



# Mile High Academy Summer Honors Program 9th Grade

## **Overview:**

The Mile High Academy Summer Honors Program is designed to keep students' skills sharp over the summer and prepare them for their futures. Participation in the summer program is required for all honors students. Completing the honors requirements is a prerequisite to consideration for National Honors Society membership.

## **General Requirements:**

The Summer Honors Program consists of two components – the experiential component and the academic component. The experiential component is designed to help students identify a future career path through internships or volunteer service. The academic component is designed to help students stay mentally engaged over the summer.

All assignments are due on the first day of the school year. Failure to turn in the assignment at that time may result in the student being asked to withdraw from the MHA honors program.

## **Contact Information:**

Should you have any general questions regarding the summer honors program, please feel free to contact our registrar, Brenda Rodie ([brodie@milehighacademy.org](mailto:brodie@milehighacademy.org)) or Jenni Eno ([jeno@milehighacademy.org](mailto:jeno@milehighacademy.org)). Direct specific project questions to the appropriate teacher:

- **Bible:** Leandro Bizama; [lbizama@milehighacademy.org](mailto:lbizama@milehighacademy.org)
- **English:** Jenni Eno; [jeno@milehighacademy.org](mailto:jeno@milehighacademy.org)
- **Math:** Brian Howard; [bhoward@milehighacademy.org](mailto:bhoward@milehighacademy.org)
- **Science/Algebra I:** Lisa Venteicher; [lventeicher@milehighacademy.org](mailto:lventeicher@milehighacademy.org)
- **History:** Rebecca Berg; [rberg@milehighacademy.org](mailto:rberg@milehighacademy.org)
- **Technology:** Tyler Rettler; [trettler@milehighacademy.org](mailto:trettler@milehighacademy.org)

# Summer Program Checklist

## **Directions:**

Use this checklist to ensure that you complete all of the project requirements.

## **Experiential Component**

- Complete internship/volunteer service
- Have your supervisor complete the “Work Evaluation Form”
- Complete the self-reflection essay

## **Academic Component**

- Complete the English project
- Complete the Math project

Choose ONE additional project in an area of interest

- Bible
- Science
- History
- Technology

## **Academic Project Steps:**

- Read the project descriptions
- Determine which optional project you will complete (Bible, Physical Education, Science, Social Studies, or Technology)
- Thoroughly understand the directions and requirements
- Contact teachers with any questions
- Obtain the necessary materials
- Complete the projects
- Double-check that you met the project requirements including formatting instructions
- Turn-in in the assignments to the department head on the first day of school

# Experiential Component

## **Project Overview:**

- Complete 15 hours of internship or volunteer service
- Have your supervisor complete the "Work Evaluation Form" (available on the MHA website: Academics → Honors Program → Honors Work Evaluation Form)
- Complete your personal reflection essay

## **Internship/Volunteer Requirements:**

It is our desire to make the experiential track as applicable to our students' future careers as possible. Therefore, there are some stipulations regarding where and for whom our students can volunteer.

- Internships and volunteer service may take place at any organization large enough that it employs workers. For example, students can volunteer at an animal shelter, but cannot pull weeds for a neighbor to meet the Honors Program requirements (though we certainly encourage all forms of service in your personal life).
- The student's supervisor cannot be a relative, family friend, or personal friend as we want the student to have to take the initiative to apply for or otherwise arrange for the position. We also want the student to experience working under a supervisor as one would in a work environment.

## **Personal Reflection Requirements:**

Each student must complete a well-crafted, typed personal reflection essay that answers the following questions:

- Where did you volunteer or complete your internship and why did you choose that location?
- What tasks were you asked to complete as part of your job?
- How did completing these tasks make you feel? Did you enjoy the work? Did you find it satisfying?
- What connection do you see between your work/volunteer service and school?
- In what ways did you personally grow through this experience?
- How do you believe that your personal growth will help you in your future career?

## **FAQ:**

- It is okay to work/volunteer at multiple locations to reach the required 15 hours. Each supervisor will need to fill out the "Work Evaluation Form," and the personal reflection essay should represent all of the activities engaged in by the student.
- Students are required to secure their own internship or volunteer opportunity. (MHA staff will be happy to provide recommendation letters for our students upon request.)
- Honors volunteer hours also count towards the volunteer hours required for graduation.

# Academic Component

Complete the English, Math, and one project in a subject area of your choosing to fulfill the academic component of the summer program.

