Talent Search Students Win Gates Millennium Scholarship

We are so proud of Talent Search participants Jenna Hailey and Maymi Preston of Hoopa Valley High School. They have both been awarded one of the most coveted sources of college funding, the Gates Millennium Scholarship (GMS). The world’s largest private scholarship effort, GMS awards scholarships to African American, American Indian/Alaska Native, Asian Pacific Islander American and Hispanic American students who demonstrate academic excellence, community service and strong leadership skills. The scholarship funds college costs not covered by other programs and scholarships and can be renewed for up to five years for undergraduate study in any field, two years of graduate, and four years of PhD study in approved fields.


Annually the Student Academic Services Outreach Program (SASOP) hosts a workshop for students meeting the eligibility requirements for the Gates Millennium Scholarship. Each student is provided access to a campus computer, and trained professionals assist students with filling out the GMS application. In addition, students learn how to search for local scholarships and other free national scholarship search sites. This year’s hands-on workshop will be held Saturday, November 18, 2006. Any student interested in attending should reserve a spot by calling the SASOP office at (707)826-4791.

2006 NorCal Student Leadership Conference

For the past two years, I’ve gone on the Student Leadership Conference with Talent Search to go and check out colleges and what they have to offer. This last trip we went down to Santa Rosa Junior College and Sonoma State University. Doing this, being able to tour the campuses, really gave me good insight into what they had to offer, and additionally, what I could offer them. We were able to attend learning groups where people from the colleges gave us lessons on what we had to have to be eligible to go there, and what kind of extra-curricular activities looked good, stuff like that.

On top of all the great college experience I received there, I also had a ton of fun and got to meet a lot of new people that I never would have had I not gone. It was amazing to me how I made friends so quickly with the people that went down there with us, even though it was just a couple of days. When I was down there, I met people from all over California that were pretty cool. Overall, this is a spectacular experience to get involved in, I learned so much that I’ll be able to apply to college with more confidence and know what to look out for.
**A Message From The Director**

As you may know, R.W. Hicks, the previous director of our program retired from Humboldt State University (HSU) in July 2006. He and his wife Maurya, a long-time employee of Eureka City Schools, are moving out of the area after devoting many years of service assisting youth in attaining their educational goals. We wish him and his wife great success in their new home and look forward to their visits.

I have been asked to fill the large shoes of Mr. Hicks and have humbly accepted the privilege of carrying on the torch of Educational Talent Search at Humboldt State University. Having worked side-by-side with R.W. for 9 years, I have admired his commitment and professionalism and hope to continue providing quality service for our students and their families.

We have a very devoted staff, each with many years of experience and a willingness to professionally develop their skills. For example, this summer Academic Outreach Specialists have attended a week of training at The Educators’ Institute to learn to create student-centered test preparation programs. They have learned the tools to assist students with school based standardized tests (CST, CAHSEE) as well as pre-college entrance exams (P/SAT I, SAT II, and the ACT). No more fear of tests for Educational Talent Search participants!

We have planned a year of activities for each grade level and we look forward to seeing you at our events. Please watch your mail for information on upcoming events and activities, and let us know what we can do to assist you and your student.

**The Ice Cream Scream**

“You guys are great!” “You should do more fun events.” “A very friendly atmosphere, with very good presentations.” “Do it more often!” These were just a few of the comments from last year’s Ice Cream Social. It may have been raining outside, but the atmosphere inside was like an island get-a-way with tropical music and images of island retreats.

Parents had a chance to learn what the Talent Search Program has to offer their student(s) and family. The Financial Aid Director at Humboldt State University talked with interested parents about the cost of college, deadline dates for filing, and forms that should be filed when applying for college aid. Parents with 6th - 11th grade students were able to get a head start on their planning while the parents of the 12th grade students became familiar with the forms.

An HSU Admissions Counselor gave a PowerPoint presentation on the A-G admission requirements. She explained the different types of colleges and requirements for admission, which included entrance exams, grade point average (GPA), and placement tests (ACT, SAT). Parents really understood the importance of talking with their student about college at a very early age.

