

Blue Ridge Community College

Times-News Column

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February 28, 2010

Henderson County Early College High School has Parent Nights planned for March 18 and March 22 at 6 p.m. at the Early College located at Blue Ridge Community College. Parents and students who are seriously considering applying for admission to the Early College program should attend one of these meetings. Brochures about the Early College program are available at the Early College main office, Henderson County Public Schools, and in the guidance offices of each middle school. Any student whose residence is Henderson County can apply for admission. Applications are available from guidance counselors at each middle school and online at www.hcec.henderson.k12.nc.us. The application deadline is April 1, 2010. Forty (40) rising 9th graders will be notified by May 15, 2010, that they have been accepted for enrollment at Henderson County Early College High School. The Early College program is a tuition free opportunity for deserving students who are willing to work hard and are mature enough to successfully complete college courses beginning in the 9th grade. All high school courses are honors level and college courses that count as high school required credits or elective credits get honors level status for GPA purposes. Once enrolled, the Early College becomes the home school for students who are given the privilege of working toward their high school diploma and an Associate in Arts degree from Blue Ridge simultaneously. If a student wants to pursue his or her four-year degree at a college or university, all Associate in Arts courses for which students earn a grade of C or better will transfer to NC colleges and universities (such as Western Carolina, UNC-A, App State, NC State, UNC-Chapel Hill, etc.) Early College students who complete the Associate in Arts degree and transfer to a 4-year institution will enter as juniors—one year ahead of their peer group!

Tomorrow is the deadline for applying for scholarships for the 2010-11 academic year. Scholarships are made possible by the generous donations of individuals, businesses, and organizations that have chosen to provide their support for students through Blue Ridge Community College Educational Foundation. Last year the College awarded more than 300 scholarships to deserving students. They are awarded based on criteria such as financial need and academic achievement, and are available to persons who are enrolled or intend to enroll in specific programs. For more information, visit www.blueridge.edu/scholarships.php or contact Student Services at (828) 694-1800.

Don't forget today's faculty recital. Concert pianist and Blue Ridge Community College Music Instructor Kevin Ayesh will present a recital at 3 p.m. in Bo Thomas Auditorium. Dr. Ayesh will perform an all Chopin program in commemoration of the 200th anniversary of the composer's birth. Featured works will include both the B flat Minor ("Funeral March") and B Minor sonatas. Following the concert, a reception will be provided by Dan Knapp, executive chef of Lake Pointe Landing Retirement Community.