## English

### **Project Overview:**

Read the book below and complete the corresponding assignment. If you have already read *Warriors Don't Cry* contact Mrs. Eno (jeno@milehighacademy.org) for an alternate assignment. The book is available at your local library, or you may purchase it from any major book retailer.

**Title:** *Warriors Don't Cry*

**Author:** Melba Patillo Beals

**Description:** Imagine needing a military escort to get to school. Imagine risking your life for a better education. Imagine becoming a Civil Rights hero while still a teenager. In this memoir, Beals shares her experiences as a member of the Little Rock Nine during the integration of Central High in 1957. The Little Rock Nine was a group of nine African-American teenagers who volunteered to go to school at Central High, a previously all-white high school in Little Rock, Arkansas. The teens just wanted a better education. Instead, they found themselves in a firestorm of racial prejudice. Even if they can survive the rioting mobs outside of Central High, can they survive the torment within its walls?

**Assignment:** As you embark upon your high school years, the truth is that there will be difficult times, times when relationships fail, when you feel overwhelmed, when you want to quit. The Little Rock Nine faced incredible adversity, and yet, they overcame those challenges. Every single one of the Little Rock Nine went on to incredible careers in medicine, journalism, politics, business, and more. Your job is to discover the secret to their success. How did they overcome their challenges and find the will to keep fighting for their futures? Cite specific examples from the book to support your points.

\*The essay should be 2-3 pages long (typed, double-spaced, Times New Roman, 12 pt. font).

## Mathematics

### **Project Overview:**

Assignments are based on what mathematics class students will be entering in the school year following the summer math program. Assignment descriptions are as follows:

### **Students Entering Algebra I**

Step 1: If you do not already have a Khan Academy account, set up an account.

Step 2: Add Mrs. Venteicher as your teacher on the account

Step 3: Complete the following sections in the Algebra I Khan Academy class: Introduction to Algebra, One-Variable Linear Equation, One-Variable Linear Inequalities, Two-Variable Linear Equations

### Students Entering Geometry

Step 1: If you do not already have a Khan Academy account, set up an account.

Step 2: Add Mr. Howard as your teacher on the account

Step 3: Complete the following sections in the Geometry Khan Academy class: Geometry Foundations

### Students Entering Algebra II – Problem Solving

Get your textbook ahead of time in order to complete these assignments. You may either buy it from the school office or get your own. The book is:

Larson, Ron, et al. 2012. *Holt McDougal Larson Algebra 2*. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company. ISBN 9780547647159.

In the “Student Resources” portion of the textbook, there is a section called “Skills Review Handbook.” There are 27 topics covered. Each topic has examples and practice problems. You must do the following five sections:

1. “Binomial Products”
2. “LCDs of Rational Expressions”
3. “Writing Algebraic Expressions”
4. “Triangle Relationships”
5. “More Problem Solving Strategies”

In addition to these five sections, you are to choose five more sections, for a total of 10 assignments. Choose sections that you know from your own mathematical experience are areas that you need to improve. Be honest with yourself. Do not just choose a section because it looks easy or you know that it will be easy for you. Instead, choose sections that will help you improve your skills.

Each assignment must have either 20 problems or all of the problems completed, whichever occurs first. For example, the section “Calculating with Percents” has 31 practice problems. Do 20 of them to complete the assignment. However, the section “Perimeter and Area” has 8 problems. Do all of them to complete the assignment.

**Calculator Use is Prohibited.** Sure, it is impossible to verify whether you use your calculator or not, but take it as a challenge!

## Bible

**Project Overview:**

Choose one of the projects below. Each option requires about 100 pages of reading from an adaptation of the classic *Conflict of the Ages* series, by Ellen G. White. You can purchase it online from the Adventist Book Center website or visit the store on Downing across from Porter Hospital to pick up a copy there.

**Step 1:**

Read *Humble Hero*, chapters 74-87, pages 317-380

**Description:** This is an adaptation of *The Desire of the Ages*, considered by the Library of Congress to be one of the best biographies of Jesus.

**Step 2:**

Write five quotes from the reading that, in your opinion, show the conflict between good and evil in this period of Jesus' ministry.

**Step 3:**

**Choose one of the following:**

**Written assignment:** Write a 10-paragraph essay outlining how the war between good and evil started and how it will end. Start by discussing why God allowed evil and how evil has affected human life. Share how you have experienced this same struggle in your life. Close the essay by explaining how God has overcome evil through self-sacrifice and why He has the right to bring justice to Satan and his kingdom of darkness.

