

## *College of San Mateo & Skyline Community College Tour*

PACT students were invited to attend the community college tour, held on Wednesday, February 16, 2011. Students visited College of San Mateo (CSM) and Skyline Community College, located in San Bruno, CA. With great tour guides providing information, students were motivated and ready to apply.

Admissions representatives conducted the CSM tour, which included a brief EOPS (Extended Opportunity Programs and Services) presentation. Student ambassadors provided a campus tour at Skyline. PACT students also had the chance to have questions answered, including which courses are offered and campus life details. Lunch was provided by PACT.

*"As high school students, we need help with college and this is perfect!"*

**-CLAUDIA REYES, BHS 12TH GRADE STUDENT**

*"I signed up to go on this fieldtrip to go see my options for college. I was hoping to learn more about the two schools we are visiting."*

**-TACHIRA HAZEL, ALHS 12TH GRADE STUDENT**



## **Rewards Incentives Program (RIP) @ Jesse Bethel High School**

RIP, also known as the "9th Grade College Club," provides Jesse Bethel HS (JBHS) students with college preparation, exposure to universities through speakers and field trips, and academic assistance. Statistically, students who perform well in the 9th grade will continue to do so throughout high school.

Created by Sharon Arvie, Educational Advisor, 9th grade students in the RIP program receive support to maintain a 2.5 or above GPA, also a requirement to stay in the program. Courses meeting the A-G college requirements are used to calculate student GPA's. Currently, about 38 students are enrolled.

Other activities include cultural days, where students share food and cultural artifacts, as well as an end of the year award ceremony, at which students are recognized for their achievements. Incentives are given for: highest GPA's, most active in the community, most spirited, best attendance and most creative. For interested students, recruitment will commence once more this fall; meetings take place every Thursday at lunch in 100B, adjacent to the college center at JBHS.

## **\* STUDENT REMINDERS \***

- **SIR (Statement of Intent to Register)** – Most need to be submitted by May 1st (June 1st for UC transfer students). Be sure to check with your college/university for exact deadlines.
- **Financial Aid Packages** – Most schools will provide this information via e-mail. Ensure the school has your accurate e-mail address and check your in-box regularly!
- **ELM/EPT Tests** – Unless exempt, you are required to take these exams. Known as the Entry-Level Mathematics Test and English Placement Test, each costs \$18. Check with your local CSU for test dates and deadlines by which to take the exams. Visit [www.ets.org/csu/about](http://www.ets.org/csu/about) for more info.

**\* \* \* UPCOMING EVENTS \* \* \***

**SFUSD TRANSITION DAY**

April 29, 2011 - Location: CCSF, UCSF, SFSU, USF & Fort Mason in San Francisco

Taking place from 9:30am to 3:00pm, this event will be a chance for all seniors to obtain information regarding college life, financial aid, as well as campus tours. All SFUSD seniors are required to attend. Event transportation will be provided by SFUSD, MUNI & BART.

**EDUCATION SUMMIT**

April 30, 2011 - Location: CSUEB, Hayward, CA

African American & Latino Youth - Preparing for College and Career Success. Highlights include: educational and college workshops for middle and high school students and their families, college resource fair with representatives from northern CSU campuses, light breakfast provided. Register online at [www.csueastbay.edu/EducationSummit](http://www.csueastbay.edu/EducationSummit). For more info call 510-885-3516.

**PLAN ON COLLEGE!**

May 14, 2011 - Location: UCSF, San Francisco, CA

One day event for Bay Area students in the 8th grade and their parents or guardians. Attendees will receive valuable information on course selection for high school, factors that impact college eligibility, college financial aid, and long-term benefits of a college education. Parent workshops are presented in English, Spanish and Cantonese by experts in the field. Call 415-476-5353 for more info.

**Upcoming Test Deadlines**

SAT Test

TEST DATE	REGISTRATION DEADLINE	LATE-REGISTRATION DEADLINE
June 4, 2011	May 10	May 23

ACT Test

TEST DATE	REGISTRATION DEADLINE	LATE-REGISTRATION DEADLINE
June 11, 2011	May 6	May 20

**OTHER RESOURCES**

- [www.brightstorm.com](http://www.brightstorm.com) - Provides free homework help videos for math and science subjects. Quick and clear explanations of concepts, including sample problems.
- [www.number2.com](http://www.number2.com) - Free SAT, ACT and GRE test preparation.

