**The *Smoke Signal***

**application 2020-21**

**Due by Thursday, February 27 to M2**

**Typed Applications Only**

**Basic Information**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name |  |
| 3rd Period Room |  |
| 3rd Period Teacher |  |
| Home Phone (XXX-XXX-XXXX) |  |
| Cell Phone (XXX-XXX-XXXX) |  |
| Email Address |  |
| Current Grade (9, 10, or 11) |  |

List the classes you plan to take next year (2020-21), not including Journalism. You may leave blanks if you are uncertain, but fill in as much as possible. *Note: Do not register for Journalism but list an elective that you will drop if chosen for the class.*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1 |  |
| 2 |  |
| 3 |  |
| 4 |  |
| 5 |  |
| 6 |  |
| 7 |  |

**School-Related Activities**

Limiting yourself to the space provided, list your school-related extracurricular activities (in order of importance to you). These may include school sports, clubs, student government, etc.

Example:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Ex. Baseball  | 9-10 | 10 | 40 | Captain (9-10) |

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Activity** | **Grades Involved** | **hrs/wk** | **wks/yr** | **Position(s) Held (Grades)** |
|   |   |  |   |   |
|   |   |  |   |   |
|   |   |  |   |   |
|   |   |  |   |   |
|   |   |  |   |   |

**Outside Activities**

Limiting yourself to the space provided, list your activities outside of school (in order of importance to you). These may include community service, work experience, musical interests, etc.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Activity** | **Grades Involved** | **hrs/wk** | **wks/yr** | **Position(s) Held (Grades)** |
|   |   |  |   |   |
|   |   |  |   |   |
|   |   |  |   |   |
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**Writing Ability**

A. List all of your high school English teachers and the grades you received each semester.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Grade** | **Teacher** | **Honors (yes/no)** | **1st Semester Grade** | **2nd Semester Grade** |
| 9th |   |   |  |   |
| 10th |   |   |   |   |
| 11th |  |   |   |   |

B. Please attach a graded essay from your current English class. (Photocopies are acceptable, but the essay must have teacher feedback written on it, or have the score initialed by the teacher.)

C. Please attach an article from a newspaper or magazine that you found insightful, inspiring, or interesting. Write a paragraph or two about your thoughts and feelings on the article (the approach it took, the writing technique, etc.) and explain why you liked it.

**News Experience**

Do you have any experience in reporting or layout work related to newspapers or magazines? If so, please provide the name of the publication or employer and briefly describe your contribution in the box provided below. (50 words max)

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| --- |
|  |

**Graphics Experience**

A. Have you taken any of the following classes, either on or off campus? (*Type in “yes” in all that apply)*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Art (yes/no) |  |
| Digital Imaging (yes/no) |  |
| Photography (yes/no) |  |
| Other Art/Graphic Design (yes/no) |  |

If you answered “yes” to any of the above questions, please fill out your classes below:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Class Provider (ex. Foothill College) | Class Name (ex. ART 15A: Digital Painting I) |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |

B. Are you experienced in the following areas and interested in offering those skills to the *Smoke Signal*? (*Type in “yes” in all that apply)*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Art (yes/no) |  |
| Photography (yes/no) |  |
| Graphic design programs ie. Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Indesign, etc. (yes/no) |  |

If you have graphic design experience, which programs do you use? Describe your level of experience. (30 word max)

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|  |

E. Please attach sample drawings, comics, Photoshop art, layouts, paintings, or photographs behind your writing samples. Samples should be at most 8.5” x 11” (if you want to submit something larger, contact us at *eic@thesmokesignal.org*). All artwork will be returned. Sending an electronic copy of the samples to *applications@thesmokesignal.org* with the subject line “Smoke Signal J1 Application Artwork (insert name)” in addition to attaching a printed copy is HIGHLY ADVISED if possible.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Art portfolio submitted digitally (yes/no) |  |

**Tech Experience**

A. Have you had any experience with web programming, mobile app design, or knowledge of tech support? If yes, please indicate which:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Do have experience with web programming, mobile app design, or tech support? (yes/no) |  |

If yes, please describe your area of expertise and level of experience. (30 words max)

|  |
| --- |
|  |

**Quick Takes**

A. This is our chance to get to know you. Be honest, and don’t stress over these because there are no right answers. (10 word max per)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Last book you read for pleasure  |  |
| Most prized possession  |  |
| Role model(s) |  |
| Favorite musician(s) |  |
| Favorite magazine/newspaper(s) |  |
| Favorite author(s) |  |

B. What’s the best advice you’ve ever received? Please answer in the box below. (30 words max)

|  |
| --- |
|  |

What’s your favorite quote? Please answer in the box below. (30 words max)

|  |
| --- |
|  |

C. Name three hobbies (5 words max per):

|  |
| --- |
|  |
|  |
|  |

D. Name three accomplishments (5 words max per):

|  |
| --- |
|  |
|  |
|  |

E. What are three adjectives that your friends would use to describe you?

|  |
| --- |
|  |
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|  |

**Short Answer Section**

Please answer these questions on a typed separate sheet of paper, stapled to the back of your application (behind writing samples and in front of art samples). Limit each response to 150 words or less.

1. It takes courage to criticize. What could the *Smoke Signal* do better (aside from catching grammar and spelling mistakes)? What changes would you implement to improve the newspaper?
2. How would you uniquely benefit the *Smoke Signal?*
3. Describe an ideal day.
4. Tell us about your interest in journalism. What do you hope to learn from being in the *Smoke Signal*?

**Mock Article**

Write a 300-500 word mock article (format your page with two columns, 12 pt. Garamond font, single-spaced, and specify the number of words). It can be about any topic in one of the following sections of the *Smoke Signal*: News, Opinion, Feature, Arts and Entertainment, or Sports. Please specify the intended section. The article should also have a headline.

## Interviews

Interview times will not be offered to all applicants; only those who have passed the initial application screening process will be granted an interview with the editorial board. The interview schedule will be posted online at *www.thesmokesignal.org* and on the outside of the M-2 doors. Once an interview time and date has been set, it cannot be changed.

Please type “X” for each time slot for which you are available:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Lunch** |  |
| **After School** |  |
| **Either** |  |

Is there a time you absolutely cannot make? Please explain. (Club meetings are **not** an excuse.)

|  |
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**The *Smoke Signal***

**application 2020-21**

English Teacher Recommendation Form

student name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

To the Teacher:

Please make note of the date you received this form in the box above. Recommendations should be folded, stapled, and placed in Mrs. Cohen’s box by February 20, 2020. Thank you for your time.

teacher name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

grade(s) taught student: 9 10 11 honors college prep

Grades student earned:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

please evaluate the applicant in terms of the characteristics below.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|   | belowaverage | average | good | excellent | exceptional |
| teamwork | □ | □ | □ | □ | □ |
| work ethic | □ | □ | □ | □ | □ |
| leadership | □ | □ | □ | □ | □ |
| enthusiasm | □ | □ | □ | □ | □ |
| integrity | □ | □ | □ | □ | □ |
| creativity | □ | □ | □ | □ | □ |
| intellectual curiosity | □ | □ | □ | □ | □ |
| oral communication | □ | □ | □ | □ | □ |
| writing ability | □ | □ | □ | □ | □ |

 i recommend this student:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| □ not at all | □ with reservation | □ fairly strongly | □ strongly | □ enthusiastically |

Additional Comments:

Teacher Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_