



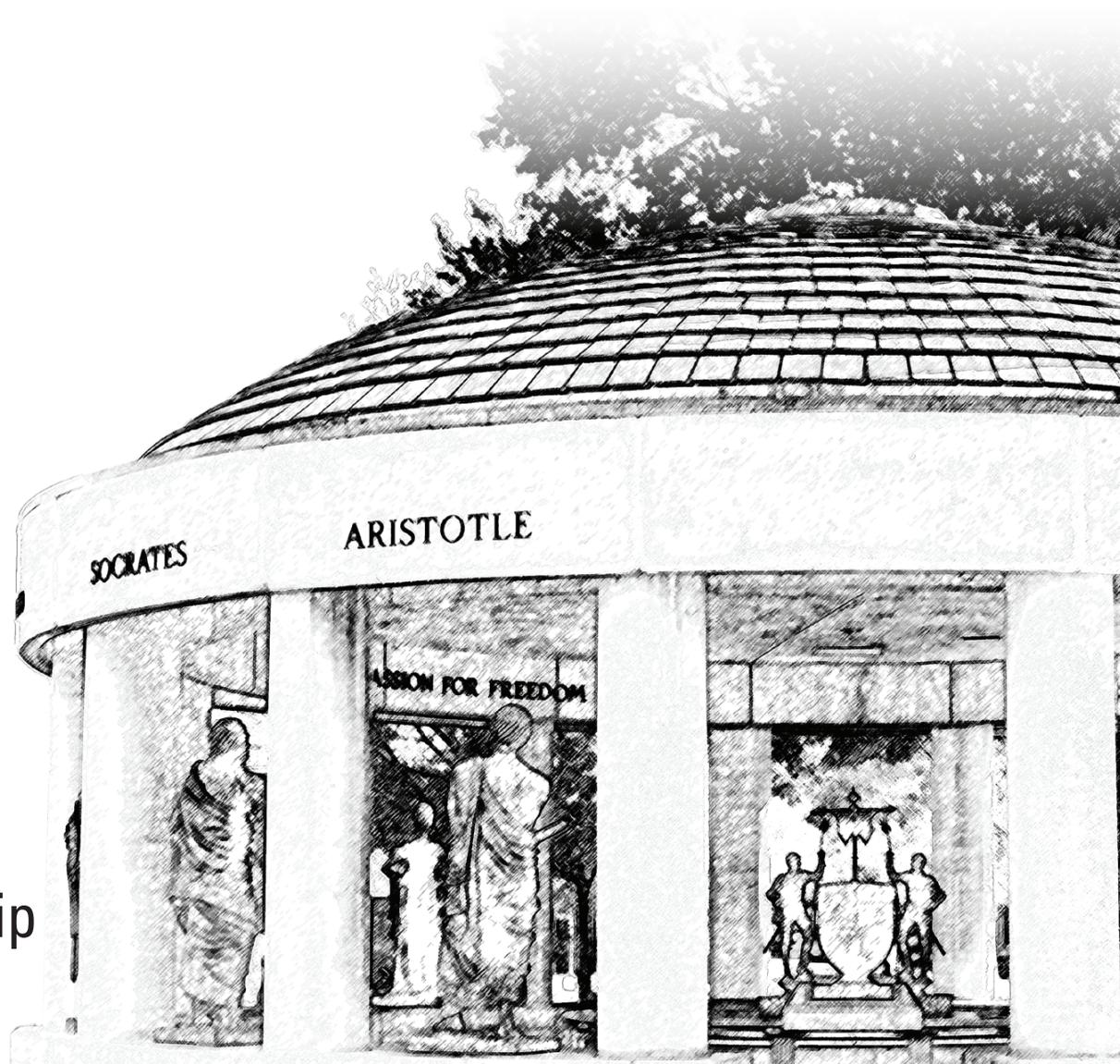
GOVERNOR'S HONORS ACADEMY

AT SOUTHERN UTAH UNIVERSITY

We've been

*Changing the world**

for 26 YEARS



Sponsorship
Packet

GOVERNOR'S HONORS ACADEMY

AT SOUTHERN UTAH UNIVERSITY

351 West University Blvd Cedar City Utah, 84720 gha@suu.edu 435.586.7741

March 7, 2014

To Whom it May Concern:

As a leader in your community, we invite you to assist this talented student who has been appointed to the twenty sixth annual Governor's Honors Academy, hosted at Southern Utah University, June 20, 2014 through June 28, 2014.

