



THE COLLEGIATE PATH NEWSLETTER

MAY 2025

VOLUME V

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FOUNDERS' LETTER

Hello and Welcome, TCP Mentees, Families, and Friends!

We are excited to present our **fifth** edition of *The Collegiate Path Newsletter*, our second one this calendar year.

This has been a **banner admissions year** for our **TCP24 Cohort**—congratulations! Our **40 undergraduate applicants'** balanced college lists, strong essays, and depth of extracurricular activities led to their outstanding results. Many have had **tough decisions** to make after receiving multiple strong **college offers** across geographies, often with **large scholarships** to boot. Our **TCP alumni** have offered invaluable support to our current students who have reached out to them for **insider views** of their colleges. The full list of **undergraduate and graduate institutions** where our applicants received **offers** can be found further ahead in the newsletter.

We look forward to bidding farewell to our **TCP24 Cohort** and sharing tips for the future as they embark on their new college adventures in our **TCP24 Send-Off Session** on **June 28**—please save the date (you know who you are)!

We love data in our practice, and are jumping at the opportunity to share some of our significant numbers from this recent **undergraduate admissions season** with you. Our mentees received an average of **5 offers** and a **financial/merit aid** from at least 1 college.

of Applications Submitted: 388

of Acceptances Received: 204

of Unique Colleges: 108

of Early U.S. Applications: 108

of Early Acceptances: 32 (2 REAs, 4 EDs & 2 EDIIs)

Overall Aid Received: \$4 Million

In other news, there has been a lot of chatter about how President Trump's policies are impacting **higher education in the United States**. We have engaged in **conversations** with college admissions officers, other international **counselors**, and our **TCP alumni** currently studying and working in the United States to understand the impact that current students are feeling. The **consensus** is that the **wealth and strength of American universities** will allow them to weather the storm of the current administration's actions and **maintain their global reputations**, continuing to **offer safe spaces and an unrivaled educational experience** for international students.

The majority of our **applicants** applied to **multiple college geographies**, including **Canada, the United Kingdom, Europe, the UAE, India, Singapore, and Australia**, so that they and their families could make the best decision after receiving their offers. We have shared a set of **frequently asked questions** in the next section, and will answer any family-specific questions in our mentees' one-on-one sessions.

Moving on to our current applicant batch, **the TCP25 Cohort**, we have spent the last few months preparing for the **2025 application season**. They have been busy studying for their Grade 11 **exams**, prepping for the **SAT**, finalizing their **summer plans** (internships, mentored research, essay competitions, summer programs, and volunteering), and getting up to speed on their **application requirements**, including resumes, essay brainstorming, and college research—kudos! We will introduce them to the nuances of outlining **strong college essays** through our **Essay Boot Camp Master Classes** in **May and June**, something we worked on during our **March Team Retreat**.

This summer, **our younger mentees** are eager to get started with their **chosen summer programs**, either in-person or online—the full list of **acceptances** follows. Some of them are also preparing for their **academic transitions** to the **next grade**, and for some, a **change in curriculum**! We are eager to hear about their experiences and help them navigate new challenges!

We continue to attend **conferences** to stay on top of the changing higher education landscape and confer with others in our field. In **February**, both of us participated in **"Confluence"** in **Thailand**, presenting on the resurgent importance of the SAT in college admissions to an audience of their peers. In **March**, Amanda attended the All India Independent Education Consultants (**AIIEC**) annual membership conference in **Alibaug, India**, where she discussed opportunities for students abroad and the impact of AI on admissions. At both conferences, we met with numerous university representatives and top providers of student enrichment programs.

In **July**, both of us will attend the International Association of College Admissions Counselors (**IACAC**) **Annual Conference**, the largest international conference for universities, schools, and independent counselors worldwide, in **Boston**. We will also use this time to **visit several of the top U.S. colleges and universities** on our mentees' application lists.

Here's to a fruitful summer break and to another exciting application season ahead!

Amanda and Meghna

PHOTO ALBUM



FAQS ON THE U.S. POLITICAL LANDSCAPE

Q: How could international students studying in the United States be affected by the recent changes in the American political environment, during and after college?

A: Political shifts in the **United States** can influence various aspects of student life, including **visa status, immigration policies, campus diversity initiatives, and funding for research** (particularly for **Master's** and **Doctoral** programs). While these changes can create uncertainty, most universities remain committed to **supporting international students** through these transitions. We recommend students stay informed and connected with their university's **international student office** to understand how any new policies might affect their status and to follow their recommendations.

