

Pathways Newsletter

Educate. *Inspire.* Empower.



Congratulations Class of 2014!

We are very happy to have our eighth graduating class, the class of 2014, heading off to college this fall. In this year's graduation ceremony, the commencement speech was given by Brianne Dávila, Sociology Professor at the Willamette University, and by Willamette Academy alum Delia Olmos-Garcia, who graduated this May

from Willamette University. Efrain Zungia was chosen to represent the graduating class as the senior speaker. Collectively, Willamette Academy students were awarded thousands of dollars in scholarships. Among those scholarships two students received the Ford Family Foundation Scholarship, with one student receiving the

Marion-Polk County Medical Society scholarship. This group of seniors received admission invitations from over 40 institutions from all over the United States and as far away as Rome, Italy. We are very proud of our students and are happy to see them begin a new journey. Congratulations seniors!

What is Willamette Academy's Pathways Program?

Willamette Academy's Pathways program connects Willamette University students to educational, professional, and business opportunities for the purpose of providing local middle and high school students with expertise, guidance and support in their pursuit of a high school education and beyond.

In a fun learning environment, Willamette Academy will work one-on-one with university students to identify their unique attributes and connect them with volunteer opportunities at the Academy— which will teach valuable skills and provide the tools needed for success after college.

Earn College Credit Through WA

Course Description:

This service-learning course introduces students to issues of educational access and equity in the Salem-Keizer community. Students volunteer at Willamette Academy (WA) and, in turn, learn from and with the WA students, families, and staff. Tutoring will be on-site, covering basic academic subjects such as reading, math, science, and social studies. Mentoring involves hosting WA students on the Willamette campus for academic and social events. Additional volunteer opportunities will be available, subject to instructor's consent, based on volunteers' strengths and interests, and WA needs. Weekly class sessions, in general, will have two components: students will debrief their service experiences and study substantive topics dealing with educational access and equity, with specific attention to issues that historically-underrepresented students face in gaining access to higher education. This course can be taken up to two times for a total of one course credit.



“Through personalized volunteer opportunities I was given the opportunity to observe the inner workings of an educational non-profit. Throughout my time volunteering at Willamette Academy I learned how important community support is in order to provide resources to the organization and then offer these valuable resources to the Academy students.”

Susie Barnes

“The Willamette Academy Service Learning course (IDS 215) offers a tremendous opportunity to Willamette students who are eager to use their higher-education coursework to do good work in the world. The course allows students a chance to actively engage in volunteerism, reflection, education and change, which are the core values of true service learning.”

Amy Green, Community Service Learning Office

Help Lead and Organize Workshops at Willamette Academy!

“Willamette Academy is open to ideas that will enrich our students in their path towards college. That being said, if you are involved in a campus activity or have an idea for a workshop, you can be creative and not only lead a workshop but you can also take the initiative and create a new one. Willamette Academy is not only a great place to volunteer, but is also a great place to grow your skills while doing something positive!”

Grecia Garcia



“Indeed, one of the cool things about organizing workshops at the Willamette Academy is that they can be connected to interesting events at Willamette University, of which there are plenty.”

Nathaniel Quinn

Professor Emily Drew

Connection to Willamette Academy

Continuing the partnership between Willamette Academy and Willamette University the Willamette Academy Service Learning (WASL) course will be offered in its third incarnation in the fall of 2014. The course is an interdisciplinary service-learning course introducing students to the issues of educational access in the Salem-Keizer community. In the course, Willamette students will provide tutoring for Willamette Academy students, as well as develop professional skills such as marketing, grant

writing, and communication. The requirements for the course include attending one, 90-minute class and volunteering at Willamette Academy for at least four hours a week. To participate in the course students must be in good academic standing at Willamette University and have the ability to serve as positive role models for Willamette Academy students. It is a half-credit course that counts towards American Ethnic Studies, Latin American Studies, and Sociology majors/minors.



Workshop Coordinator:

Work with program staff to plan and facilitate workshops for students. Content may vary according to volunteers' individual passions and strengths.

Administrative Team:

Work with a diverse array of people including students, families, community representative and school officials. Additionally, volunteers perform office tasks that include filing, data entry, mailings, reports and communications. Volunteers will get the opportunity to see and learn about the inner workings of an educational nonprofit.