Participants gained knowledge, shared information, played games, took tours, created art and fun, and ate a whole lot of ice cream. This social event gives students a chance to come to campus, learn what college has to offer, and see a bit of campus life. For parents, it’s a chance to learn how they can better help their student(s) along the path to college.

Don’t miss out on this Fall’s Ice Cream Social!
Communication Tips for Parents

“You never listen to me” is a complaint heard as often from children as parents. Good communication from parents helps children develop confidence, feelings of self-worth, and good relationships with others. Try these tips:

• **Make the Time.** In today’s complex world, it’s even more important to make sure you set aside time to talk. That doesn’t mean you have to hold a formal meeting. Sometimes the best discussions take place while you’re driving the car or putting around the kitchen.

• **Listen to the Little Stuff.** Kids will talk to you if they know you’re going to listen — whether they discuss heavy issues such as sex and drugs, or everyday things like schoolwork. If your kids know you’re listening, they are more likely to trust you enough to talk about everything in their life.

• **Listen Between the Lines.** Because a lot of kids find it hard to talk to their parents about things that really matter, parents have to pay special attention to what their kids may be trying to say. It helps to pay particular attention to emotions—not just the emotion itself, but its intensity, too.

• **Ask their Opinion.** Few things please children (or anybody else) more than being asked their opinion. You don’t have to ask about important issues all the time, either.

• **Don’t Interrupt.** In a national survey, more than half the children said that when they talked, their parents often or sometimes didn’t give them a chance to explain themselves. It’s a good idea to give your children some extra time to explain their opinion or desires, even if you think you know what they’re going to say.

Ten Words and Phrases to Use at Least Once a Day

*Everyday phrases to instill confidence, self-respect, and thoughtfulness in children.*

1. **Thank you.** It’s important to acknowledge your child’s efforts to help you or others.

2. **Tell me more.** Words like these show your child that you are listening and that you would like to hear more about what’s on her mind.

3. **You can do it.** Your expression of confidence in your child’s ability to do many things without your help is important. As your child grows older, there will be many times when your encouragement will mean the difference between his giving up on a challenging task or seeing it through.

4. **How can I help?** Let your child know you are willing and available to help her accomplish a particular task that may be difficult for her to manage on her own.

5. **Let’s all pitch in.** Cooperation and team effort make many jobs easier and speedier—and often more fun. Family activities and group chores can develop into pleasant rituals that enrich a child’s life and create fond memories.

6. **How about a hug?** Don’t just tell your child you love him—show him.

7. **Please.** After all these years, “please” is still a classic. When you ask a favor of anyone—including children—this “magic word” acknowledges that you are asking for a behavior that will help you and/or make you happy.

8. **Good job!** Good for you. Self-respect and self-confidence grow when your child’s efforts and performance are rewarded.

9. **It’s time to...** “It’s time to get ready for bed,” or “do homework,” or “turn off the TV.” It is up to you as a parent to establish and maintain a workable schedule of activities.

10. **I love you.** Everyone needs love and affection and a feeling of acceptance and belonging. We can’t assume that children know and understand our love for them unless we tell them.

Excepted from “Words to Parent By,” March 1999, in Our Children, the official magazine of the National PTA.
The Choice Is Yours!

Just returning from a trip to Washington D.C. where he was a program facilitator at Johns Hopkins University, for eleventh graders exploring medical school, Ker Thao, a former Talent Search student was eager to share what he had just experienced.

At Johns Hopkins, Ker found there are other opportunities for doctors besides treating patients. Working with the United Nations, for example, to improve conditions in communities would help him fulfill two career wishes - to become a doctor and assist communities of people. Ker will apply to Johns Hopkins when he graduates from HSU.

Lucy Locke graduated from UC Davis with a degree in American Studies. Lucy credits the encouragement she received from her Talent Search counselor and high school teacher, Forrest Stamper, for encouraging her to apply to a UC instead of going to a community college. “My experiences at the university opened my eyes to a whole new way of seeing the world,” Lucy explained.

Lucy currently fills in as a substitute teacher in the Klamath-Trinity School District and works with students in the after school program at Trinity Valley Elementary School. She will go back to college to earn her teaching credential.

