

Summer Options: 2010

Today's Presenters:
Dawn Betts, Counselor
Trevor Sturgeon, Counselor

Singapore American School
January 25, 2010



OPTIONS FOR SUMMER ACTIVITIES



- ❖ Academic programs
- ❖ Recreational/personal growth/sports camps
- ❖ Travel
- ❖ Volunteer work
- ❖ Employment
- ❖ Family
- ❖ College Visits

CHOOSING WISELY



- ❖ 5000 summer programs!
- ❖ Why
- ❖ Research
- ❖ Student Input
- ❖ Structure, length, cost

“BAD MATCHES”

- ❖ No research
- ❖ No student input
- ❖ Wrong reasons
- ❖ The “Chosen One”

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS



- ❖ Boarding school programs
- ❖ College-based programs
- ❖ Language programs
- ❖ Leadership Programs
- ❖ Arts Programs
- ❖ Singapore-based Programs

BOARDING SCHOOL PROGRAMS

- ❖ 4 to 6 weeks in length (June/July)
- ❖ Cost: US \$4,000 to \$8,000
- ❖ 1-2 academic subjects and 1 activity
- ❖ Can include SAT or TOEFL prep
- ❖ Optional tours of nearby cities
- ❖ Offer good ESL programs

COLLEGE-BASED PROGRAMS

- ❖ College courses (most major universities)
Usually for rising juniors and seniors only
- ❖ Pre-College programs (“purchased experience”)
Summer Discovery (primarily US/some international)
OxBridge (Europe) NO connection to UK admissions
- ❖ Pre-College programs (selective criteria)
TIP Duke University (No admissions preference)
EPGY Stanford University (also in SG) -see above
Junior Scholars Miami (OH) University (pre-selection)
TASP (strong PSAT results)

LANGUAGE PROGRAMS

- ❖ Consult SAS language teachers (great resource)
- ❖ Campus based (ex. Middlebury)
- ❖ Concordia Language Villages
- ❖ Summer study abroad- many US colleges open programs to HS students

LEADERSHIP PROGRAMS

Leadership skills

- ❖ College sponsored leadership programs-
- ❖ Private sponsored- *Global Youth Leadership*

*Special note: Keep things in perspective as you see words such as “nominated” or “selected”.

ARTS PROGRAMS (SAMPLE)

- ❖ Art/Architecture (Feb. 25th evening @ SAS)
- ❖ Music
- ❖ Industrial Design
- ❖ Photography
- ❖ Theatre/Film
- ❖ Dance/Fashion
- ❖ Digital Media/Computer Animation

SINGAPORE-BASED PROGRAMS

- ❖ Stanford EPGY (minimum GPA required)
- ❖ “Use your own ingenuity” program

MYTH & FACTS



- ❖ Improving college chances
- ❖ Credit value and real value
- ❖ Is everyone going?

SIX SOURCES TO CONSIDER

- ❖ *Yale Daily News Guide to Summer Programs*
- ❖ *Peterson's Summer Opportunities 2009*
- ❖ *Early College Programs*
- ❖ SAS HS Counseling Website + other HS sites (ASIJ)
- ❖ *The 500 Best Ways for Teens to Spend the Summer: Programs for College Bound High School Students*
- ❖ *Enrichment Alley* (www.enrichmentalley.com)

ACTIVITY OR SPORTS CAMPS

- ❖ 1-2 weeks

- ❖ Sample Offerings:

 - Biking, hiking, sailing, canoeing

 - Wilderness/adventure programs

- ❖ Team or individual sports camps

VOLUNTEER WORK

- ❖ Unpaid internships
- ❖ Community service
- ❖ Zoo volunteer (contact any zoo)
- ❖ Hospital volunteer program (contact hospital)

Cautions about paying money to participate in
“community service” programs

GET A JOB

- ❖ American Assoc. **CRCE Youth Internship Program** *Youth Employment Program*

<http://www.aasingapore.com>

- ❖ Let others know you are looking for a job
- ❖ Working for dad: pros and cons
- ❖ New Internship program – contact Heidi Kingman crce.manager@aasingapore.com

VISIT FAMILY/FRIENDS



- ❖ Reconnecting
- ❖ Developing as a human being, enhancing one's social skills, clarifying one's values through friendships, building strength of character

COLLEGE VISITS

❖ Why

❖ When

❖ What

❖ How

WHY VISIT?



- ❖ Initiates the college process
- ❖ Clarifies the desired size, type, location
- ❖ Clearer picture of what it's really like
- ❖ Finding a “fit”
- ❖ Ask questions on campus

WHEN TO VISIT?



- ❖ Anytime in high school
- ❖ After basic research
- ❖ Time of year: Spring break or summer

WHAT: TYPE OF COLLEGE VISITS

- ❖ Independent (arrange on your own)
- ❖ Organized Tour Groups
 - ❖ TS College Tours www.tscollegetours.com Feb. 18th
 - ❖ College Visits (www.college-visits.com)
 - ❖ About 1 week in length
 - ❖ Cost 2,000 USD

HOW: PLANNING A VISIT



- ❖ Normally 2 per day
- ❖ From the college website, find out:
 - Tours time(s)
 - Info. session time(s)
 - Are interviews possible/required/not done?
 - Reconfirm reservation or appointment

ORGANIZATION



- ❖ List of what you want to find out
- ❖ Create a form, checklist
- ❖ Specific questions for a particular college?
- ❖ Appointments with financial aid, specific dept., coach

COLLEGE INTERVIEW

- ❖ lf being interviewed:
 - ▣ research college
 - ▣ prepare questions
 - ▣ dress is important
 - ▣ review the SAS website tips
 - ▣ parent does not attend
 - ▣ send a thank you note

EMOTIONAL PREPARATION

- ❖ Be objective- try not to project your own hopes and dreams
- ❖ You want the best for your child, but it needs to be their choice
- ❖ Be prepared for various reactions:
 - ❖ Disinterest, boredom
 - ❖ I don't like any college
 - ❖ I'll never be able to decide
 - ❖ I'll never get in anywhere
 - ❖ You're embarrassing me

DURING THE VISIT



- ❖ Take the tour; Ask questions; Filter the answers
- ❖ Attend information session
- ❖ Eat a meal
- ❖ Overnight in a dorm if possible (student)

EXPLORE THE CAMPUS



- ❖ Student newspapers
- ❖ Bulletin boards
- ❖ Events advertised
- ❖ Talk to students

AFTER THE VISIT



- ❖ Listen
- ❖ Add in additional comments from observations
- ❖ Write down overall impressions separately

UPCOMING MEETINGS



- ❖ TS College Tours presentation – Feb. 18th
- ❖ Arts and Architecture night – Feb. 25th
- ❖ CHECK OUT SAS Counseling site for links to thousands of summer opportunities



THANK YOU FOR COMING!