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THE FIRST STAR UCLA BRUIN GUARDIAN SCHOLARS SUMMER ACADEMY

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THE FIRST STAR UCLA BRUIN GUARDIAN SCHOLARS SUMMER ACADEMY

We are delighted to invite you to recommend a talented, rising 9th grade Foster Youth to participate in the First Star UCLA Bruin Guardian Scholars Summer Academy 2011 from June 30, 2011 through August 5, 2011.

The First Star UCLA Bruin Guardian Scholars Summer Academy 2011 is an intense, free, 5-week residential summer program that provides 30 disadvantaged foster youth with the academic support, enrichment and encouragement needed to assist them in becoming competitive applicants for subsequent admission to two and four year colleges, including universities within the UC system. The program also provides grade-appropriate information regarding higher education and presents students with a preview of the collegiate experience. This comprehensive introductory college immersion program offers superior individualized attention and services through a caring adult network, foster "alumni", and extensive young-adult mentorships. The program engages students in a variety of fun and active learning opportunities that include academic courses for college credit, independent studies, social and cultural activities, field trips, service learning and recreational activities. Students accepted to the program will live in supervised and chaperoned UCLA residence accommodations, giving students the full UCLA campus experience.

To recommend a student, please follow these simple steps:

1. Ensure your student meets these eligibility requirements by being:

- A Los Angeles County Foster youth with an open DCFS Case File
- Able to participate in the entire 5-week summer experience
- Currently in the 8th Grade, entering 9th Grade in Fall 2011.

2. Ask your student to complete and return to you the student portion of the application.

3. Complete the Adult Recommendation portion of the application.

4. Obtain student's Fall Semester 2010 Final Report Card or most recent available in 8th Grade.

5. Mail the entire application packet (Student Application, Adult Recommendation, Report Card) in enclosed, pre-paid envelope, postmarked by April 22, 2011 to:

Attn: Wally Kappeler, Program Director
First Star UCLA Bruin Guardian Scholars Summer Academy
Bruin Resource Center, Box 951453
220 Westwood Plaza, Suite B44
Los Angeles, CA 90095-1453

Selection Process

Once the completed application has been received, a selection committee will review all eligible candidates in order to select the top thirty students to participate in the First Star UCLA Bruin Guardian Scholars Summer Academy 2011. Selection will be based on a combination of: academic potential, student written responses, adult recommendation, and an interview. Both the student and the adult making the recommendation will be notified by May 1, 2011, regarding acceptance into the First Star UCLA Bruin Guardian Scholars Summer Academy 2011. There will also be 15 students on a waiting list.

For more information, please contact:

Wally Kappeler, Program Director - Department of Student Affairs: (310) 825-4160 or wkappeler@saonet.ucla.edu





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Nos encantaría invitarlos a que recomienden a uno de sus estudiante que ustedes reconozcan como sobresalientes para que él o ella pueda participar en la academia, First Star UCLA Bruin Guardian Scholars 2011!

Para ser elegible el estudiante debe de estar en el 9° grado a partir del verano 2011 y ser un joven en el sistema de cuidado del condado de Los Ángeles con desventajas educativas. La academia First Star UCLA Bruin Guardian Scholars es un programa intensivo de 5 semanas, gratis, empezando el 30 de junio del 2011. Algunos de los beneficios que la academia ofrecerá a 30 estudiantes, es el apoyo de enriquecimiento académico y las herramientas necesarias para ayudarlos a convertirse en mejores candidatos para admisión a cualquier universidad, incluyendo universidades dentro del sistema de "UC". Este programa ofrece información apropiada para cada grado sobre la educación universitaria y ayudará al estudiante a experimentar como es la vida colegial. Este programa de introducción inmersiva, les ofrece la atención individualizada y servicios superiores a través de una red de cuidado de adultos y tutorías amplias para jóvenes. El formato del programa es básico y consiste de una variedad de actividades de aprendizaje, tales como cursos académicos para obtener créditos universitarios, estudios independientes, actividades sociales y culturales, excursiones, aprendizaje de servicio y actividades recreativas. Los estudiantes que sean aceptados en el programa vivirán en las instalaciones de residencia bajo la supervisión de UCLA, dándoles acceso a los estudiantes de toda la experiencia que la universidad de UCLA ofrece.

