

Punahou School

College Previews

An Inside Look at Alumni Experiences
December 20, 2023

College Counseling / Alumni Relations / PFA

College Previews Website

Website includes

- Agenda for the event
- List of colleges represented at the event
- Alumni advice
- Questions to ask alumni
- Info from Alumni Relations and Punahou Alumni Association



collegepreviews.weebly.com

Junior Year Timeline

Spring Semester

- College Conference
- Research college options
- Attend College Workshops
- HACAC College Fairs
- Begin personal essay
- Take standardized test(s)
- Secure teacher recommender(s)
- Work on Common App

Summer

- Continue researching colleges
- Narrow down college list
- Begin first draft of personal essay
- Work on Common App

Senior Year

- College Conference
- Attend College Workshops
- Complete applications and essays (personal and supplemental)
- Take standardized test(s)
- Finalize college list
- Finalize application plans
- Submit applications
- Apply for need-based financial aid

Junior College Conference

What is covered?

- Transcript review
- Programing for senior year
- Review standardized testing plan
- Discuss student's search criteria
- How to research colleges
- Teacher letters of recommendation
- Discuss individual colleges
- Discuss admissibility to colleges
- Discuss financial aid
- If applicable:
 - student-athlete recruiting
 - visual art process (portfolio)
 - performing art process (audition)
 - Service Academy / ROTC

Logistical info

- Second semester (January - May)
- Approximately 1.5 hours
- Who signs-up for the conference?
 - The student
- Who attends?
 - The student
 - College Counselor
 - Parent(s)/guardian(s)

Supporting your Junior

- **Listen** with an open mind and heart when your student shares what they are learning in College Guidance, how they are approaching the idea of MATCH
- **Support** your student without taking over the process (example: remind your student to attend college fairs and information sessions, help create organizational tools and methods to keep track of deadlines, etc.)
- **Attend** College Counseling events for parents (example: College Funding Night, Senior Parent Night, etc.)
- **Observe** when your student is stressed, and **assist** in finding ways to de-stress
- **Reassure** your student that they are going to find the right MATCH college for themselves and their worth should not be defined by an admission decision

Planning for the Summer

- Consider opportunities that are available...
 - Summer school
 - Part-time job
 - Volunteer opportunities
- Research colleges
 - Virtual campus tour, information sessions
 - In-person campus visit (and the neighboring community)
 - **The College Tour** (Amazon Prime show)
 - **Fiske Guide to Colleges** (resource book)
- Narrow down college list
- Work on applications
- Work on college essay (personal)
- Student Athletes: Contacting coaches
- Performing / Visual Arts Applicants: Working on artistic portfolio

Senior Year Timeline

December - January

- Receive your admission decision (ED, EA, REA)
- If you applied for financial aid, receive aid package
- EDII & RD deadlines - submit applications!
- Scholarship deadlines - submit applications!
- College Previews
- Apply for the 2024-25 FAFSA

February - March

- Scholarship deadlines - submit applications!
- Mid to late-March, receive your admission decision (EDII, RD)
- Review financial aid awards
- Further research of admitted colleges

April

- Further research of admitted colleges
- If waitlisted, submit form for continued consideration (and additional documents)
- Attend in-person/virtual admitted events
- Send final documents to colleges (if applicable)
- Complete housing forms (if applicable)

Senior Year Timeline



- May 1st = submit enrollment deposit*



- Attend in-person/virtual Orientation programming
- Meet with Advisor(s)
- Register for first year classes
- Final official transcript sent
- Take placement exams (if applicable)
- Fulfill housing obligations
- Fulfill financial aid obligations



May 1st is the national reply date to enroll, but some might have a different deadline so check with your college!

Supporting your Senior

- **Support** your student through the various admission decisions they will receive (Admit, Defer, Deny, Waitlist)
- **Navigate** the process of making a final decision with your student
- **Review** financial aid awards (if applicable)
- **Assist** with a “plan B” for additional colleges to apply to if needed
- **Discuss / prepare** for the upcoming transition to college
- **Deposit** your intent to enroll by **May 1st** to ONLY ONE college

Upcoming Opportunities

For seniors

- **Wednesday, April 10, 2024 & Thursday, April 11, 2024** – Financial Aid Analysis Appointment Days
 - (as needed) 45 minute appointment with your College Counselor

For juniors

- **January to May 2024** – Junior College Conference
- **Saturday, April 13, 2024 & Sunday, April 14, 2024** – HACAC Spring College Fairs
 - TBA various sites on Oahu
- **Wednesday, April 17, 2024** – Federal / Military Academy and ROTC Scholarship Night
 - From 6:00 – 8:00pm in Mamiya Science Center

