



# **PREPARING YOURSELF TO BE A “TOP” COLLEGE APPLICANT**

**GENEA BRUNER**

**Sophomore College Readiness Seminar 1  
College/Scholarship Search Process**

# CREATING AN IMPRESSIVE COLLEGE RESUME

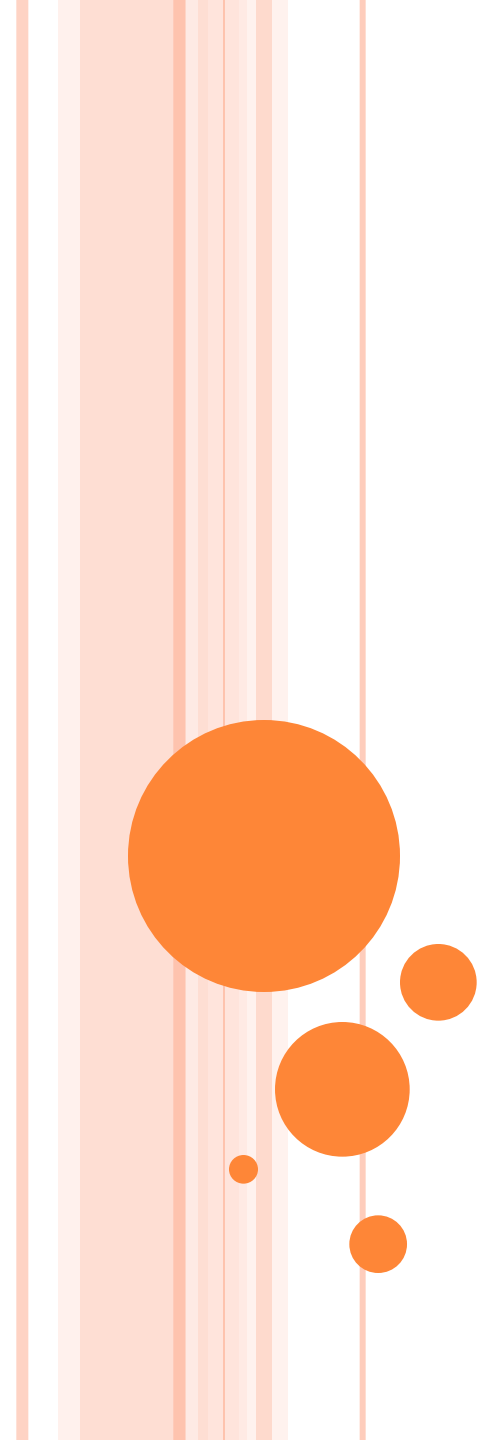
- **ACADEMICS**
- **STANDARDIZED TEST SCORES**
  - **ACTIVITIES/ATHLETICS**
  - **LEADERSHIP**
- **SUMMER OPPORTUNITIES**
- **COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**



# ACADEMICS...

- FOUR YEAR PRE-COLLEGE CURRICULUM
  - 4 years of English
  - 4 years of math-Alg 1 and above
  - 4 years of science including biology, chemistry, and physics
  - 2-4 years of the same Foreign Language
  - 3 years of Social Science
  - 1 year of technology- computer applications and above






**“SUCCESSFUL COLLEGE STUDENTS  
WORKED HARD IN HIGH SCHOOL AND  
PUSHED THEMSELVES TO TAKE AS  
MANY CHALLENGING COURSES AS  
THEY COULD.”**

**Challenge yourself to take the HIGHEST level of  
courses possible- Honors/PreAP/AP**

# ACADEMIC ADVICE FROM ELITE COLLEGES

- Keep the GPA as high as possible- at least a 3.0.
  - Take AP courses whenever possible.
  - Transcript needs to show admission officers that you aren't afraid to work hard and are well-prepared to succeed at the college level.
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# SUMMER OPPORTUNITIES....