The Academy is for Utah's finest high school students who demonstrate excellence in academics, leadership, extracurricular activities, personal achievement, and community service. It is prestigious to have a student from your community as a participant, since a mere 50 appointments are made each year.

As we assist the Honorable Governor Gary Herbert in this endeavor, it is our objective to offer an intense nine-day program to emphasize excellence and achievement. The leadership development each participant receives will assist your community when the student returns to become a contributor in your area.

We believe you can be a valuable support to this student by providing a sponsorship which will bring the best of Utah's community and corporate leaders together with the Governor's Office and Southern Utah University in presenting the 2014 Governor's Honors Academy.

Enclosed is information explaining the purpose and objectives of the Academy as well as comments from past participants. Please feel free to call me if you have any questions at (435) 586-7741. Thank you for your consideration of this matter. By sponsoring a student from your community, you are helping to establish an unparalleled level of excellence in Utah's future.

Sincerely,



Jared Wilcken
Academy Director

Paula Parry
Academy Director

Shaylee Parry
Academy Director



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Program Summary

The Governor's Honors Academy is a prestigious program designed to seek out Utah's most gifted high school leaders and scholars entering the twelfth grade. The Academy was conceived by D. Mark Barton with Governor Norman H. Bangerter and former Southern Utah University President Gerald R. Sherratt and is currently endorsed by the Honorable Governor Gary Herbert. The objective of the program is to cultivate the brightest and the best of Utah's high school students in high quality leadership, personal achievement, academics, and community service, "to nurture the life of the mind." This experience helps the participants understand and realize the future potential of our state and develops a high level of excellence in our state's next generation of leaders.

The nine-day program provides students a stimulating curriculum of study. Subjects range from science to Shakespeare and from creativity to leadership. These and other subjects are presented by dynamic Academy faculty members as well as many distinguished lecturers with corporate, government, media and other professional backgrounds. The student participants have the opportunity to interact with these professionals on a level that would not exist without the Governor's Honors Academy.

The Academy recognizes the quality and caliber of Utah's most valuable resource, its students. Fifty students are selected as participants in this prestigious learning experience from Utah high schools ranging in size and location. These students demonstrate excellence in academics, leadership, community service, extra-curricular activities and personal achievement.

The Academy is designed to allow participants an opportunity to create and implement ideas and objectives. Throughout the program, each student will develop personal objectives during small group sessions where they can gain valuable insight from group leaders and fellow participants, as well as draw from the diverse background and expertise of faculty and distinguished guest speakers during large group settings.

Higher education is a necessary experience for these bright students. While attending the Governor's Honors Academy, many opportunities to learn about the campus environment and academic disciplines offered on a collegiate campus will be experienced at Southern Utah University. Academy participants interact with faculty from across the state, allowing them to discover the collegiate excitement found in higher education.

During the Academy, all participants will learn as they live and socialize with other students from around the state and engage in discussions with distinguished leaders in business, politics and academics from across the nation. The atmosphere is one of excitement with an accent on excellence, an experience that motivates the body and expands the scope of the mind.

2014 GHA Profile

Participants: 55

Number of Applicants: 110

Average GPA of 2014 GHA: 3.92

Average ACT of 2014 GHA: 25.7

Number of Schools Represented in 2014: 46

Requirements to Apply: 3.75 GPA & completed the ACT

University Credits Earned: 6



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Need for the Academy

We are all concerned about the future state of the nation as we advance into the future. We can no longer survive on traditional methods of achievement. The Academy will instill within its participants an ability to perceive early the changing dynamics of the global economy and the technological advances of the 21st century. Young leaders need to be prepared to take advantage of these new opportunities. The concept of the Governor's Honors Academy brings the brightest young leaders at the high school level into a setting where the common purpose is excellence.

