



## Education USA Weekly Update

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## I. Scholarships and Fellowships

### Pilot Scholarship Program at Five Boarding Schools: Davis International Scholar Program

Believing that education is the pathway to true global understanding, the Shelby Cullom Davis family has selected five U.S. boarding schools to participate in an international student pilot program.

The goal of the program is to attract highly motivated, potential future leaders who will benefit from the educational opportunities of select American boarding schools. Initial grants will be awarded in the 2008-2009 academic year.

The Davis family will award grants of up to \$20,000 per student, per year based on demonstrated need. Students may enroll in the 10th, 11th, and 12th grades as well as during the postgraduate year. Upon graduation from one of these five schools, Davis Scholars will be eligible for continued scholarship support should they enroll at any of the 89 Davis United World Scholars colleges and universities which now support more than 1400 students from 126 countries.

The five boarding schools selected to participate are Andover (MA), Emma Willard (NY), Lawrenceville (NJ), Taft (CT), and Westminster (CT). The Heads of all five schools point to the fact that the Davis family will extend their support through the undergraduate years as an especially powerful aspect of the program.

In supporting highly motivated and talented students from around the world, the Davis family looks to create a cadre of future leaders, Americans and non-Americans alike, whose shared perspectives and experiences will prepare them to collaborate effectively in a demanding, complex global universe

#### Further Information:

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### Undergraduate: Scholarship Opportunity for International String Players - Viola and Cello Western Illinois University, Macomb, IL

Western Illinois University, dedicated to diversity and the fine arts, has designated four complete scholarships (tuition, room, and board) to attract international string students. These four string players (two violinists, one violist, and one cellist) from the WIU Presidential String Quartet.

Currently there is one viola and one cello opening. Candidates will need the following to apply:

1. A completed high school degree or equivalent.
2. One video of the candidate performing two contrasting works. DVD or Video Cassette is acceptable.
3. A completed school of music application form. Forms can be downloaded off the internet by visiting [www.wiu.edu/music](http://www.wiu.edu/music)
4. Three letters of recommendation. These must include information on applicant's academic and musical abilities (including sightreading ability).

Contact an EducationUSA adviser near you for guidance on finding and applying to an accredited U.S. college or university  
<http://www.educationusa.state.gov/>

5. A completed international student admission application form. Forms can be downloaded off the internet by visiting [www.wiu.edu/cjp/](http://www.wiu.edu/cjp/)
6. Successful completion of the TOEFL in internet, computer or traditional form.

All materials must be received by March 1, 2008 for full consideration.

**For more information contact:**

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**Undergraduate and Graduate: Washington Internship Institute**

The Washington Internship Institute (<http://www.wiidx.org/>) is pleased to invite applications from qualified international students to participate in its Washington, DC-focused program of experiential education. With three terms per year—convening September, January, and June—WII provides innovative, individualized, and academically-based internship programs within the metropolitan Washington, DC area for undergraduate and graduate students of any academic specialty.

WII's students are placed with businesses, government agencies, international organizations, or nonprofit organizations and are with these organizations four days per week. Their responsibilities have included creating marketing plans for technology companies, writing background memoranda for White House staff, preparing guests for appearances on national television, representing embassies at congressional hearings, and designing web pages for nonprofit organizations. One day per week students attend two academic seminars, taught by WII faculty, where they reflect upon their experiences and work collaboratively with their classmates.

As the *premier* internship program in Washington, DC, WII is dedicated to providing future leaders with a **rigorous, substantive internship experience** that will prepare them for **success in the workplace and active engagement** in their communities. WII's programs combine the principles of experiential learning, academic rigor, and personal and career development to create a memorable and challenging semester for students. Further, by fully integrating U.S. and international students in its academic programs and housing, WII fosters a lively exchange between U.S. and international students. This interaction enhances students' knowledge and understanding of different cultures and prepares them for life in a global society.

WII is a designated J Exchange Visitor Program sponsor, and has worked with international students since its creation over 15 years ago. The program fee includes internship placements, academic instruction, program orientation and on-program support, housing, and selected cultural and enrichment activities. Students must cover the transportation and meal costs on their own.

WII welcomes inquiries from EducationUSA advising centers, institutions of higher education, and individual students and faculty. For more information about the program, including fees, consult the WII website at <http://www.wiidx.org/>, or send an inquiry to [info@wiidx.org](mailto:info@wiidx.org). WII's Washington, DC, address is 1776 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Suite 201, Washington, D.C. 20036; tel: +1 (202) 833-8580; fax: +1 (202) 833-8581.

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**Post Doctorate: The Harry Frank Guggenheim Foundation (HFG) Research Grants**

**Program Description:**

The Harry Frank Guggenheim Foundation (HFG) welcomes proposals from any of the natural and social sciences and the humanities that promise to increase understanding of the causes, manifestations, and control of violence, aggression, and dominance. Highest priority is given to research that can increase understanding and amelioration of urgent problems of violence, aggression, and dominance in the modern world.