**\*Small Group Study Guide:** Develop a one-hour small group study guide and use it to lead a group discussion/study in the setting of your choice. Design the study around the reading material. You can separate the discussion/study into two sessions if you want. Make sure to turn in the study guide and the recorded discussion.

**\*Sermon:** Make either an outline or a manuscript for a sermon based on one of the chapters or stories in the reading. Then, deliver the sermon in a setting of your choosing. The sermon can be anywhere from 15 minutes to 30 minutes long. Make sure to turn in your outline or manuscript and your recording of it.

\*The video recording can be saved in any format that would allow a computer to play it.

## History

**Project Overview:**

Read the book below and complete the corresponding assignment. If you have already read *A Thousand Shall Fall* contact Mrs. Berg (rberg@milehighacademy.org) for an alternate assignment. The book may be available at your local library, or you may purchase it online.

**Title:** A Thousand Shall Fall

**Authors:** Susi Hasel Mundy

**Description:** The electrifying story of an Adventist family who dared to practice their faith in Hitler's Germany. They saw God work miracle after miracle to save them from certain disaster. As thousands around them fell victim to the horrors of war, they were borne up on angels'

wings sometimes quite literally. This is the true story of one family who chose to be faithful whatever the cost, and found refuge in the shadow of the Almighty.

**Assignment:** This book is an example of amazing faith and commitment. Please write a 2-3 page reflection paper that answers the following questions.

- What difficult choices did Franz Hasel make in order to stay faithful to God?
- In what ways did God stay faithful to Franz Hasel?
- What are three new things you learned about World War II from this book?
- How did this book challenge your view of humanity?
- How did this book challenge your religious convictions?

\*Note that the reflection should be typed, double-spaced, and written in Times New Roman 12 pt. font.

## Science

**Assignment Overview:** Research three different pioneer scientists in the field of biology and consider how their contributions advanced work within the field.

**Step 1:** Choose three pioneer scientists who contributed to the field of biology

**Step 2:** Research the scientists using a minimum of three quality sources.

**Step 3:** Write a 1-2 page summary for each scientist describing the important research, ideas, and/or concepts that were furthered through his/her work. (Use Times New Roman 12 pt. font, double-spaced.)

**Step 4:** Include a Reference page at the end of each summary with citations in APA format. (The OWL at Purdue website provides information on APA citation if you need help.)

## Technology

**Step 1:**

Choose one topic from the list below or submit a topic of your own. Contact Mr. Rettler at [trettler@milehighacademy.org](mailto:trettler@milehighacademy.org) for topic approval.

- The Cloud – Pros and Cons
- Social Networking and how it has changed relationships and marketing
- Online safety (identity theft, digital footprints, etc.)
- IT Security – Research issues dealing with IT security (e.g. social engineering, the Target data theft, software vulnerabilities, the Heartbleed vulnerability, viruses and malware, etc.).
- Content filtering – Does it have a place at school or work?
- Software and/or music and movie piracy

- IT investment challenges – Some examples include trying to plan multi-year technology strategies in a quickly moving area, budget considerations and challenges, and causes and ramifications of over/under-buying.

**Step 2:**

Research the topic using at least 3 sources from at least 2 of the following categories: book, research database, website/blog, magazine, video, documentary, interview, or podcast. Please list the sources you use even if they are not quoted in the paper.

**Step 3:**

Write an executive summary of your findings on the topic. Then, answer the following questions in 1-3 paragraphs:

- What did you learn about your topic? Did anything surprise you?
- Do you think this topic is something relevant to students and/or the school? Why or why not?
- Do you think the issues involving your topic will get better or worse as time goes on? Why?
- How did you go about researching your topic and finding sources?

**Potential Resources:**

- [www.pcmagazine.com](http://www.pcmagazine.com)
- [www.pcworld.com](http://www.pcworld.com)
- [www.us-cert.gov](http://www.us-cert.gov)
- [www.cnet.com](http://www.cnet.com)
- <http://blog.opendns.com>
- <http://www.microsoft.com/en-us/piracy>
- <http://www.smbitjournal.com>
- <http://www.bsa.org>
- *Worm: The First Digital World War* by Mark Bowden
- *Glass Houses: Privacy, Secrecy, and Cyber Insecurity in a Transparent World* by Joel Brenner
- *The Art of Intrusion* and *The Art of Deception* by Kevin Mitnick

It is suggested that you use the library for some of your research. If your local library does not have a book you need, there is a good chance they can borrow it for you from another library that does.