Saturday Session:

Serve as teaching assistants to instructional staff and facilitate small group activities on one or two Saturdays each month.

Interested in volunteering?

Contact wa-get-involved@willamette.edu

Tutors:

Volunteers will work individually or in small groups with students to help students improve their knowledge and proficiency. Volunteers will be paired with students that best match the volunteers' ability and student needs.

Special Events:

Provide logistical support for academy-sponsored events. Additionally, volunteers will often assist in one-time occasions, resulting in limited time commitment.

Workshop Coordinator:

Work with program staff to plan and facilitate workshops for students. Content may vary according to volunteers' individual passions and strengths, thereby allowing volunteers to bring their individual ideas to the ever-advancing successes of the Academy.

Family Program and Project Promise:

Assist in planning and implementation of educational programming and carry out other service opportunities that include translating and interpreting English/Spanish.

Assessment and Evaluation:

Assist in tracking and analyses of students' performance indicators, evaluate and assess program components, and develop funding justifications and progress and outcome reports.

Marketing and Donor Relations:

Work to contact donors, create innovative new ways to fundraise, and develop marketing and publicity materials.

Job Descriptions

Hidden Gems at WA

TGIX – Every month, the Pathways staff gets together to bond and get to know their fellow volunteers at more personal level. These are a great way to meet like-minded individuals as well as to develop networking and interpersonal skills necessary for success after college.

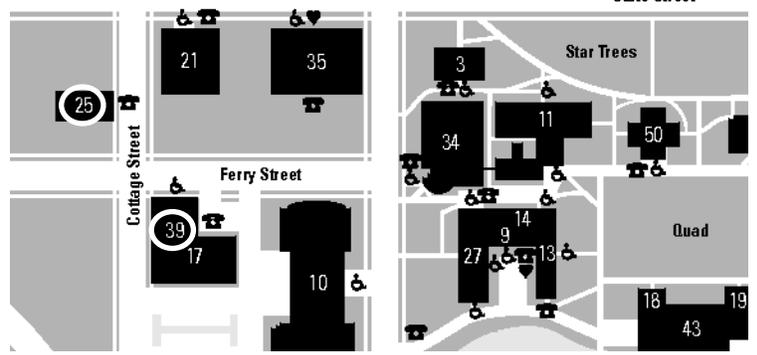
Fundraising Activities – In order to continue to grow, Willamette Academy has regular fundraising activities to help raise support. As Pathways volunteers, students are able to practice hands-on engagement, event

organization and preparation behind the scenes in planning large scale events and activities.

And much more! Willamette Academy is dedicated to the success of not only its students but the overall success of its volunteers. As such, the Academy works diligently to tailor the diverse skills among the Pathways volunteers to the necessary areas of focus in the Academy, thereby developing Willamette Academy as a whole as well as aiding the student in practicing their own real world skills.

How to Get Involved!

Sign up for the WASL Course (IDS 215). Contact wa-get-involved@willamette.edu. Or, come stop by the Academy! Our offices, computer lab, and Academic Resource Center are located in the lower level of the Executive Building located on the corner of Cottage & Ferry St (240 Cottage Street SE, building #39 on the Campus Map). We have an additional office and computer lab space at the Willamette Academy Annex, also located on the corner of Cottage and Ferry streets (195 Cottage Street SE, building #25 on the Campus Map).



RATA



Being a Residence Assistant/ Teaching Assistant (RATA) during Willamette Academy's summer camp gives college students the incredible opportunity to practice real-world skills such as leadership and teaching, while also inspiring individual high-school students and demystifying the college experience. The role of an RATA at Willamette Academy is like no other leadership role. It allows for college students to grow as individuals, practice and develop skills necessary for success after graduation, and pursue their passions in leadership and community development.



WILLAMETTE
ACADEMY
willamette.edu/academy
(503) 370-6103

HOW TO DONATE

To donate, fill out this form with your information, and place donation in an envelope.

Name _____

Photos courtesy of WU sophomore, EDGAR JIMENEZ.

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Or donate online at: willamette.edu/academy

Please make checks payable to Willamette Academy and mail to:

Willamette Academy
900 State St.
Salem, OR 97301