Christopher McConkey, a Talent Search student since the sixth grade, received a full four-year full scholarship through the QuestBridge Scholars Program, administered through Stanford. He will be attending Amherst College in Massachusetts this fall. He encourages students to attend workshops, ask questions and sharpen their writing skills. He felt AP English was very helpful in doing this. His Talent Search counselor was able to write a letter of recommendation for the QuestBridge scholarship because of the relationship they had developed over time.

Ker, Lucy, and Chris are just a few of the students who participated in Talent Search activities and made good use of Talent Search services. They encourage others to participate, to reach out and to learn all they can. There are many roads to success. If your map is incomplete, use Talent Search to help you fill in your route and get where you want to go.

Have You Found Your Talent?

A lot of students think Talent Search is for singers and dancers, but we have students with a much broader range of Talent than that. Some of our students are artists, some are musicians, and others are terrific actors. We also have students who can design buildings, cars, clothes, hairstyles, motorcycles, faster skateboards, and protective extreme sports gear. We have students who want to discover new solutions in chemistry, who can present a new perspective about events in history, or work through a page of calculus and ask for more. We have students who are great writers, have a talent for learning new languages, and can speak well in front of a big audience. And most importantly, we have students who have a talent for helping others find their talents, and we have students who are busy finding their own talent.

Finding your talent is one of the goals of participation in Talent Search. We hold career workshops every year during which students begin considering their strengths and their passions and match them with possible career paths. Students assess their own career potential through interesting tests that match personalities with compatible careers. Best of all, students are often surprised to discover career ideas that they may never have considered.

Sometimes students have already selected a firm career, and sometimes students discover they can create a job that matches their skills and strengths. That’s the fun part about career planning! For example: if a student wants to work in the professional sport field and has a passion for architecture s/he can design sports arenas or training facilities. These are ways students can make their careers more enjoyable by combining their interests with their skills.

Start planning your career now. Make note of the interests that occupy your imagination and the activities that you find most engaging. Then explore career options that match those activities and let your imagination soar.
Go Mustangs!

Founded in the mid-1950’s, Blue Lake Elementary School is one of eleven elementary/middle schools served by the HSU Educational Talent Search program. 177 students attend Blue Lake Elementary and if you ask the school secretary, Adrienne Nielson, (resident of Blue Lake) what is so wonderful about this quaint place, she would say, “It’s a close knit community and you get to know all of the students and their families.”

Right now there are nearly twenty 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students who are enrolled in the Talent Search program at “BLUES” (Blue Lake Union Elementary School). Most students who graduate from Blue Lake Elementary will attend high school in Arcata or McKinleyville which is fortunate because both of those high schools (as well as five others) are served by the Talent Search program. If you ask a Blue Lake eighth grader what they like most about being in the Talent Search program you will hear them say:

“Talent Search keeps me happy.” – Sierra Coombes

“I like the workshops the best, and Talent Search makes me jump like a bean.” – Kayla Tauzer

“What I like most about Talent Search is that it helps my education to be better.” – Tessa Delaney

“Talent Search has helped me in every area of my future career. It’s not one of those boring, do nothing classes, its fun and exciting!” – Kayla Buzzard

“Talent Search helps me for my future. It is so much fun and you get to learn. It helps me with my homework and most important - its fun.” – Ashley Taylor

“Talent Search keeps me alive!” -- Iain Haukka

All Aboard... College Bound!

Eighty-five percent of Humboldt State University Talent Search participants go on to college... and you can be one of them! Be willing to take the A-G requirements in high school and you will be college-eligible by the time you are a senior! There are fifteen classes that you need to incorporate into your high school action plan. You can even start taking some of them in middle school! HOW COOL IS THAT!

What are A-G requirements? Good Question! Here’s the Answer:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AREA</th>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>History/Social Science</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>3 (4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>Lab Science</td>
<td>2 (3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>Language other than English</td>
<td>2 (3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>Visual and Performing Art</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G</td>
<td>College Prep Elective</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

15 Units

Make sure to sign up for those classes that count as A – G classes when you enroll. If you want to find out what classes count at the high school you are attending, simply go to www.assist.org. Click on “Related Sites” then click on “High School A-G lists”. Type in your high school and you can see which classes count! If you don’t have a computer, see your Talent Search Counselor. She can help you get a copy! Hop on the right track now! The college prep track.....ALL ABOARRRRRD!
The Namedropper

Congratulations to the Talent Search Senior Class. We are proud to share with you the numerous scholarships, awards, commendations and educational grants our students received over the last academic year. The list is so extensive that we do not have space to print all of them here. We have made an effort to represent at least one or two students from each of the schools we serve.