**SCHOLARSHIPS**

**The Tang Scholarship**

Deadline: April 30, 2011

Eligibility: 3.0 GPA, financial hardship, Asian/Pacific Islander and LGBT, involved in LGBT community, between 17-25 years old as of 04/30/11

About: Annually awards 2 outstanding students combined scholarships of up to \$15,000. Scholarships are renewable for a maximum of 3 additional years, provided each student annually meets the renewal requirements. Contact Edward Tang at [ecmt@yahoo.com](mailto:ecmt@yahoo.com) for questions. Visit - <http://www.sbqa.com/TangScholarshipApplication2010.pdf> to download application.

**INTERNSHIPS & SUMMER OPPORTUNITIES**

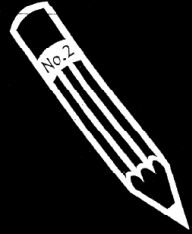
**SF YouthWorks Summer 2011 Program**

Deadline: April 29, 5:00pm

Eligibility: Live & attend school in San Francisco, entering the 11th/12th grade Fall of 2011, be able to work a minimum of 10 hours per week during the summer.

About: This paid internship program provides students the opportunity to intern in more than 30 San Francisco city departments, including the District Attorney's office and the Board of Supervisors. Students will get work experience while learning about public service careers in city government. For more information visit [sfyouthworks.org](http://sfyouthworks.org) or call 415-202-7911.

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**WEBSITES FOR SUMMER WORK/INTERNSHIPS**

1. [www.sfyouthworks.org](http://www.sfyouthworks.org)
2. [www.youthbuild.org](http://www.youthbuild.org)
3. [www.jumaventures.org](http://www.jumaventures.org)
4. [www.brava.org/education](http://www.brava.org/education)

## MAISIN INTERNS @ PACT



Since the summer of 2010, we've had the wonderful opportunity to be a participant in the Maisin Scholars internship program. The Maisin Scholars program offers scholarships to SFUSD economically disadvantaged students who are committed to their education despite any obstacles they may face. The internship

program provides Maisin Scholars the chance to work for an organization in their community to further enhance skills in a particular field. Here at PACT, our interns work alongside our advisors, acting as peer junior advisors and becoming immersed in the daily activities of our staff.

Providing us with some insight on her experience at PACT, Julia Nguyen, a University of the Pacific graduate with a BA in Liberal Arts, answers some of our questions -

### 1. MOST IMPORTANT THING YOU HAVE LEARNED IN THIS POSITION?

The most important thing I've learned is the importance of time management and professionalism. While working with advisors at various school sites, I have learned to adapt to each advisor's work ethics and to meet work expectations.

Whether at the schools or the office, every advisor juggles various projects at one time. Often times, advisors give me advice on how to balance things out. In order to complete weekly assignments and projects, I've developed ways to multitask and prioritize.

### 2. WHAT HAVE YOU ENJOYED THE MOST?

I've enjoyed working alongside each advisor. At the schools, I interact with students and help advisors with projects, such as completing transcript reviews or researching scholarships for students. I understand how important it is for students to attend college, so I try to help as much as possible. I know how hectic moments can be for each advisor, and I appreciate all of the information and learning tools each of them have provided me with.

### 3. ARE THERE ANY AREAS OF BEING AN ADVISOR/WORKING WITH THE STUDENTS THAT HAVE SURPRISED YOU?

Everything I have learned has been a learning experience for me. Each day at the school site or in the office, I learn new skills that help me fulfill the role of this position, and to be a part of this support team for students. I know that each advisor is quite busy, but seeing how they balance things out is quite impressive. On top of that, they are always willing to mentor and teach me.



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## SISTER TO SISTER TV SHOW

VCAT television (Vallejo Community Access Television) will be premiering "Sister to Sister" on March 22nd. The new show, whose creation was an offshoot of Sharon Arvie's (Educational Advisor) Girl Panel, will feature a panel of female students covering topics concerning current issues that women face. This will be an opportunity for girls, from various backgrounds, to join in open discussions providing them with educational information and a supportive environment. Academic success and women in sports are among the topics to be covered, with self-respect to be discussed for the show's premiere.

