

Pennsylvania Homeschoolers Accreditation Agency (PHAA)

High School at Home 24th Annual Conference

Monday, April 15, 2019

Philip Bongiorno Conference Center
430 Union Hall Rd, Carlisle, PA 17013, (717) 243-7381; www.bongiornocc.com

Sessions for Students, Parents and Evaluators

(February 11, 2019 version, subject to change)

8:45-9:00 AM **Registration and Snacks**- Visit college and info tables in Hotel D

9:00-9:10 AM **Welcome**- Susan Richman, PHAA Board member.

9:10-9:50 AM **Keynote Address by Dr. Patti Stoudt: Going for the Gold / Striving for Excellence**

Patti has been a homeschool evaluator for both elementary and secondary levels since 1996. She and her husband homeschooled their own children for 20 years, graduating all three. Dr. Stoudt wrote her doctoral dissertation on homeschooling children with special needs, and has experience in this area both with her own children and her many evaluation students. At her website www.his-homeschool-center.com she also offers a service for helping students with their high school research papers, and much more.

First Breakout Session 10:00-10:50 AM

- A. **How to Achieve Excellence in High School at Home: An Introduction to the PHAA Diploma Program** – Howard Richman, PHAA Executive Director.
- B. **Join *The Excelsior!* PHAA's Student Newsletter: Learn How to Hone your Writing and Journalistic Skills, and Make Great Friends, by Working on the Staff of *The Excelsior!*** –Peter Livengood, 2018-2019 editor (for students).
- C. **Making History Come Alive** – Susan Richman, AP US History teacher PA Homeschoolers AP Online. Going beyond memorizing dates and names, toward deeper understanding and appreciation of the grand *story* of history. Using interviews, travel, historical fiction, biography, documentaries, special research projects, contests, and more to go beyond 'just the textbook.'

Second Breakout Session 11:00-11:50 AM

- A. **Advanced Placement Online Classes from *PA Homeschoolers AP Online*:** Susan Richman, moderator, with a panel of AP teachers sharing about their courses. Add unique excellence and challenge to your program and challenge to your program by considering AP coursework-- and meet some of our dedicated teaching staff!
- B. **2nd Annual Student PHED Talks Contest: Share what's meaningful about your community service activities in a lively 5-minute speech!** College speech teacher Shay Jones, moderator & judge. Prizes for 1st and 2nd place. Winning students will give their speeches to the whole conference at 3:20pm. PHED means Pennsylvania Homeschoolers Educational Discoveries—modeled on TED Talks. [Click here](#) to enter the contest.
- C. **Heading into the Work World-- How to Be Prepared and Ready!** Don Hill, PHAA Board Member and father of 8 PHAA graduates, and Dr. Patti Stoudt, PHAA evaluator and keynote speaker. How to help students prepare for a career that might not require a four-year college degree-- and how to create or find positive work opportunities while still in high school at home.

Luncheon Buffet 12:00-12:50 PM -- Head to the Dining Hall!

Third Breakout Session 1:00-1:50 PM

- A. **Making the Transition to High School at Home** – moderated by Margaret Pasztor (veteran homeschool mother), and a panel of experienced mothers ready to share their experiences and insights,. Especially for parents looking ahead to the high school years. Bring your questions!
- B. **2nd Annual Student Photography Contest** – Peter Livengood, PHAA senior, moderator. Students will present their 10-photo-portfolios with the group, with prizes for 1st and 2nd place. Photography will be judged before conference by Tonya Martin, proprietor of Empty Nest Photography Studio and mother of PHAA grads. Winning photographer will present photos to whole conference at 3:20pm. [Click here](#) to enter the contest.
- C. **Getting set for a College Interview: Role-playing, Advice, Tips, and more.** Bonnie Gonzalez and Laszlo Pasztor, PHAA Board Members. Bonnie is a family counselor and AP Psychology online teacher. Laszlo is an experienced interviewer for universities and military academies and a veteran army officer. Learn how to shine and have the best chance of making a positive impression.

Fourth Breakout Session 2:00-2:50 PM

- A. **Building your Resume and your Character through Active Community Involvement paired with Strong Academics.** Michelle Livengood, experienced mother of five PHAA students, with her son Peter Livengood, Excelsior Editor 2019. See how everything fits together to help you move towards meaningful goals in your life. Learn what is possible, once you open your eyes to what is actually available right before you in your own community. For parents, students, and evaluators.
- B. **PHAA's Got Talent!** Moderated and judged by Barbara, Sarah and Alex Vogelgesang (former circus family). Students share talents by giving a 3 to 5 minute musical performance; recite a poem or monologue; do magic tricks or a pantomime; dance or demonstrate juggling or martial arts; or more! Prizes for 1st and 2nd place. Winning contestant will present to whole conference at 3:20pm. [Click here](#) to enter the contest.
- C. **Evaluators Panel** – moderated by Howard Richman, PHAA executive director. A panel of experienced PHAA evaluators will discuss step-by-step the whole process of doing evaluations for a family, from the initial contact, to the meeting with the family, to the evaluation letter and the PHAA online transcript afterwards. See how different evaluators view their roles, and gain practical ideas and inspiration..

Afternoon Refreshment Break 2:50-3:20 PM - Free Snacks, visit tables in Hotel D.

Student Performances! 3:20 – 3:50 - Hotel D – Susan Richman, moderator. Winning Student PHED Talks, Talent Show, & Student Photography slide show. Awards for first and second place winners!

Fifth Breakout Session 4:00 to 4:50 PM

- A. **PHAA Annual Membership Meeting** – Chaired by Howard Richman, PHAA executive director. Elect a Board Member, consider by-laws changes, discuss PHAA goals and future directions. For PHAA members-- parents and evaluators.
- B. **So You Need to Write a Research Paper?** Dr. Patti Stoudt, PHAA evaluator, writing instructor, keynote speaker. Helping your students through the process-- gaining a vision for the task. For both parents and students and evaluators
- C. **College Prep Workshop: How to Avoid Dangerous Levels of College Debt** by Dennis Raup founder of thecollegeeagle.com. A session to encourage both parents and the students in their journey of optimizing both fit and finances in the college selection process, all the way through to graduation, employment in their professional field and accelerated debt elimination.

To register go to www.phaa.org and click on “Store”