**Arcata High School**


**Fortuna Union High School**


**Hoopa Valley High School**


Grand Prize Winner!

Each year the Humboldt State University Student Academic Services Outreach Program staff prepares a newsletter for all 6th grade students in Humboldt County. The newsletter contains information on preparing for college at an early age. The goal is to help students get ahead of the game. By preparing early, students will have greater opportunities and may be able to enter the college of their choice. The newsletter includes an annual contest, whereby students answer questions about the newsletter content and submit their entries into a grand prize drawing. This year, a Talent Search student at Trinity Valley Elementary School, Brendan Bosco, was the grand prize winner. He won a $40 gift certificate for Home Town Buffet and his teacher, Mrs. Moon won a $100 gift certificate for Moon’s Play & Learn. Congratulations Brendan!
Jackson Scholarship, Thomas Merton Scholarship. **Wolf Bilzing** – Bank of America Achievement Award, ROP Certificate/Welding & Automotive Technology. **Arnie Davis** – Bank of America Achievement Award, ROP Certificate Automotive Technology, Tribal Education Department Tribal Grant Winner. **Lance Keen** – ROP Certificates Welding & Automotive Technology.

South Fork High School

In Memoriam
Talent Search participant, Sierra Lauraine Weatherbee, 17, was fatally injured along with three other local teenagers in a car accident near Crescent City in mid-April 2006. Sierra was a student at Eureka High School. She enjoyed rollerblading, reading, music, and movies. Her goal was to become a Pediatrician. Sierra was an only child.

Cheer for Our Scholarship Award Winners
Talent Search students Xer Cha, Ashley Taylor, Disney Gamboa, and Linda Kindley are winners of the Sixth Educational Gear-up Competition. The $2,500 awards are funded by the California Student Aid Commission. Each student is awarded an account held in trust by the Commission until the student enrolls in college. 8th grade students are selected for this scholarship who have a good grade point average (GPA) and excellent attendance at Talent Search Workshops. So, keep those grades up and get to those workshops. You could be a scholarship winner, too.

Xer Cha attends Zane Middle School. Her interests are writing, animals, and Japanese Anime. Ashley Taylor attends Blue Lake Union School. She has a keen interest in the paranormal and crime scene investigation. Disney Gamboa and Linda Kindley both attend Toddy Thomas School. Disney likes foreign languages and literature and wants to be a judge. Linda would like to be a zoologist or a veterinarian or a pet store owner. Congratulations to All!
Educational Talent Search Newsletter 2006

For more information about Talent Search or to request an application to participate, call (707) 826-4791 or email us at hsuets@humboldt.edu

visit our website at: www.humboldt.edu/~hsuets

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Educational Talent Search

Talent Search is a pre-college program for 6th -12th grade students. With more than 1000 local students involved, the purpose of Talent Search is to help students improve their academic skills and attend the college of their choice.

Workshops offered at the students’ schools include information on

- College Preparedness
- Careers
- Study Skills
- Financial Aid

Activities include special seminars for parents, campus tours and group tutoring. Talent Search serves students who are the first in their family to attend college, and/or are income eligible. Services are offered at the following schools:

- Blue Lake Elementary
- Eureka Adult School
- Eureka High School
- Fortuna Middle School
- Fortuna High School
- Hoopa Valley Elementary
- Hoopa Valley High School
- McKinleyville High School
- McKinleyville Middle School
- Pacific Union Elementary
- Peninsula Union School
- South Fork High School
- Sunny Brae Middle School
- Toddy Thomas School
- Trinity Valley Elementary
- Winship Middle School
- Zane Middle School
- Zoe Barnum High School

Talent Search is a federal TRIO program. TRIO legislation was enacted in 1965 by Congress to provide educational opportunity for all Americans regardless of ethnicity or income.

Serving Humboldt County since 1991.