Changes in immigration policies can influence the availability and duration of work permits like **Optional Practical Training (OPT) or H-1B visas**, but there have been no updates on this front, despite the recent media speculation. Some policies could **tighten eligibility or processing times**. It is important to stay proactive with visa applications, seeking advice from career advisors, and understanding current regulations.

Q: What steps can international students take to protect their visa status and academic future in light of recent policy changes, such as sudden visa cancellations?

A: International students should stay informed about the **latest immigration regulations** by regularly checking updates from official sources such as the **U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS)**, the **Department of State**, and your **university's international student office**.

To ensure students' visa statuses are valid, students should keep all their **documents updated** and **report any changes** (such as address or program of study) to their university's international student office. They should also **document all communications with immigration authorities** and **seek guidance** before making travel plans or significant changes to their academic program. Universities often offer **legal workshops and counseling services** specifically for international students, they can avail these services to stay informed.

Q: How many of The Collegiate Path's students picked another geography over their U.S. college offers?

A: **Five** of our students have opted for a **U.K. university over their U.S. college offers**—but they still need to confirm that their **final Board results** allow them to take up the U.K. conditional offers!

2025 COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY ACCEPTANCES

EXPLORE OUR TCP24 COHORT'S GLOBAL UNDERGRADUATE OFFERS!

*DENOTES MULTIPLE STUDENT ACCEPTANCES

Agnes Scott College
American University*
Ashoka University
Babson College
Bard College*
Bayes Business School, City University of London
Bryant University
Bryn Mawr College*
Cardiff University
Carleton College*
Case Western Reserve University*
Clark University
Columbia University
Cornell University
DePauw University
Drexel University
Duke University*
Durham University*
Ecole Polytechnique
Emory University*
Fordham University*
Franklin & Marshall College
Georgetown University
Harvard University
Haverford College
Imperial College London*
Indiana University
• Bloomington*
• Kelley School of Business
Johns Hopkins University
Kenyon College
King's College London*

Lancaster University
Lehigh University
Lewis and Clark College
London School of Economics & Political Science
Loyola Marymount University*
Marist College*
Michigan State University*
• Honors College
Middlebury College*
Middlesex University, Dubai
Mount Holyoke College
Northeastern University*
• Boston
• John Martinson Honors Program
• London
• Oakland
Nottingham Trent University
Oberlin College
Occidental College*
Ohio Wesleyan University
Pennsylvania State University, Harrisburg
Purdue University, West Lafayette*
Queens University, Canada
Reed College
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Rochester Institute of Technology*
• RIT Honors Program
• Dubai
Rollins College
Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology*
Rutgers University, Camden

San Diego State University

San Jose State University

Santa Clara University

Sarah Lawrence College

Skidmore College

Stanford University*

Stony Brook University*

- Honors College

Syracuse University

The New School

- Eugene Lang College of Liberal Arts
- Parsons School of Design

The University of British Columbia*

The University of Edinburgh*

The University of Manchester

The University of Sheffield

Tufts University

University of Bath*

University of Bristol*

University of California

- Berkeley
- Davis*
- Irvine*
- Los Angeles*
- Riverside*
- San Diego*
- Santa Barbara*
- Santa Cruz*

University of Colorado, Boulder

University of Glasgow

University of Illinois, Urbana Champaign

University of Leeds

University of Massachusetts

- Amherst
- Boston
- Dartmouth

University of North Carolina

- Chapel Hill
- Honors Carolina

University of Oxford

University of Pennsylvania

- Jerome Fisher Program in Management and Technology

University of Pittsburgh*

University of Rochester*

University of San Diego*

University of San Francisco

University of Southampton

University of Southern California

University of St. Andrews*

University of Toronto

University of Warwick*

University of Washington, Seattle*

University of West London

University of Westminster, London

University of Wisconsin, Madison*

Vassar College

Wesleyan University

Western University

Yale University

One of our mentees applied to and received an acceptance from [Baret Scholars](#), a gap-year program where scholars travel to seven world regions, interact with leaders, and immerse themselves in local cultures (Meghna also presented in a recent webinar regarding the "**The Case for a Gap Year**").

2025 MASTER'S ACCEPTANCES

EXPLORE OUR GRADUATE APPLICANT OFFERS!