The 12 girls, who will rotate between shows and handle the responsibilities of host and panel members, were selected through a casting call, during which Sharon, one of the producers, and Jerina Thomas of GVRD (Greater Vallejo Recreation District) conducted interviews. The show will be produced at the VCAT studios, located at Jesse Bethel HS and will air once a month.

## Lottery Night - James Lick Middle School

A fun night was had on February 17! The James Lick Parent Association held a Lottery Night event, whose aim was to make students and their families aware of the resources available to them, both on and off campus, including college assistance. Outside agencies and partnering organizations in attendance included: PACT, Arriba Juntos, La Casa de Las Madres, Mission Girls, Aim High, Boys and Girls Club and several others.

Entertainment was provided by JLMS students, who conducted presentations and a dance performance. Food and games were also part of the festivities, as well as a drawing for a number of prizes, which included artwork and a microwave. Drawing proceeds benefited JLMS students.

Our San Francisco tutorial team, Todd Lerew and Raynard Cayetano, were on hand, ready to meet students and provide information about PACT services. A very well attended function and a great time was had by all!

## Outlook of Federal TRiO Programs - Today and the Future

### By: Annette Dennett, Project Director

As we settle into the 2011 year, we in the TRiO community are not completely shocked by the somewhat grim outlook of our Educational Talent Search, Upward Bound, Student Support Services, McNair, and various other federal programs. Since the previous administrations, TRiO has been fighting for a significant increase in funding, which is essential to continue providing free services for our low-income, first-generation youth. These necessary funds are pivotal for increasing post-secondary enrollment for our traditionally underserved students. Moreover, an increase in dollars not only helps support our quest for post-secondary enrollment, but also offers a gateway to actual student attainment of a bachelors, masters, or doctoral degree.

Although the economic climate for TRiO programs is not the most promising, we as educators cling onto hope that we may see significant increases to our programs. We continue

to advocate for our students by making sure our voices and testimonials of success are heard by Congress at the State and Federal level.

Here at PACT, Inc. we continue to hold our heads high, knowing that, even without adequate funding, we still impact the lives of each of our estimated 3,000 students every year. We are not alone, as similar programs also work tirelessly to meet the needs of underserved students every day. As the popular quote states, "It takes a village to raise a child," although cliché, this message rings true. Even with our thousands of programs, there are students who are left without the critical guidance needed to be successful in the 21st century. We will continue our fight for our students by ensuring that our state and federal leaders are aware of the proud work we do. Our students, parents, and community entrust us with their futures and we at PACT, Inc. will continue to represent our message of triumph for all!

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## TEXAS ROADHOUSE FUNDRAISER

Diedre Carter, Assistant Tutorial Coordinator, played host to the March 4th Texas Roadhouse Fundraiser. PACT staff (Diedre Carter, Bonnie Blakenship, Sharon Arvie, Annette Dennett) and the Texas Roadhouse Fundraiser Truck helped serve dinner plates, drive-thru style, which sold for \$10 per plate. Taking place in the Solano Middle School (SMS) parking lot, PACT students were on hand to volunteer. Volunteers took on the roles of host, entertainment, and "thank you singers" to patrons exiting the food queue. Dinner included ribs, chicken, cole slaw, baked beans, and bread. In addition, dessert and beverages were provided by the Hostess and Coca Cola companies.

Proceeds from this event will benefit the PACT tutorial program students with instructional supplies and aids. Diedre's Wednesday afternoon Homework Club students will be among those benefiting from these supplies. (Meetings are held in Room 12 and provide academic and moral support to PACT students; recent projects included writing personal statements for the Gear Up Scholarship application.)

Thank you to all who helped make this event a success - students Dashia Joseph, Devante Joseph, Jonnisha Johnson, Jullissa España, Jasmine Shogren, Aracelli Gonzales, Leanza Nubla and, PACT volunteer, Melah Davis. Also a big thanks to Solano staff member, Stephanie Castro; she was of great assistance with ticket handling and organizing of student volunteers. Last, but not least, a thank you to Hostess, Coca Cola and the Grocery Outlet for there contributions.



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### Contact Us

*San Francisco Office*  
635 Divisadero St.  
San Francisco, CA 94117  
Tel: (415) 922-2550  
Fax: (415) 922-6305

*East Bay Office*  
One Positive Place  
Vallejo, CA 94589  
Tel: (707) 556-9357  
Fax: (707) 566-9436

*info@pactinc.org*  
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