The concept of excellence begins with one's inner motivation and desire to achieve. Assuming this basic concept exists in those students selected to attend the Academy, an intense program of study including seminars on leadership and group dynamics, association with role models who exemplify excellence, and academic development will nurture the expanding minds of the students, thus allowing them the ability to achieve the highest planes of personal excellence, leadership, and motivation in today's unique economic environment.

Program Mission, Objectives and Activities

The mission of The Governor's Honors Academy is to motivate, illuminate, and feed the talents of each individual at GHA. We desire to help each person set goals, embrace dreams, and realize that their boundaries are limitless. By recognizing diversity, we will build lasting friendships that inspire us to be better people and work harder for success. We will go home with more enthusiasm, more endurance, and a larger passion for our lives and the lives we come to know. Thus, nurturing the life of the mind.

Students attending the Governor's Honors Academy will:

- ✦ Obtain a broader vision of personal potential for leadership.
- ✦ Learn & understand the value perspective can bring and how it enhances society.
- ✦ Develop a keener ability to create, then implement new ideas.
- ✦ Learn fresh approaches and new skills in group dynamics.
- ✦ Acquire an increased awareness of personal goals and objectives.
- ✦ Improve understanding of contemporary trends and global problems in order to deal with them.

Students attending the Academy receive the following for \$1,000:

- ✦ Six University credits (tuition and fees valued at over \$1,700) – upon completion of the Academy
- ✦ Nine days lodging (valued at over \$250)
- ✦ Nine days food (valued at over \$200)
- ✦ Entrance into Zion National Park, Kolob National Park, and Bryce Canyon National Park (valued at \$50)
- ✦ Transportation during the Academy (valued at \$150)
- ✦ Governor's Honors Academy materials (valued at \$65)
- ✦ Over two dozen speakers from around the state of Utah and nation (valued at over \$3000)



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Benefits of Sponsoring the Governor's Honors Academy

Sponsors have the option of donating within the following categories:

As a community sponsor for the 2014 Governor's Honors Academy, your organization will receive increased recognition as a civic support leader in education through your contribution to this student's development. Depending on your sponsorship level, your organization will be recognized and honored as your logo/name is printed on many publications. Through your sponsorship of a high school student from your local area, we invite you to take ownership of the Governor's Honors Academy and see the leadership qualities exhibited by these elite participants. We are confident these students will be Utah's next generation of leaders, highly visible in business, politics, and also productive members of communities like yours. Listed below are the various levels of sponsorship and associated benefits.

Bronze \$100 - \$199 [name will be included in GHA Binder.]

Silver \$200 - \$299 [name & logo will be included on GHA website, plus Bronze benefits.]

Gold \$300 + [name & logo will be included on Ceremony programs, DVD, plus Bronze & Silver benefits.]

*While donations below \$100 do not qualify for as a sponsorship level they are greatly appreciated.

Program Curriculum

1. Educational Focus

The Governor's Honors Academy is focused on providing quality educational opportunities to each participant. To ensure quality and consistency the academy strives to bring exceptionally qualified speakers in each of the following areas:

- Humanities (three speakers)
- Sciences (two speakers)
- Business (two speakers)
- Motivation (three speakers)
- Education (two speakers)
- Arts (two speakers)

2. Increase Perspective

Providing students will an understanding of perspective and how being open to different perspectives allows them to relate with and work better with others is a key component to the Governor's Honors Academy. Students will read the book "The Noticer" by Andy Andrews prior to attending the Academy and then will participate in the Perspective Series. This series will help students understand key components of society from different perspectives and will include the following topics:

- Religion
- Politics
- Education



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3. Promotes Individual Leadership

The Governor's Honors Academy is focused on leadership. Leaders from all facets of our society will be presented in the program. Students will have multiple opportunities to learn and exhibit leadership skills.

4. Promotes Lifelong Learning

Following participation in the summer program, students are inducted into the Governor's Honors Academy Society which furthers development, opportunities, and learning throughout a lifetime.

