Some are specific to Lorain County or even Oberlin.

2. Free colleges: Some colleges offer free tuition to all students who are accepted, including Cooper Union in New York, Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia, Berea College in Kentucky, and Webb Institute in Glen Cove, NY. Many small schools will also pay "full need." This means that they will make up the difference

between what you can afford and what the tuition costs.

3. Community Service: Programs like AmeriCorps offer money for college in exchange for community service work. There are also programs for nurses, teachers, doctors and lawyers if you're willing to work in a high-need area.

4. Go where you're wanted: Somewhere out there is a college or university that would really want you as a student. Find that school and see what they're willing to offer you!

5. Talk to Mr. Torres! Mr. Torres has been researching college scholarships and helping Oberlin High School students for the past three years. He knows a lot, and he knows people who can help – go and see him today.



WE NEED VOLUNTEERS!

There are many ways to help the Ninde Scholars Program. We can use your artistic talents to create publicity materials or talk to students who are interested in art. We can use help tutoring students in math and reading, we can always use help planning and preparing for events. Give us a call to see what you can do to help kids succeed!
440-775-6874

COLLEGE — BY THE NUMBERS...

\$23,400

Average salary for high school graduate

\$52,200

Average salary for college graduate

(source www.earnmydegree.com)

7.3

Estimated number of career options available to high school graduates

122.9 Estimated number of career options available to college graduates

(source www.mygreatlakes.org)

\$1,000,000

Estimated difference between the lifetime earnings of a college graduate and a high school graduate

(source U.S. Census 2001)

3 out of 10,000

The number of top men's high school basketball players who will make it to the pros. The number for football is 9 out of 10,000; for baseball it's 5 out of 10,000. In women's basketball 2 out of 10,000 make it to the pros! That's a lot of top athletes who will never play pro ball!

(source NCAA)

Going to college will give you knowledge and skills to look for a job in a field you like and will help you build a more secure financial future.

The Ninde Scholars Program is part of collaboration among Oberlin College, the Oberlin City School District, and the Lorain County Urban League. The program is supported by The Dick and Nan Ninde fund at The Community Foundation of Lorain County, The Hallock Foundation, Oberlin College, The Center for Student Opportunity, The Bill Long Foundation, and private donors.

Donations to the Ninde program are accepted by The Community Foundation of Lorain County. Contact: peoplewhocare.org

GETTING THE MOST OUT OF A COLLEGE TOUR

“Contact Elizabeth Meadows @ 440-323-3364 to find out more about the LCUL college tour”

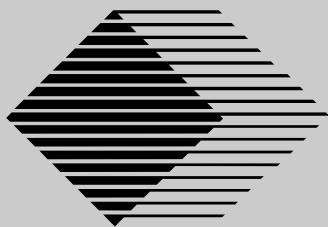
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Last year dozens of Oberlin High School students went on tours of colleges near and far. Here are some ways you can go on a college tour and some important things to keep in mind:

1. Lorain County Urban League

College Tour: Each year the LCUL conducts a college tour. They usually take several days, include overnights and are held in the spring or early summer. There is no cost for the tour, but you must register early. Contact Elizabeth Meadows @ 440-323-3364 to find out more.

2. **Oberlin High School Tours:** OHS organizes several college tours to places like Cleveland State, the College of Wooster, and Bowling Green. These are day trips, and students need to sign up in advance.

3. **Ninde Scholars Program:** Ninde Scholars make several college visits based on the campuses that most interest students.



(OHS students taking a tour of Baldwin Wallace campus)

Getting the Most Out of Your Tour

1. **Go during the academic year:** Colleges have different semester schedules. Make sure the school you're visiting is in session – you will get much more out of the visit.
2. **Don't just walk through: Sit down!** Go to the cafeteria and have a meal. Attend a class. Sit in the library and watch what people are doing. Spend time in a dorm and talk to students. You'll see more this way.
3. **Ask important questions.** Don't bother asking questions like average class size or the number of computers the campus has. You can find all of that online. Ask questions like:

Is it easy to make friends here?

What do people do on the weekends for fun?

Did you ever get homesick? What did you do?

Were you ever afraid you would fail out? What helped you to stay?

It might make you embarrassed to ask these questions, but you'll be glad you did!

SUMMER WRITING COURSE 2008 WRITES AWAY

Students of this year's summer writing course fired off dozens of essays in the early days of the summer. They met for two weeks at the Oberlin College library, learning how to write a winning college essay, how to make personal writing more interesting, and how to organize good, on-topic essays for school and for standardized tests. This summer, students used Oberlin College's Blackboard software program to share their writing with each other and with the instructor. Farah Emeka visited from Oberlin's admissions office with valuable tips on preparing a college essay and getting ready for college. One memorable exercise

had students write the same message three times, once as a text message to a friend, once as an e-mail to a parent, and finally to a principal or clergy member. Everyone learned some new vocabulary that day! ttyl gtg!



(Students at work at the Summer Writing Course, from left: Monica Rimbart, Cheryl Lindly, Alyssa Garcia, Beth Norton, Victoria Hardnett)