Por favor revise los requisitos para participar y siga estos pasos:

1. Asegúrese de que su estudiante cumpla con los siguientes requisitos de elegibilidad:
 - Ser un joven en el sistema de cuidado del condado de Los Ángeles con un caso abierto de DCFS
 - Que esté disponible para participar en las 5 semanas que dura esta experiencia
 - Actualmente, el estudiante debe de estar en el 8° grado, entrando al 9° grado en el otoño en el 2011
2. Pídale a su estudiante que llene y devuelva la porción de estudiantes de la solicitud
3. Completar la parte de la recomendación de un adulto en la aplicación.
4. Obtener la tarjeta de informe final del semestre del otoño de 2010 (transcripts) o el más reciente disponible en el 8° grado
5. Envíe por correo el paquete de solicitud completa (Solicitud del Estudiante, Recomendación de un Adulto y tarjeta de informe) en el sobre adjunto, pre-pagado, con matasellos del 22 de abril 2011

Favor de enviar la solicitud a:

Attn: Wally Kappeler, Director del Programa
First Star UCLA Bruin Guardian Scholars 2011
Bruin Resource Center, Box: 951453
220 Westwood Plaza, Suite B44
Los Angeles, CA 90095-1453

Proceso de solicitud y las expectativas del programa:

Cuando se haya recibido la solicitud completa, un comité de selección revisará todos los candidatos elegibles para seleccionar los treinta estudiantes que participaran en la academia, First Star UCLA Bruin Guardian Scholars. La selección se basará en una combinación de: potencial académico, las respuestas escritas de los estudiantes, la recomendación de un adulto, y una entrevista. Aquellos estudiantes que sean seleccionados se les notificarán el 1 de mayo del 2011, respecto a la aceptación en la academia, First Star UCLA Bruin Guardian Scholars. También habrá 15 alumnos en lista de espera.

Para obtener más información, póngase en contacto con:

Wally Kappeler, Dir. del Programa, El Departamento de Asuntos Estudiantiles: (310) 825-4160 o wkappeler@saonet.ucla.edu





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CONTACT INFORMATION						
Student Name:			Current Grade Level:			
Guardian Name:						
Mailing Address:		<i>street address</i>	<i>apartment #</i>	<i>city</i>	<i>state</i>	<i>zip code</i>
Email Address:						

BACKGROUND INFORMATION		
Gender: <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female		Date of Birth: <input type="text"/> / <input type="text"/> / <input type="text"/>
Ethnicity: <input type="checkbox"/> African-American/Black		<input type="checkbox"/> American Indian
<input type="checkbox"/> Chicano-a/Mexican-American		<input type="checkbox"/> Asian-American
<input type="checkbox"/> Pilipino-a		<input type="checkbox"/> Pacific Islander
		<input type="checkbox"/> White/Caucasian
		<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____
Name of Social Worker:		Phone Number:
Association:		
Placement: <input type="checkbox"/> Relative Foster Home		<input type="checkbox"/> Non-relative Foster Home
<input type="checkbox"/> Kin-GAP		<input type="checkbox"/> Group Home
<input type="checkbox"/> Adoption*		<input type="checkbox"/> Legal Guardianship
		<input type="checkbox"/> Family Preservation
		<input type="checkbox"/> Reunited With Parent*
* With a open case		