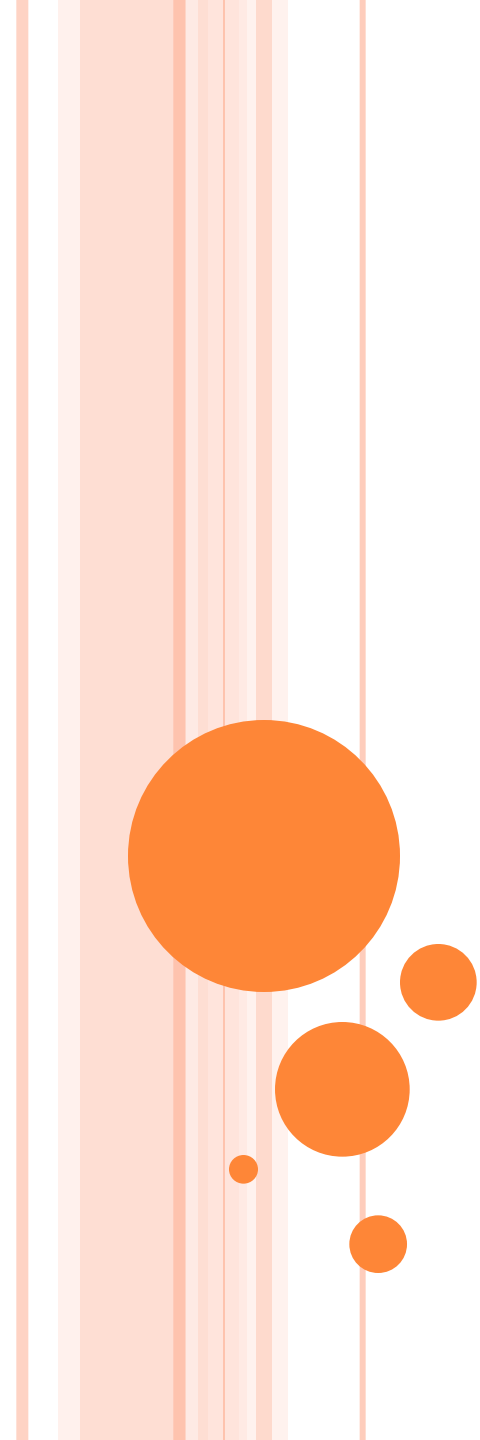
- Supplement the application/transcript with summer and/or evening academic opportunities:
  - Night classes/programs on college campuses
  - Weekend classes/programs on or affiliated with college campuses
  - Summer academic opportunities held on college campuses across the nation- gain college credit and college experience in an academic area or geographic location of interest.



# ACTIVITIES...

- Become involved in activities/athletics during the high school years- 9-12
- Colleges are looking for WELL-ROUNDED students
- Keep a balance of ACADEMIC and NONACADEMIC activities on your schedule