Particular questions that interest HFG concern violence, aggression, and dominance in relation to social change, the socialization of children, intergroup conflict, interstate warfare, crime, family relationships, and investigations of the control of aggression and violence. Research with no useful relevance to understanding human problems will not be supported, nor will proposals to investigate urgent social problems where the foundation cannot be assured that useful, sound research can be done. Priority will also be given to areas and methodologies not receiving adequate attention and support from other funding sources.

HFG awards research grants to individuals for individual projects and does not award grants to institutions for institutional programs.

Website: <http://www.hfg.org/rg/guidelines.htm>

Levels of Study: postdoctorate

Average Award Amount: \$15,000 to \$30,000 a year

Award Duration: 1 to 2 years

Award Deadline: New applications must be received by August 1, for a decision in December.

**Contact:**

The Harry Frank Guggenheim Foundation, 527 Madison Ave, New York, NY 10022-4304

Phone #: (212) 644-4907

Fax #: (212) 644-5110

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**Professional: EarthCorps Training Course**

EarthCorps offers a 6-month training course in Seattle, Washington, USA that brings together emerging environmental leaders to learn the fundamentals of:

- Environmental Service
- Community Building
- Leadership

EARTHCORPS CHARGES NO TUITION OR FEES for its services and in fact supplies insurance, individual homestay families, food, gear and a monthly stipend to all international participants. EarthCorps provides additional support in acquiring US J-1 Trainee visas.

**MINIMUM CRITERIA TO BE CONSIDERED FOR EARTHCORPS:**

- \*4 year college degree and 1 year of work experience in the environmental field
- OR-
- \*5 years of work experience in the environmental field
- \*Conversational English
- \*Documented commitment to one's career field
- \*No Criminal Record

**DEADLINES AND START DATES:**

- \*Applicant Application Dead Line: January 31, 2008
- \*Participant selection: February 2008
- \*Visa processing: March - May 2008
- \*Travel confirmation: May 2008
- \*EarthCorps Program starting date: June 3, 2008
- \*EarthCorps Program graduation: December 12, 2008

**TO APPLY:**

Candidates should be referred to EarthCorps by an environmental organization (i.e. NGO, community group or student club). Materials are available online at: [http://www.earthcorps.org/join\\_international.php](http://www.earthcorps.org/join_international.php).

**Further information:**

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**Description:**

Fordham University's Institute of American Language and Culture (IALC) offers English as a Second Language classes at six levels of English proficiency - from beginning to the university preparatory level. (Levels 1 -6) The core curriculum consists of traditional ESL classes in reading, writing and grammar; speaking, listening and vocabulary; and classes that combine all skills. Content-based courses, covering topics such as Business English, Modern Short Fiction, and American Culture through the Arts, are also available to students at the advanced levels.

For working students at the high-intermediate and advanced levels, evening and Saturday classes are available. To meet the needs of matriculated Fordham students and students who test into Level 6, the IALC offers both credit and non-credit university preparatory classes.

The institute offers special programs like field trips in New York City, The Language Exchange Program with the students of Fordham University, academic workshops and the institute has a well-equipped language laboratory as well.

**Admission requirements:**

High school graduates age 18 or older are eligible to apply. All students must complete a placement exam in the IALC office prior to registration.

For international students who intend to enter the intensive full-time program, the Institute issues I-20 forms (the application for an F-1 student visa) through the Office of International Services (in this case a \$100 tuition deposit is needed). See details on website.

**Tuition and fees:**

- Full-time study: \$4,200/semester; summer session: \$3,900
- OIS fee for full-time students: \$40/semester (no OIS fee for summer session)
- Part-time study: \$1,400/course/semester; summer session: \$650/course
- \$100 tuition deposit for foreign students (non-refundable)
- Tuition may be refunded if certain conditions meet, see website for details.
- Additional cost may be the health insurance (\$945/semester) and living expenses (estimated \$7,200/semester)

**Application:**

Application forms are available on the website

**Further information and contact:**

Irene Badaracco

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<http://www.fordham.edu/esl>

## II. News you can use

Harvard announces sweeping middle-income initiative

Harvard University Gazette Online

Cambridge, Mass. - Harvard President Drew Faust and Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences Michael D. Smith today (Dec. 10) announced a sweeping overhaul of financial aid policies designed to make Harvard College more affordable for families across the income spectrum. The new initiative focuses on ensuring greater affordability for middle- and upper-middle-income families through major enhancements to grant aid, the elimination of student loans, and the removal of home equity from financial aid calculations.

This initiative builds on Harvard's recent pathbreaking policies to ensure that families with incomes below \$60,000 are not asked to contribute to the cost of sending their children to Harvard.

