COLLEGE APPLICATIONS – Seniors, here is an update from Rutgers University in New Jersey: “While reviewing the current applicant pool, and through conversations with school counselors, we have noticed many students are only selecting one school for admissions consideration on the application. As a reminder, students may select up to three school choices and we recommend they do so in order to maximize admissions consideration at Rutgers. Plus, there is still time to apply. Seniors who have not yet applied but are interested in Rutgers, visit: https://www.rutgers.edu/admissions”

And, Prescott College is looking for students who want to make a difference in the world and is supporting these students with the Changemaker Scholarship, an award of $16,000 to new first-time college students who apply by February 1st.

Changemakers are students who:
- Demonstrate a passion and excitement for the mission and programs of Prescott College.
- Demonstrate the ability to achieve strong academic success based upon previous academic background, activities, and community leadership involvement.
- Demonstrate resilience and persistence in their lives, education, work, and community engagement.
- Are committed to using their degree to address the social, cultural, economic, educational, environmental, or health crises facing communities today.

Prescott College is an experiential, student-directed, liberal arts college focused on protecting the environment and fostering social justice. For more than 50 years, Prescott has educated leaders in the fields of environmental studies, adventure education, human development, education, and social justice. They are located in the central Highlands of Arizona, 90 minutes north of Phoenix. For more information, please visit www.prescott.edu.

SUMMER PLANS - The application for the Princeton Summer Journalism Program (PSJP), a free journalism and college preparatory program for current high school juniors from low-income backgrounds who are interested in careers in journalism, is now open!
The first part of the application along with an unofficial transcript is due on **Friday, February 15, 2019 at 11:59 PM EST**.

During their intensive 10-day summer program, students engage in workshops, lectures, and activities led by Princeton professors, professional journalists, and PSJP alumni. The program culminates in the publication of the student-produced *Princeton Summer Journal*. During the senior year, students are also matched with a volunteer college counselor, a professional journalist or program alum, who will guide them through the college application process.

To apply, students must be:
- Current high school juniors
- living in the United States
- with an unweighted GPA of 3.5/4.0
- who have an interest in journalism
- and the custodial parent(s)/guardian(s)’ combined income (including child support received) must not exceed $60,000 annually

**VISITING COLLEGES** – As you know, we won’t have school on February 15. This may be an excellent time to get out and visit colleges. For example, Pepperdine University is hosting a Junior Preview Day: [https://seaver.pepperdine.edu/about/visit/events/preview/](https://seaver.pepperdine.edu/about/visit/events/preview/).

**FREE WEBINAR**: Collegewise is hosting a webinar on February 13, 5 p.m. about: [School’s Out: How to Make the Most of Your Summer Vacation](https://www.collegewise.com/hs/tip-sheets/summer-vacation.html).

**FINANCIAL AID**: Excerpt continued from *College Admission: Application to Acceptance, Step-by-Step*, written by Robin Mamlet and Christine Vandevelde.

The following is written to the student…


**2. Not setting a budget.** Just as with cars and with houses—where the most expensive models can cost ten times as much as the least expensive—it’s important that you have some idea of how much you’re willing to spend for college. It doesn’t have to be too exact—a five to fifteen thousand dollar window can be appropriate, especially because it’s hard to determine at the outset what financial aid you might be getting—but you should have some idea of your...
upper limit. And, if you’re willing to take on debt, that is, student loans, to help pay for college, you should carefully think out how much debt you’ll be comfortable with…

3. Thinking the sticker price is the price you’ll pay. Some students are lucky enough to be able to pay the ‘rack rate’ for college (that is, the full list price) either because their parents make big bucks or their grandparents or other benefactors have been socking away money for the last 18 years. But for more than 60 percent of students, financial aid is the way to go: the list price can be brought down by a half, two-thirds, or, in some cases, even more. Every college has a net price calculator on their website (though they can differ in length and depth from one college to another) that will give you a ballpark figure of what that college is going to cost you—use it for each of the colleges you’re considering. Also useful is the FAFSA4caster…which will give you an idea at least about what federal student aid you might qualify for.”

Rya Carpenter
Director of Counseling and Student Services
College Counselor
(805) 967-1266, ext. 104
rcarpenter@bishopdiego.org