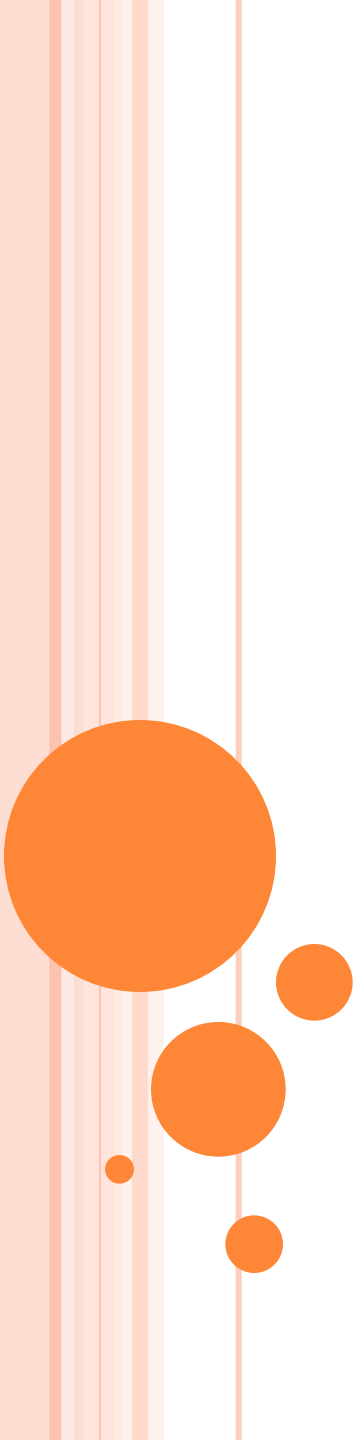


**“ACTIVITIES REFLECT THE ENERGY OF THE STUDENT AND CONFIRM THAT HE/SHE WILL CONTRIBUTE TO THE COLLEGE COMMUNITY.”**

**Admission officers are looking for UNIQUENESS and DEDICATION in this section of the resume/application.**

# LEADERSHIP...

- Seek and pursue leadership opportunities within your activities and athletics.
    - Class/Club/Team Officer/Captain positions
    - Class committee positions
    - Committee chairpeople
    - Link Leaders
    - Student Council Officer positions
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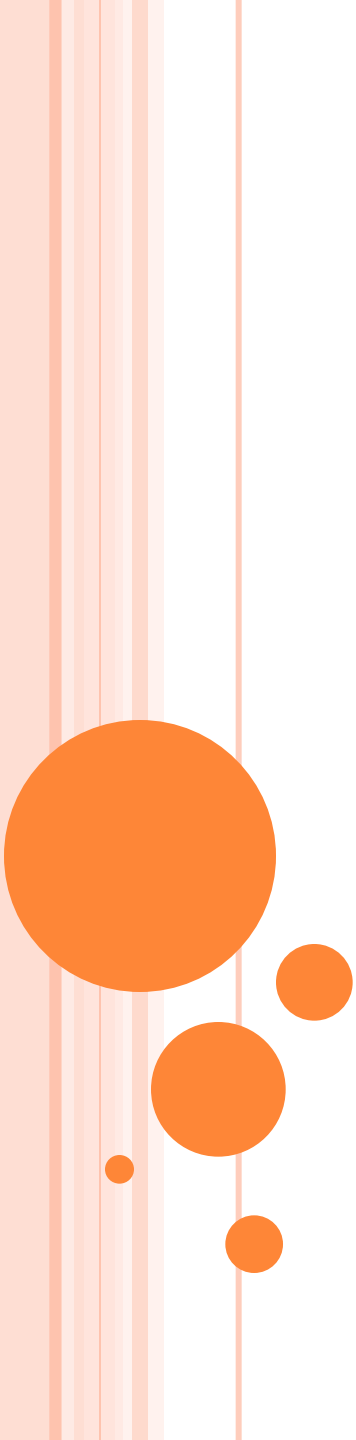
**“LEADERSHIP DOES NOT MEAN YOU HAD TO BE AN ELECTED LEADER- WE’VE SEEN SOME AMAZING APPLICATIONS THAT DISPLAY A TON OF LEADERSHIP BY STUDENTS WHO HAVE NEVER BEEN ‘ELECTED’ TO ANYTHING IN THEIR LIVES.”**

**LEADERSHIP IS ALWAYS BETTER THAN JUST MEMBERSHIP**

# COMMUNITY SERVICE...

- Colleges are looking for “service” leaders- those who have contributed to their community during high school and will continue to contribute to the college community
- Community service projects- descriptions as well as number of hours





**“BECOMING INVOLVED OR  
INITIATING AN ACTIVITY THAT HAS A  
STRONG IMPACT ON THE  
COMMUNITY CAN BE MOST  
IMPRESSIVE TO COLLEGES.”**

**Even an ordinary activity can become  
something special when you achieve  
something extraordinary with it.**



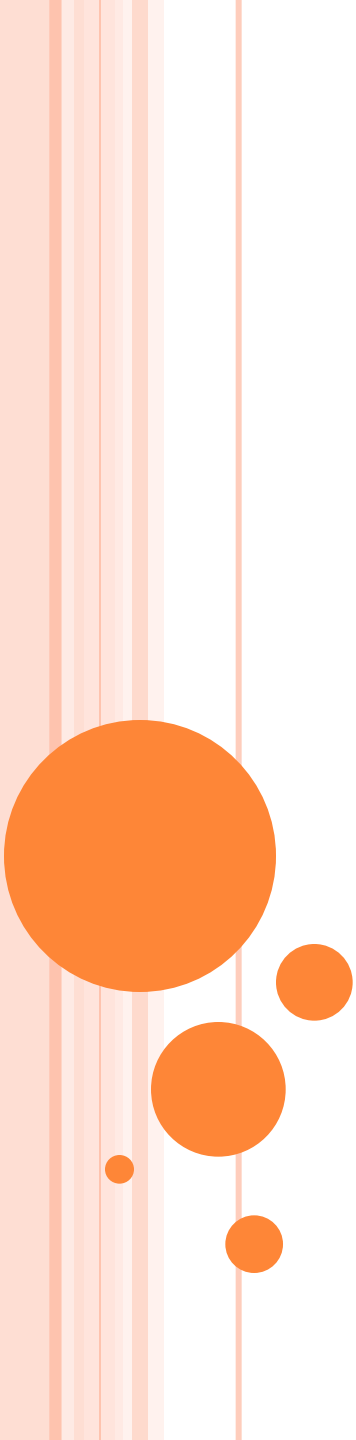
**US NEWS & WORLD  
REPORT  
2010 EDITION  
AMERICA'S BEST  
COLLEGES**

**Great beginning resource for the college and  
scholarship search...**

# GET INTO ANY COLLEGE



Gen and Kelly Tanabe



# **THE GATEKEEPERS: INSIDE THE ADMISSIONS PROCESS OF A PREMIER COLLEGE**

**Jacques Steinberg**