SCHOOL / EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES	
Current Middle School:	Fall 2011 High School:
My current cumulative GPA in middle school is (use a 4.0 scale):	
Please mark the programs that you are a member of (if any):	
<input type="checkbox"/> AVID <input type="checkbox"/> MESA <input type="checkbox"/> EAOP <input type="checkbox"/> GEAR UP <input type="checkbox"/> Para Los Niños <input type="checkbox"/> United Friends of the Children <input type="checkbox"/> Children Uniting Nations	
List any other programs and extracurricular activities in which you have participated (i.e., sports, clubs, band, volunteer groups, student government, etc.):	
<i>Name of Club or Organization</i>	<i>Role</i>
<i>Years of Involvement (please circle)</i>	<i>Hours Per Month</i>
<i>Months Per Year</i>	
_____	_____
6th 7th 8th	_____
_____	_____
6th 7th 8th	_____
_____	_____
6th 7th 8th	_____
_____	_____
6th 7th 8th	_____





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Adult Recommendation

(This section to be completed in confidence by the teacher, counselor, social worker, mentor, pastor, attorney, etc.)

Name of Foster Student you are recommending: _____

To the Recommender:

Thank you for taking the time to provide your confidential insight and thoughts regarding this student who is applying for the First Star UCLA Bruin Guardian Scholars Summer Academy 2011. The First Star UCLA Bruin Guardian Scholars Summer Academy is an intense, highly supportive and personalized five-week summer program designed to provide disadvantaged students the academic support, encouragement and enrichment needed to assist them in becoming competitive applicants later to two or four year college, including universities within the UC system. Your insight will help us ensure the event is meaningful, helpful and nurturing for all those who attend. After you complete the recommendation document, please collect the student application and return the completed application, along with any supplemental materials in the pre-paid envelope. We thank you for taking the time to recommend and sponsor this candidate. Your time and effort are much appreciated.

RECOMMENDER'S INFORMATION		
Recommender's Name:	Relationship to Student:	
School/Organization & Title:	Phone:	Email:

I recommend this student attend the First Star UCLA Bruin Scholars Summer Academy:

	<i>Not Recommended</i>	<i>Recommend With Reservations</i>	<i>Enthusiastically Recommend</i>
For academic potential	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
For character and personal promise	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
For ability to work well with others	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Overall recommendation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please answer the following questions (attach extra pages if necessary):

Why do you believe this student is a good candidate for the First Star UCLA Bruin Guardian Scholars Summer Academy 2011? What behaviors has this student demonstrated to you that show he/she will benefit from this opportunity?

Describe any long-term goals or aspirations that this student has expressed to you.





FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is the overall Mission of the program? Why is it needed?

In the overall US population of graduating 12th graders, approximately 56% attend either 2 or 4 year colleges with 70% of those students graduating with a degree. From Foster Care, approximately 10% attend college with only 20% of those students graduating with a degree (i.e, only one in fifty former Foster Youth graduate from college.) This seems neither defensible nor necessary for a cohort of youth many of whom can certainly benefit from the robust ladder to successful and happy lives that is provided by higher education. First Star and UCLA have ambitious plans to greatly improve on these odds nationally.

The Student Affairs Organization at the University of California, Los Angeles and First Star have created the First Star UCLA Bruin Guardian Scholars Summer Academy 2011 as a first, scalable step to leveling the educational playing field for the foster youth of Los Angeles. It is also a major first step toward the goal of establishing the First Star UCLA Bruin Guardian Scholars School, a year-round, residential and day prep school for Foster Youth. The Summer Program offers a supportive, uplifting residential education strategically located on the UCLA campus --towards a fulfilling future. The First Star UCLA Bruin Guardian Scholars Summer Academy 2011 gives Foster Youth in Los Angeles the opportunity to rewrite the shocking statistics of their cohort and become exemplary citizens. Our long-term goal is to expand the program to campuses nationwide, thus creating an entirely new avenue where Foster Youth build happy and productive lives, based upon excellent post-secondary education.

What are the components of the First Star UCLA Bruin Guardian Scholars Summer Academy 2011?

