

Application Season is Upon Us



Ira "T.J." Williams
Cedar Ridge H. S.

As the end of my junior year gets closer by the minute, it is evident that I'm going to have to make some life changing decisions in the next couple of months. I've spent the last year and half researching and visiting different colleges to figure out whether or not I would fit in at these schools. While every institution has different opportunities available to me, I can't apply everywhere. I can confidently say that narrowing down to a list of nine colleges to apply to is quite challenging.

My parents and I have been working on my college list and we are taking everything into consid-

eration. We are finding schools who accept students with my GPA range as well as colleges that emphasize SAT or ACT scores. We've divided my top choices into three categories: reach schools, match schools, and safety schools. For the reach schools that I am looking at, most focus on standardized test scores when evaluating students as well as a student's leadership roles in extracurricular activities. For the match schools, they will focus on elements of a student's application that makes them stand out from other applicants. As for my safety schools, they are the schools that have more generous acceptance rates.

I still have a few months before I have to start the application process. I am still doing some last minute research on other schools that might capture my interest as well. However, when all of my applications have been submitted and I have been accepted by various schools, I'll know I've had more than enough time to make the right decision.

Why, oh Why, is it Exams



Kamryn Mack
Kipp Leadership Elem.

It's that time of year, folks. We all dread this time of year. We have to take multiple tests like, the fitness gram, the STAR test, Interm Assessment, music tests, and at Kipp we have to take a dance exam. That is like five tests. Taking tests is super exhausting, and it just gets worse as I get older. So, in this article I'm going to talk or write about ways to prepare for the tsunami of exams and how to ensure that you pass.

Okay, here is my advice. The night before the test briefly go over all the information you learned in that particular subject

you're testing on. Do this the morning on the test too to kind of prepare you, a little. Go to sleep like an hour or two earlier, so you can wake up early, have a nutritious breakfast, sneak in some extra studying, and even go for a walk or do a quick workout. Plus, you'll feel energized once you wake up a bit. Another thing I recommend is not studying like crazy the day before the test. You should be studying and doing your homework regularly through out the year, so you're not rushing to study. One thing is to take deep breaths and say things like, "I will pass the test." Positive attitudes set you up to succeed. If you get stuck on a question just go back to the question when you're done with test. That way you don't stress about and you'll be more focused on that question.

I hope you enjoyed my article. It was a little shorter than I expected, but I hope you still enjoyed it. Thanks for reading!

Antioch Georgetown Host Exciting Conference about Adoption and Foster Children

Georgetown, TX - Antioch Georgetown will host the Empowered to Connect Conference on April 13 and 14, 2018 at Grace Bible Church. This will be a two-day event presented by Show Hope and the Karyn Purvis Institute of Child Development.

Come experience practical teaching in a safe and supportive community as we work to equip families, churches, and professionals to better serve children impacted by adoption and foster care. The conference content is beneficial for adoptive parents, foster parents, potential adoptive or foster parents, AND professionals or ministry leaders serving or interested in serving children. Each adoptive and foster parent will receive a certificate of attendance and continuing education is available for licensed professionals. For more information, visit antiochgt.com/etc/

Making a Computer



Ruby George
Riojas Elementary

I normally go to my friend Hermione's house two or three times a week. When I went to her house on thursday, she asked me if I wanted to make a computer. I was confused at

first, but she pulled out a kit that she got for christmas and I realized she'd ment. We went upstairs in her game room and started to build.

I thought that it was going to be impossible, but I studied the blueprint and thought it might not be so bad. It wasn't like a fake computer kit, you can actually play games on it! It was also the real deal too. It came with a big computer chip, a mouse, different sets of tools, a screwdriver, and a big set of different wooden boards. We are not close to done, but when we are we are going to show the world!

School Shootings



Tyler Allen
Gus Garcia YMLA

school parking lots, hallways, cafeterias and play grounds. Some schools have installed drills, intruder alerts, lockdowns measures and evacuation drills.

There is a growing demand for gun control but many say even that will not stop school shooting. I even read you can now buy bulletproof backpacks. One thing in news reports is that after each shooting that gun sell increase. I often wonder why there are not that many shootings in low income districts. Especially in cities like Chicago, Houston and Baltimore.

I got this from the "Scientific American". They stated that shooters were 96% male and 75% were white. Most came from intact families, did well in school and were not loners. The only shocking thing I read was that 1 out of 5 students could be describe as having suffered from mental depression.