Upcoming Workshops

College Bound Workshops (open to all Academy students)

- **11:30am –12:30pm in Wo International Center (Luke Lecture Hall)**
 - Wednesday, January 17 – Dance/Theatre in College
 - Thursday, January 18 – Music in College
 - Friday, January 19 – Visual Arts in College

Junior Workshops

- **11:30am –12:30pm in Wo International Center (Luke Lecture Hall)**
 - Thursday, April 4 – Deeper Dive with the Personal Essay / Supplemental Essay
 - Monday, April 22 – College Personal Essay: Let's Get Drafting!
 - Thursday, May 9 – Deeper dive with the Common Application
 - Friday, May 17 – Begin your FAFSA / Create your FSA ID

Alumni Panel

Shalita Areeyaphan '22

Univ. of California-Irvine

Aiden Guenther '23

Whitman College

Marissa Halagao '23

Yale University

Thomas King '22

Northeastern University

General Questions to Ask

GENERAL:

- How did you decide to attend your college?
- Are you happy with your college choice?
- How is your college similar to Punahou? How is it different?
- How have you adjusted to the weather?
- How easy it is to get to your college?
- How often do you come home to Hawaii?
- What do you do during holiday breaks when you cannot come home?
- What is your most memorable experience in college?

Academic Questions to Ask

ACADEMIC:

- Compared to Punahou, how challenging are your classes?
- What is the size of your largest class?
- How easy is it to get into classes that you want or need for graduation?
- How often do you see your professors for office hours?
- How easy is it to participate in internships or study abroad?

Social Questions to Ask

SOCIAL:

- What did you do to make friends at first?
- What do you do when you get homesick?
- How has your experience been in the residence halls? Do most students live on campus?
- How is the food on campus?
- How is the neighborhood that surrounds campus?
- How safe do you feel walking around campus at night?
- What do you do when you are not in class?
- What do you do on a typical Wednesday night?
- What is your favorite thing to do on campus?
- What are the most popular off-campus activities?
- Is there a Hawaii Club at your college? Are you involved with it?

Financial Questions to Ask

FINANCIAL:

- What types of on-campus jobs are available?
- What types of scholarships are available?
- How often do you need to spend money outside of your meal plan?
- Do the students at your school have access to free public transportation?
- How do you find ways to save on expenses at your college?
- Was your financial aid package easy to understand?
- What are some essential items that a student needs at your college?
- How have alumni helped you to get internships or jobs?

Questions to Ask

COLLEGE PREVIEWS

An Inside Look at Alumni Experiences

QUESTIONS TO ASK THE PUNAHOU GRADUATES

<p><u>GENERAL:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• How did you decide to attend your college?• Are you happy with your college choice?• How is your college similar to Punahou? How is it different?• How have you adjusted to the weather?• How easy is it to get to your college?• How often do you come home to Hawaii?• What do you do during holiday breaks when you cannot come home?• What is your most memorable experience in college?	<p><u>ACADEMIC:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Compared to Punahou, how challenging are your classes?• What is the size of your largest class?• How easy is it to get into classes that you want or need for graduation?• How often do you see your professors for office hours?• How easy is it to participate in internships or study abroad?
<p><u>SOCIAL:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What did you do to make friends at first?• What do you do when you get homesick?• How has your experience been in the residence halls? Do most students live on campus?• How is the food on campus?• How is the neighborhood that surrounds campus?• How safe do you feel walking around campus at night?• What do you do when you are not in class?• What do you do on a typical Wednesday night?• What is your favorite thing to do on campus?• What are the most popular off-campus activities?• Is there a Hawaii Club at your college? Are you involved with it?	<p><u>FINANCIAL:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What types of on-campus jobs are available?• What types of scholarships are available?• How often do you need to spend money outside of your meal plan?• Do the students at your school have access to free public transportation?• How do you find ways to save on expenses at your college?• Was your financial aid package easy to understand?• What are some essential items that a student needs at your college?• How have alumni helped you to get internships or jobs?

College Previews is an opportunity for you to meet and ask questions/advice from Punahou graduates about their college transition and experiences. Don't be afraid to start a conversation! They are at Previews to represent their college and to help you make informed decisions.



<http://bit.ly/3BVLdPH>

Parent Panel

Patricia Halagao

Marissa Halagao '23, Yale University

Lee Ann Ichimura

Kelly Ann Ichimura '23, Chapman University

Jaycee Ichimura '20, Seattle University

Taryn Ichimura '17, Menlo College

Mike Inouye

Taylor Inouye '23, Univ. of Washington–Seattle

Kim Sato

Brendon Sato '23, Univ. of California–Irvine



PUNAHOU