- We provide a residential environment that includes:
- A 5-week residential college stay for rising 9th grade students, with highly proficient, experienced staff.
- A comprehensive introductory college immersion program.
- A caring adult network, foster “alumni” and youth-adult mentorship.
- RA’s on a one to three ratio, residing with the students and largely drawn from among the UCLA Guardian Scholars, high-achieving UCLA undergraduate and graduate students who were once themselves Foster Youth.
- Superior individualized attention and services.
- Integrated, interdisciplinary UCLA campus programs and resources.
- Access to medical clinic and campus athletic and other necessary facilities and services.
- Top quality, healthful food service.
- Provision of clothing and equipment as necessary to prevent any such impediment to admission.
- Recorded College Credit in UC System for Academic Courses completed while in residence.
- Online permanent access while in full-time education to UCLA library system.
- Monthly follow up to evaluate progress and prepare for potential admission to Bruin Summer Academy 2012

What if a Student is missing items of equipment or clothing for the First Star UCLA Bruin Guardian Scholars Summer Academy 2011?

- All necessary equipment and clothing will be provided and clothing will be the Student’s to keep at the end of the session.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Can you tell me more about the sponsors of the program?

UCLA Office of Student Affairs:

Comprised of 25 departments and approximately 900 employees, UCLA's Student Affairs Organization supports the academic success of all UCLA students, fosters their intellectual, personal, social and professional development in preparation for the entirety of their lives, and contributes to enhancing the quality of campus life, the educational environment, and their relationship with the broader UCLA family, including alumni.

Student Affairs offers critical services and programs to promote student learning, development, and success, and oversees key components of campus life such as Financial Aid, Campus Recreation, Counseling and Psychological Services, Community Programs, academic preparation efforts, and many others. Such services mean the difference between students having an ordinary college experience and an exceptional one, and the capacity to enjoy the extraordinary richness, quality, and depth that UCLA has to offer.

First Star:

First Star improves the lives of America's abused and neglected youth by strengthening their rights, illuminating systemic failures and igniting necessary reforms. We pursue our mission through research, public engagement, policy advocacy, education, and litigation. First Star fights for a future in which America's abused and neglected youth will have won full recognition of their fundamental right to be heard and protected by the systems legally entrusted with their care, a future in which those systems are fully resourced, transparent and accountable to the public.

Stuart Foundation:

The Stuart Foundation is dedicated to the protection, education and development of children and youth. We work toward ensuring that all youth grow up in caring families, learn in vibrant and effective schools, and have opportunities to become productive members of their communities. We focus our investments on projects, programs and organizations making an impact in the States of California and Washington.

Mario Batali Foundation:

The Mario Batali Foundation was established to feed, protect, educate, and empower youth, encouraging them to dream big while providing them with the necessary tools to become an active force for change in today's world. In an effort to do so, the MBF strives to ensure all youth are well read, well fed, and well cared for.

Hasbro:

The Hasbro Children's Fund is the philanthropic grant-making arm of Hasbro, Inc. and was established to help youth in need triumph over critical life obstacles. Locally, we support programs, which provide: stability for youth in crisis; pediatric physical and mental health services; hunger security; educational programs in collaboration with state leadership; and quality out of school time programming.

Sage:

True to the culture of SAGE and in keeping with the company's corporate vision statement that says in part, "SAGE believes passionately that engaged scholarship lies at the heart of any healthy society and that education is intrinsically valuable," SAGE is committed to strengthening its ties to the community, both globally and locally.

As befits a company devoted to education and the dissemination of knowledge, much of SAGE's civic efforts are focused on increasing educational opportunities. SAGE continues to support select organizations providing human/social services and resources that strengthen communities where SAGE employees live and work.

College Board:

The College Board believes that an investment in education is an investment in the future. From our earliest days, we have devoted ourselves to educational opportunity and achievement. We have championed innovation, equity and excellence for generations of students. We are advocates for youth and parents; we empower teachers and educators; and we are a strong presence in thousands of schools and communities across the country.





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The First Star UCLA Bruin Guardian Scholars Summer Academy gratefully acknowledges the financial support of the generous and far-sighted organizations that have made the Academy 2011 possible:



First Star UCLA Bruin Guardian Scholars Summer Academy

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