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- 1848 Tice Valley Blvd.
Walnut Creek, CA
94595
925-930-8255

Welcome

By Members of the Journalism Club

Welcome to Apex Newsletter!

The Apex Journalism Club has started a newsletter on behalf of Apex College Prep. Apex Journalism Club members include Leeann Chu, Deanna Lim, Nicole Lee, and Daniel Yi with direction from Rising Percey. These newsletters will be published bi-monthly (every two months) to keep parents and students up-to-date with events within Apex and relevant educational news.

This month's issue includes information on the Apex summer barbeque, Greg Roh, Youngki Cho, the Math Club award ceremony, and the hypercube demonstration. The newsletter also includes articles on important qualities in a student that colleges look for, a timeline for high school students, recommended reading, and various Apex announcements. We hope that you will enjoy and benefit from this newsletter.

If you have any news that you would like us to add on to future newsletters, please contact us at apex-newsletter@googlegroups.com

Sincerely,
Apex Journalism Club

All Eyes On Greg

By: Daniel Yi

On June 7, 2007, Greg Roh gave a groundbreaking speech at his 8th grade graduation at Tabernacle School. He was elected valedictorian of his school. After giving his speech, Greg stated that



Announcements:

Fall Program will start on August 27th.

We will be closed August 20th to August 24th.

Check out our new website!

Test Dates:

ACT:

September 15, 2007

October 27, 2007

SAT:

October 6, 2007

November 3, 2007

Reminders:

Please return all borrowed books to Mrs. Yi

Tuition is due the first day of each month and late charges will be assessed after the 10th day of the month.

although he would have been nervous in front of the crowd, including his 8th grade class, many parents and grandparents, even his grandparents from Korea, and he felt very comfortable. According to Greg, one of the

reasons for this was the Debate program held at Apex. He said that it has helped him to be more confident and comfortable while speaking in front of crowds. Greg will be attending De La Salle High School this coming fall and his future looks very bright.



End Of The Year BBQ

By Deanna Lim

As the school year comes to an end, students anxiously await the glorious summer days. On June 16th, Apex hosted an end-of-the-year barbecue party to kick off the beginning of this upcoming summer.

Everyone who attended Apex was invited to Mrs. Yi's house for a last farewell get-together before everyone started their own summer plans. This party gave the students an opportunity to talk and spend time with the tutors and seniors for the last time as well as spend time with other fellow students.

More importantly, this barbecue was a tribute to the tutors and graduating seniors who will be no longer be at Apex. Chris Yi, Katrina Uychaco, and Sung Chung have helped a great deal at Apex, and we are sorry to see them go. Stephanie Kim, Cynthia Oh, Youngki Cho, Steven Lee, Simon Son, and Doug Choi attended Apex for a number of years, and we wish them the best as they continue on the journey of their lives.

Youngki Performs at Yoshi's

By Daniel Yi

The lights are dim and all heads are turned in the direction of the lit stage. A group of high school students sit on the stage where famous jazz musicians like Poncho Sanchez and Oscar Peterson have sat.

On May 15, 2007, the Northgate Jazz Band performed at Yoshi's, a well known sushi

restaurant in Oakland. The band featured one of Apex's very own student-turned-teachers, Youngki Cho. Playing the baritone saxophone, Youngki was featured as a soloist in many of the band's pieces.

The band performed many different jazz and swing pieces such as songs by Benny Goodman, "Jelly Roll" Morton, and Duke Ellington.

In between solos, Youngki could be seen laughing and conversing with his fellow band members. Through his many mentions throughout the conductors speech, it is evident that Youngki's great personality and charisma is present both on and off the stage. Youngki is going to attend UC Davis in the fall.

Math Club Award Ceremony

By Deanna Lim

On June 12th, Apex Math Club held its first annual award ceremony. Apex Math Club is a program that allows students to participate in math contests and various international math competitions where students can show off their math abilities.

The divisions are separated by age. Students in grade 8 and below can participate in the AMC 8 (American Math Competition) Test and Math Olympiad. Students in grades 9 and 10 can take the AMC 10 and Mandelbrot, while students in grades 11 and 12 can take the AMC 12 and Mandelbrot. The AMC is the first of four tests progressing onto international competitions. If a student taking the AMC 10 or 12 receives a high score, he or she can compete internationally representing the United States against other



students who received high scores. These scores are beneficial on future college applications.

All of the students that participated in the Math Contests were invited to this honorable event and received a Certificate of Participation. Students awarded with a Certificate of Achievement included Nicole Lee, who placed second in her age division within Apex, and Jung Suh, who placed third overall in the Math Contests. Apex hopes to compete again next year with its award-winning students.

Hypercube Demonstration

By Nicole Lee

On Tuesday, May 22nd, Mr. Yi gave an exciting demonstration of the hypercube. He built shapes with construction toys similar to K'nex and dipped them into a bucket of bubbles. The bubbles connected in the least predictable shapes and left students amazed. Mr. Yi made many different figures and kept the students guessing what pattern the bubbles would form. He would put the figure with the bubbles in front of the projector so everyone could see what it looked like as a 2-dimensional shape on the screen. Mr. Yi would hold the figures up over the projector and twist and turn them to show everyone the different shapes they could make. He taught the students



that most shapes you see in 2D are just different views of the same figure in 3D.

Mr. Yi let the students make their own shapes and bubbles. It was a lot of fun building crazy shapes with our friends. In addition, he made a cube and dipped it into the bubbles, showing a great example of a hypercube, a 4D object. Basically, a hyper cube is a smaller cube inside of a larger cube, but connected together. The bubbles surprisingly formed a hypercube and everyone was impressed. Mr. Yi's demonstration was an amazing experience that everyone would remember.

