

Opportunities for enrichment abound during the summer. High schools, colleges, and community organizations offer a variety of programs and classes, many of them very reasonably priced, with some offering financial aid. A *Summer Opportunities Bulletin* is published monthly, February through May, and is posted on the Northgate Parent Faculty Club web site: www.northgatehs-pfc.com. Click on College and Career Center. See also *Travel and Study Abroad*, another publication from the *In-Focus* series, for information about summer opportunities around the world.

HIGH SCHOOL SUMMER SESSIONS

- ⇒ The Mt. Diablo Unified School District offers a six-week session which includes academic subjects required for graduation, plus physical education, art, English language development, computer literacy, work experience, and service learning. The district summer school offers opportunities for enrichment, remediation, make-up of failed courses, and competency test preparation. The service learning class involves volunteering as a Teaching Assistant in an elementary classroom. A few classes are offered for original credit. Information about the district summer session is available from the main offices at high school campuses in the spring.
- ⇒ Private high schools also offer summer courses. Information about these programs may be obtained by contacting the schools directly. To receive credit, prior approval must be obtained from your high school administration.

COMMUNITY COLLEGES

- ⇒ A summer session is offered at Diablo Valley College and other community colleges. Classes are open to high school students on a space available basis. The DVC summer course schedule is available by early March, and can be purchased for a nominal fee at the campus book store. It is also posted on-line at www.dvc.edu. To receive high school credit, prior approval must be obtained from your high school administration. An application and school authorization form must be submitted to the community college's Office of Admission. Ninth graders are not allowed to pre-register for community college classes. A ninth grader may report to the first meeting of the class he or she is interested in taking, and seek the instructor's permission to enroll. Required forms can be obtained at the high school campus.

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY

- ⇒ The **Academic Talent Development Program** (ATDP) at U.C. Berkeley is an enrichment program for gifted students in grades seven through eleven. A wide variety of high school classes, and several Advanced Placement courses, are offered. Financial aid is available. Contact your high school *College & Career Center* in January or early February for application information, or visit the ATDP website: <http://atdp.berkeley.edu>. The course catalog and application are both available on-line.
- ⇒ High school students who have completed tenth grade may enroll in U.C. Berkeley's regular, college summer session. A 3.0 grade point average and recommendation are required. Visit: www.summer.berkeley.edu. Click on Special Programs. U.C. Berkeley Extension's summer program offers non-credit, enrichment classes for high school students, including SAT preparation. Find information about U.C. Extension courses by visiting www.unex.berkeley.edu. The Lawrence Hall of Science, located on the U.C. Berkeley campus, sponsors summer research camps, as well as internship opportunities for high school students.

COLLEGE PROGRAMS

- Colleges around the country offer a plethora of summer programs for high school students. Some focus on developing academic skills or a particular skill such as creative writing. Others offer introductory programs in architecture or engineering, for example. Many grant college credit to participants. Residential programs generally include sight-seeing and recreational outings in addition to academic enrichment. Financial aid is usually *not* available for these programs, except for those that focus on the needs of educationally or economically disadvantaged youth, such as EOP and EAOP programs.
- Diablo Valley College EOP offers a *Summer Institute* for high school students and new graduates. This intensive six week college readiness program focuses on college English and math skills, and includes field trips to four-year colleges in the area. *Educational Opportunity Programs* at University of California campuses offers summer residential academies giving students an opportunity to experience campus life, enhance study skills, prepare for college, and study in-depth a variety of subject areas. Contact individual UC campuses for program information.
- The *California State Summer School for the Arts* is a four-week residential program offered at the California Institute of the Arts in Valencia. Cosmos, the *California State Summer School for Mathematics and Science*, is offered at University of California campuses. Visit: www.innerspark.us and www.ucop.edu in January or February.

REGIONAL OCCUPATION PROGRAM (ROP)

- The county sponsored ROP program, which provides training in marketable job skills, typically offers one or two summer courses for high school students. Students must be sixteen years of age, or have completed tenth grade, to enroll in an ROP class. Contact the ROP registrar at 942-3437, or visit: www.cocoschools.org.

COMMUNITY SERVICE AND INTERNSHIPS

- Summer employment opportunities include paid and unpaid internships for the purposes of career exploration and development of job skills. Students with little time to pursue community service during the school year may want to consider a residential or local community service opportunity during the summer. Consult the *Summer Opportunities Bulletin*, MDUSD Summer Programs brochure, High School Daily Announcements, Scholarship Bulletins, Volunteer Lists, and job board postings at your high school College & Career Center to identify appropriate opportunities. The Volunteer Center of Contra Costa County also maintains a list of volunteers opportunities for teen-agers. Call 472-5760 or visit: www.helpnow.org.

SUMMER RECREATIONAL PROGRAMS

- Don't forget to explore courses and activities sponsored by local agencies:

Ambrose Recreation Center, Pittsburg, 958-1601

Concord Leisure Services, Concord, 671-3270

Pleasant Hill Recreation and Park District, Pleasant Hill, 676-5200

Walnut Creek Leisure Services / Heather Farm Community Center, Walnut Creek

Walnut Creek Civic Arts, Recreation & Leisure Services, Walnut Creek

943-5846 or www.WalnutCreekRec.org

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