By providing these benefits on an individual basis, the Academy recognizes the quality and caliber of Utah's most valuable resource, its young leaders. Only 50 students are selected as participants in this prestigious learning experience each summer. Throughout the ten-day program, each student will develop personally during small group sessions, gaining valuable insight from fellow students. They will also draw from the diverse background and experience of Academy faculty and guest presenters during large group settings.

Governor's Honors Academy Past Participant Comments

"The Governor's Honors Academy changed my view of learning by opening up more doors than there were available to me when I first started. I came into the Academy believing that I was a total left-brained kind of person who would have nothing to do with any kinesthetic learning. However, after GHA, I must say, I may not be a therapist, but I must classify myself as a GHA addict. The amount I have learned, I want to give back to GHA tenfold because this was such a valuable experience for me - I never want to forget it."

✦Mike Dillon-Juan Diego Catholic School

"Not only were the curriculum, lectures, and activities of the highest quality and value to me, but the peers I met and the facilities on the SUU campus were far superior to those at other programs. I will always be grateful for my experience at the Governor's Honors Academy; it was the top experience of my high school career. My life has been deeply enriched by it!"

✦Michael Jones, Viewmont High School

"The Governor's Honors Academy is a wonderful experience for anyone. It was a chance to meet and become friends with forty-nine new people who share common goals and enjoy common activities. The program helped to prepare me for life after school."

✦Tamra Just, Skyline High School

"It was about noon on an April Saturday when I opened my mailbox to find an acceptance letter into the Governor's Honors Academy. As I read the letter with excitement, I began to figure out how I'd raise over 600 dollars. I realized that I lived in a small community with limited options and it would make my sponsorship nearly impossible. Then, I began to get nervous and thought I had been accepted to NerdFest 2004. However, I soon changed my negative attitude and worked for the tuition and attended the Academy. It was the best experience I have had. A quote I really liked during the Academy was, 'One can have no smaller or greater mastery than mastery of oneself.' That quote sums up the affect the Academy had on me and my future."

✦Sean Latimer, Wasatch High School

"The Academy has done a variety of things for me. The friendships made at GHA are truly life long friendships, which was my favorite part about GHA. By the end of the week you feel so completely attached to the other participants that you couldn't bare to leave them. And that's the neat part about GHA, the friendships continue after the Academy is over."

✦Jordan Ellis, Olympus High School



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"My future plans were written down, but not set in concrete – which was good, for the Academy has had a big influence on what I will do down the road. Being with so many new people who were positive, kind, and smart helped me realize that I'm not alone in the world. At my high school I sometimes feel outcast for being the person I am. The Academy and the participants there placed in me the 'coolness' of being brilliant in everything you do and not allowing mediocrity to set in. I now understand the huge impact that I can have on myself, family, community, state, country and world. My future plans can be limitless if I just allow my potential to shine."

✦Kiersten Lee Gray, Lehi High School

"Along with introducing me to some of the most successful men and women in the state of Utah, the Governor's Honors Academy introduced me to myself. I learned things about who I was. I learned what my strengths and my weaknesses are. I set groundwork for achieving my utmost potential and overcoming obstacles I'll face in life."

✦Mel Green, West Desert High School

"Once upon a time, there was a 17 year-old girl who was still a little girl in many ways. She was never put outside her little shell. She was taught that she was never good enough for anything. Because of no praise for her accomplishments, she never grew. Because of no care for her, she never learned what she was capable of doing. She was so frail and weak. Then, one day, she was accepted to attend the Governor's Honors Academy. She learned that she was "someone." She learned that she was special and can shine in different colors. Because of this self-confidence, she got the courage to take charge of her life."

✦Jung Lee, Timpview High School

"The students at the Governor's Honors Academy were of exceptional quality and showed a great deal of enthusiasm for learning. It was highly refreshing to see students who wanted to be in the classroom and were excited about learning."

✦Mark Morman, Former Communications Instructor, Southern Utah University

**In 1992, a GHA Participant named Jeremy Peterson wrote a song while attending the Academy. In the chorus of that song he used the words, "We can change the world if we try". Now, 21 years later that song has been sung at each and every GHA. Participants of the Academy will argue that GHA has changed their life and the Academy would argue that these participants have indeed changed the world.*