"We want all students who might dream of a Harvard education to know that it is a realistic and affordable option," said Faust. "Education is fundamental to the future of individuals and the nation, and we are determined to do our part to restore its place as an engine of opportunity, rather than a source of financial stress. With no loans, no consideration of home equity, and a dramatic increase in grant aid, we are not tinkering at the margins, we are rebuilding the engine.

"This is a huge investment for Harvard," Faust continued, "but there is no more important commitment we could make. Excellence and opportunity must go hand in hand."

For more information read full article online at:

<http://www.news.harvard.edu/gazette/2007/12.13/99-finaid.html>

Contact an EducationUSA adviser near you for guidance on finding and applying to an accredited U.S. college or university

<http://www.educationusa.state.gov/>

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**CSM Article: The College Tour Goes Online**

Article contributed by Debbie Hefferon, Consultant, College Board

New websites paint a portrait of college and university life, providing one-stop shopping for prospective students.

For those parents and students whose New Year's resolution is to start the search for the right college, some new - and free - tools are coming online to make that task a little bit easier.

The websites - College Portrait ([www.voluntarysystem.org](http://www.voluntarysystem.org)) and U-CAN ([www.ucan-network.org](http://www.ucan-network.org)) - offer essential information to make it easy to compare participating schools. Interested in the professor-student ratio? The racial breakdown on campus? A detailed picture of costs and financial aid? Here's where you can get a glimpse or follow the links to dig deeper.

These sites are one answer to the mounting pressure to make the often-frustrating system of admissions and financial aid easier for families to navigate. Some education advocates hope they will prove to be the first step toward building an even more comprehensive website that would include guidance-counseling components. Students should be empowered to choose for themselves what matters most, they say. And they hope these nonprofit alternatives will help reverse the brand-name frenzy fed by popular rankings such as the annual guide by U.S. News & World Report.

Full article available online at: <http://www.csmonitor.com/2007/1227/p14s01-legn.html>

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**Scholarship Resource: Smithsonian Opportunities for Research and Study in History, Art, and Science**

This 276-page book, which is also available online at [www.si.edu/research+study](http://www.si.edu/research+study), has detailed information about the Smithsonian fellowship and internship programs.

Fellowships at the Smithsonian Institution, with stipends of up to \$40,000 per year, provide students and scholars with opportunities to pursue independent research projects in association with members of the Smithsonian professional staff.

Deadline: January 15 for fellowships to begin on or after June 1st.

Internships are a structured learning experience performed under the direct supervision of Smithsonian staff. Typically they last 10 weeks and take place in the summer, but longer-term internships are also available. Some of the internships have a stipend.

Smithsonian opportunities cover a wide array of subject areas.

Non-U.S. citizens are eligible for the programs. Smithsonian is an authorized J-visa sponsor.

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**Test Prep Online: MyTestPrep.com from Peterson's**

Peterson's is excited to announce that next month they will launch [MyTestPrep.com](http://MyTestPrep.com), a fast and convenient way to purchase keys for all of their online practice tests and test prep courses.

[MyTestPrep.com](http://MyTestPrep.com) makes it simple to provide Peterson's award-winning test preparation to students.

Peterson's robust list of test prep products available at [MyTestPrep.com](http://MyTestPrep.com) includes online courses for the SAT, ACT, PSAT and ASVAB as well as practice tests for:

- Undergraduate college entrance exams
- Advanced Placement exams
- Graduate admission exams
- College credit by examination (CLEP, DSST)

Contact an EducationUSA adviser near you for guidance on finding and applying to an accredited U.S. college or university <http://www.educationusa.state.gov/> 5

- High school entrance exams
- Professional licensure exams
- Military exams
- Civil service exams
- English language (TOEFL)

Great features of Peterson's test prep include:

- Important information about the real exam, including relevant dates, contact information and helpful hints
- Scoring information such as the number of questions omitted, answered correctly, answered incorrectly and percent correct
- The ability for students to stop, save their work and then resume their test whenever they want
- Timed practice tests just like the real test
- A full review of the student's successes and needs for improvement at the completion of the practice test

[MyTestPrep.com](http://MyTestPrep.com) offers convenience and special pricing:

One-stop shopping for all test prep needs. The comprehensive list of Peterson's online test prep products includes over 120 practice tests and four online courses that will meet the needs of students.

**EducationUSA Advisers:**

No need to buy in bulk. You can purchase the number of test prep keys you need at your convenience.

Special Pricing. Take advantage of significant discounts, potentially providing you with a valuable revenue-generating opportunity.

Easy-to-use administrator tools. Easily view the test prep keys you've purchased, distributed and how many have been used.

Peterson's will contact you in the coming weeks with a unique access code so you can receive special pricing and know when [MyTestPrep.com](http://MyTestPrep.com) is live and ready for use.

**Further information:**

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