What Do Colleges Look For In a Student?

By Leeann Chu

With college admissions reaching record heights, make sure to read these tips about beating the odds and becoming accepted to the college of your choice.

1. A challenging curriculum (Honors and Advanced Placement classes.)
2. Grades demonstrating strong effort and/or an upward trend of improvement.



3. High scores on Standardized Tests (SAT or ACT)

4. Involvement in activities such as sports, clubs, etc. that demonstrate passion and long-term interest.

5. Community service that reflects compassion for other people and a contribution to society.

6. Work or extracurricular experiences (summer activities, internships, etc.)

7. Well-written essay that provides details about the students' personality, values, and goals.

8. Letters of recommendations from teachers, counselors, coaches, etc.

that show positive character traits (although these are not required for many public schools)

9. Anything that makes the student stand out from the other thousands of applicants! (Talents, honors, awards, experience, etc). Colleges

look for students who would constantly contribute to the collegiate student body.

Recommended Reading List

K-5:

Intermediate:

Red, Red, Red by Valeri Gorbachev

Turtle rushes through town to find something “red, red, red” with his friends.

Advanced:

The Candy Corn Contest by Patricia Reilly Giff

What will happen when the teacher finds out that Richard stole her candy corn?



6-8:

Intermediate:

The Clique by Lisi Harrison (series)

Massie Block and her socially elite clique have to learn to accept Claire Lyons, a “Loser Beyond Repair”, into their group because she now lives in Massie’s guest house.

Advanced:

Twilight by Stephenie Meyer

Bella and Edward are dangerously in love, literally. At any moment in their intense relationship, Edward could kill her because – well, he’s a vampire.

9-12:

Intermediate:

Staying Fat for Sarah Byrnes by Chris Crutcher

An obese boy and a disfigured girl are left with emotional scars after going through years of harassment. They share much in common and become very close until the end of senior year, when they’re separated into very different directions.

Advanced:

The Thirteenth Tale by Diane Setterfield

Writer Vida Winter tells strange, gothic tales about the Angelfield family to Margaret. Yet Margaret doesn’t believe these stories and therefore goes out in search of the truth. Her discoveries on her journey become a chilling and transforming experience.

Timeline for High School Students (Summer)

By Leeann Chu

Freshmen:

1. Start Researching Colleges: Make college information folders to organize research.
2. Get Ahead: Take many summer classes that will give high school credit. (Local community colleges and some district high schools offer certain classes for students to receive credit.)
3. Outline A Plan: make appointments with your high school counselor.
4. Search for Internships and Scholarships Early: Career counselors can provide more information.
5. Read Literary Novels: to enhance your vocabulary and prepare for AP classes, testing, and SAT writing and critical reading sections.



Sophomore:

1. Start Researching Scholarships And Grants: High school guidance counselors can help.
2. Prepare For PSAT's: Start early because they take place in October.
3. Think Ahead: Enroll in classes that could benefit your SAT Subject Tests. (Such as Biology, Chemistry, and World History etc.)
4. Challenge Your Classes: Enroll in many honors and Advanced Placement classes.
5. Start Researching Colleges: Keep adding to your college information folder.
6. Get Ahead: Take many summer classes that will give high school credit. (Local community colleges and some district high schools offer certain classes for students to receive credit.)
7. Read Literary Novels: to enhance your vocabulary and prepare for AP classes, testing, and SAT writing and critical reading sections.

Juniors:

1. Take SAT/ ACT Classes: This is a crucial year for colleges.
2. Challenge Your Classes: Enroll in many honors and Advanced Placement classes to raise your GPA.
3. Prepare For PSAT's: Start early because they take place in October.
4. Explore College Campuses: College fairs can also help students find more information.
5. Plan Your Time Wisely: Get a summer job, internship or enroll in summer classes.
6. Start College Essays: Consider what to write for your college application essays.

Seniors:

1. Explore College Campuses: Tour many college campuses to get an idea of which college to apply.
2. Explore Your Options: Utilize the internet, high school counselors or college books to learn about every type of school. (Public, private, liberal arts schools, UC's, states etc.)
3. Write Your Essay: Start writing your essay early
4. Make A Timeline: Include application deadlines for all the colleges.
5. Study and take your last ACT, SAT and SAT subject tests. It's your last chance!
6. Keep looking for scholarships and begin learning about financial aids.
7. Catch Up Or Get Ahead: Get many credits done over the summer by taking summer classes. (Local community colleges and some district high schools offer certain classes for students to receive credit in.)

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-FREE Arts And Craft Classes offered for K-5th Graders

-Taught by talented high school students.

- 7/28/07- 8/18/07, Saturdays, 2-3pm
- Material fee required

Great America Summer Trip

- August 20th, 2007, Monday, 9:00am- 6:00 pm
- Call Mrs. Yi for discounted coupons

College Application and Essay Workshop

- Starting on July 28th, 2007, 2:00-4:00pm, 4:00-6:00pm
- Spaces are limited, register early!

College Educational Seminar

- August 16th, 2007, Thursday, 7:30pm-9:00pm

We will have a guest speaker, Alan Young, who is an Independent College Counselor. He is an admissions reader at UC Berkeley, alumini interviewer for Duke University, and former Admissions Fellow for the Duke School of Business.

Apex Volunteer Club has started. The next volunteer meeting will be August 1st 7-8pm. Join us to find out more about Fresh Start and other volunteer opportunities.

Join the new Apex Journalism Club!