Preparing for Competition



Quinn Langford
Cedar Ridge H. S.

My robotics team, the Lady Cans, has about two weeks before its first competition of the season, the Lone Star Central Competition in Houston. The next couple of weeks will mainly be spent preparing for the event. The programming team, which I am a part of, has already finished most of the code for the robot. There are only a few minor details we still have to tune, but the large majority of the functions we wanted to include are done. People who are going to drive the robot at competition have begun practicing with our

second robot (we're not allowed to touch the first one we made until competition.) The spirit team has designed a team flag that we can fly at competition, and we have already made hundreds of Duck Tape bow ties to give out to other teams as souvenirs.

We have started designing the set-up for our pit, the area teams can use to fix their robot in between competitions. The Chairman's team has already started filming and editing the Chairman's Award is given to a role-model team, and judges pick the winner based off of a video, an in-person presentation, and the responses team members give to the questions the judges ask after the presentation and while they walk around visiting different teams' pits.

As the competition approaches, members of the team are getting more and more excited. We can't wait to finally show off two and a half months of work.

What's Your Favorite Food?



Jada Stone
Kealing M. S.

Do you have a favorite food? If I had to guess, I would bet that a favorite food list for many kids might include pizza, peanut butter and jelly sandwiches, french fries, and ice cream. Of course, parents probably wish that list included more things like broccoli, cauliflower, asparagus, and Brussels sprouts. Do you think people all around the world have the same favorite foods? Maybe not! When you think of Mexican cuisine, you probably think about things like tacos, burritos, enchiladas, and fajitas. Italian favorites would probably in-

clude fettuccini alfredo and chicken parmigiano. And what comes to mind if you think about going to a Chinese restaurant? Egg rolls, and fried rice might be one of the favorites."

Do people around the world really eat that differently? Or are there some tried and true favorites shared by many cultures around the globe? Surprisingly, many of the people in :Australia, Brazil, Germany, Ghana, Guatemala, India, Kenya, Mexico, Pakistan, the Philippines, Russia, South Africa, Spain, Tanzania, the Netherlands, England, and the United States reported similar favorite foods.

The top three foods overall were pasta, meat, and rice. If spaghetti and meatballs is your favorite meal, you're in good company around the world! In the United States, the top three were pizza, steak, and chicken. Pakistani parents must be proud, as their favorite food was vegetables. There are many different favorite foods around the world.

What is your favorite food?

Meet Jesse Holland

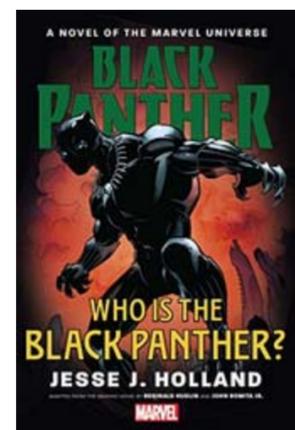


Jesse J. Holland is an award-winning journalist and the author of the first novel featuring comics' most popular black superhero, The Black Panther. The novel was commissioned by Marvel books.

In *Black Panther: Who Is The Black Panther?* Holland retells the classic origin of T'Challa, the original Black Panther, and updates it for the new century, giving new fans and longtime die-hard aficionados a good platform and some inside information for the new "Black Panther" movie from Marvel Studios debuting in February 2018.

Jesse is an accomplished novelist, having also been trusted by Lucasfilm to chronicle the history of their newest black hero in *Star Wars: Finn* in the *Star Wars* young adult novel *The Force Awakens - Finn's Story*.

In addition to fiction, Jesse is also an award-winning nonfiction author, with his book *The Invisibles: The Untold Story of African American Slavery In The White House*, being named as the 2017 silver medal award winner in U.S. History in the Independent Publisher Book Awards and one of the top history



books of 2016 by Smithsonian.com. In addition to his books, Jesse is also a Race & Ethnicity writer for The Associated Press, as well as a former White House, Supreme Court and Congressional reporter. He is also a recognized educator and public speaker, having served as the Visiting Distinguished Professor of Ethics in Journalism at the University of Arkansas in 2016. He now teaches creative nonfiction in the Master of Fine Art in Creative Nonfiction program at Goucher College in Towson, Maryland.

Jesse is from Holly Springs, Mississippi, and graduated from the University of Mississippi with a Liberal Arts degree with an emphasis in journalism and English. He received his Master of Fine Arts in Creative Nonfiction from Goucher College in 2012.