

## Martin W. Essex School for the Gifted

The Martin W. Essex School for the Gifted offers Ohio's top students a unique opportunity to broaden their vision of the future. The school was founded in 1976 and named for Dr. Martin W. Essex, Ohio's superintendent of public instruction from 1966-1976. Now, in its third decade, this one-week residential program emphasizes leadership and social responsibility for students of exceptional abilities.

The Mission of the Martin Essex School for the Gifted is to advance gifted education in the State of Ohio by providing students with opportunities to participate in unique workshops, group activities, and extended projects.

## The Nomination & Selection Process:

- Teachers, guidance counselors, and administrators may nominate two students per school for the Essex School for the Gifted.
- Students must be in the 11<sup>th</sup> grade.
- Students must be identified as gifted and talented (reference high school identification list) and should be academically motivated.
- Students should show strength in *scholarship, leadership, and social responsibility*.
- District and state selection committees evaluate student essays and teacher recommendations searching for exceptional responses and strong recommendations.



## Student Expectations

**Student nominees are expected to do the following:**

- Write one 150-word short response describing an accomplishment, activity, or skill that sets you apart from your classmates.
- Write one 500-word essay explaining how a person, item, or event has influenced your life and why he/she/it is important to you (or revise and edit a personal reflection composition with comparable content).
- Find two teachers who will write excellent letters of recommendation for you and complete the recommendation forms.  
  
(Be sure to write thank you cards!)
- Complete all sections of the application and return them to your sponsor by

January 19, 2009 (the teacher or guidance counselor who nominated you) with another big thank you.

- Your sponsor will forward your application on to the Gifted and Talented Department by January 23, 2009.

## 2008-2009 Essex Timeline

### Mid-December:

- ✓ Applications sent to 11<sup>th</sup> grade counselors and English Department Chairs and available for download.
- ✓ Students selected as nominees or enter school competition.
- ✓ Students write essays or revise personal reflections from writing portfolios.
- ✓ Students request teacher recommendations.
- ✓ Teachers write recommendation letters. They are not supposed to fill in forms-these are guides.

### January:

- ✓ Students revise and edit essays.
- ✓ Teachers submit recommendations to sponsors or students in sealed, signed envelopes.
- ✓ Sponsors send completed applications to Shepard Center for District Competition by January 23, 2009.
- ✓ Essex Review Panel meets January 26, 2009 to select top 7 district nominees.
- ✓ Top 7 selected applications submitted to superintendent on January 29, 2009.
- ✓ Top 7 submitted to State Competition.

### March or April:

- ✓ Finalists announced.

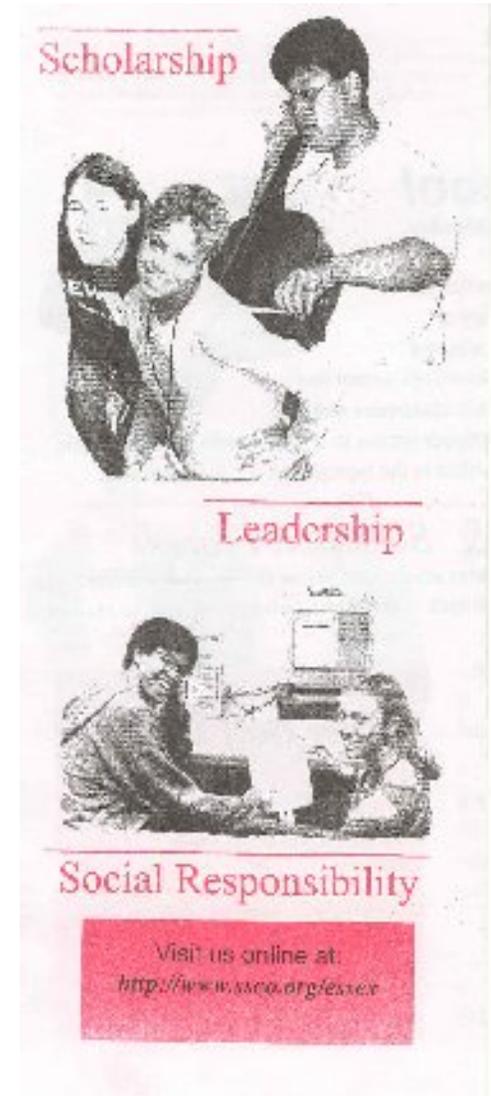
### May:

- ✓ Certificates and ribbons sent to sponsors.

### June:

- ✓ Essex luncheon with Gifted Talented Department

**2009 Essex  
School for the Gifted:  
TBA-1 week summer camp at O.S.U.**



\*Excerpts, pictures, and information borrowed from the SSCG 2003-2004 brochure for the Martin W. Essex School for the Gifted.

Applications can be downloaded from above website after December 5, 2008.

# **The Gifted and Talented Department**



**Teacher, Student, and Parent  
Guide to the**

**Martin W. Essex  
School for the  
Gifted  
2008-2009**