American University

- School of Public Affairs

Columbia University

- School of International & Public Affairs

George Washington University

- The Trachtenberg School of Public Policy and Public Administration

Georgetown University

- McCourt School of Public Policy

Harvard University

- Harvard Graduate School of Education

Imperial College London

- Imperial Business School

New York University

- Stern School of Business
- Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development
- Wagner Graduate School of Public Service

The University of Chicago

- Pritzker School of Molecular Engineering

University of Pennsylvania

- Fels Institute of Government

University of Southern California

- Thornton School of Music

University of Washington, Seattle

- Department of Chemistry

SUMMER PROGRAM ACCEPTANCES 2025

WHERE OUR MENTEES WILL BE THIS SUMMER!

- Ashoka Young Scholars Program
- Ashoka Horizons Achievers Program
- Cambridge Centre for International Research (CCIR)
- Carnegie Mellon University Pre-College Game Design Academy
- Harvard Undergraduate Ventures - TECH Summer Program
- iCrest Academy
- Inspirit AI
- Inspirit AI, X Research Mentorship
- Lumiere Research Program
- Makers' Asylum
- Medill Cherubs Program, Northwestern University
- Pennsylvania School for Excellence in the Agricultural Sciences, Penn State
- Polygence Research Program
- Tribes for Good
- University of Cambridge Summer School
- University of Chicago Pre-College Program
- Veritas AI
- Young Technology Scholars, Plaksha University
- Young Data Scholars, Plaksha University

WRITING AND STUDY SKILLS CENTER

TACKLING ACADEMIC TRANSITIONS

Our **Writing and Study Skills Center** has been working with our mentees to enhance their exam prep and performance using our toolbox of **study skills and strategies**.

While this academic year is closing, many have started their **preparations** for the next year, particularly those students at crucial transitions of their school life—from **middle school to high school, or from Grade 10 to Grade 11**. Increased academic demands and changes in grading expectations can impact students **academically, socially, and emotionally**.

Here are some of the challenges faced by our mentees:

- **Coursework** becomes more **challenging and demanding** as students rise in grade level.
- **Teachers** expect **greater independence** and agency from their students.
- **Workloads increase**—students may have to complete research projects, essays, and prepare for the competitive college application process on top of their **regular homework**.

- There is a need to **self-study** and **prepare for classes** ahead of time.
- For students changing curricula, these challenges are magnified, particularly in the shift from **Indian national curricula** to international options such as the **IGCSE and IB**.
- Students are often told **what** to study, but not **how** to study.

How can mentees prepare for this transition?


- Use **summer breaks** to get a head start on next year's subjects and coursework.
- Use the effective study strategies we provide to **study smart** and utilize your time effectively.
- Reach out to your **teachers** for help.

- Create a **study schedule** with blocks for each subject, and follow it!
- Math and subjects reliant on it, namely Physics, Chemistry and Economics, need **extra practice** beyond assigned homework - add this to your schedule.


Effectively changing how a student works can facilitate **high school and college success**, while **boosting their confidence and reducing anxiety**. We take pride in helping our mentees develop these skills and habits for **success**!

UPCOMING EXTERNAL EVENTS

HELP US SPREAD THE WORD!




THE COLLEGIATE PATH



JOIN OUR ONLINE

STUDY SKILLS BOOTCAMP



FACILITATOR

PUJA GURUNG

Lead, Writing and Study Skills Center
Certified Memory and Concentration Coach

CHOOSE YOUR SLOT

Series 1: May 19 - May 22
Series 2: June 2 - June 5

Time: 5 - 6 p.m. IST/
7:30 - 8:30 p.m. SGT

Price: INR 8,000/SGD 150

Receive an individual study habits report after registration!

TO REGISTER, CLICK [HERE](#) OR MESSAGE US AT +91 8951229004

Our Study Skills Coach **Puja** is organizing a **Study Skills Bootcamp** for students outside the TCP family, to help prepare them for crucial academic transitions and develop effective study habits.

Students can opt for **one of two series**—in either **May or June**.

For any queries, **WhatsApp us** at +91 8951229004.

[REGISTER HERE](#)



Key Trends in US College Admissions & Overview of the EB-5 Program

Green Card by Investment

DATE
June 7th, 2025

TIME
5PM - 6:30PM IST

EXPERTS



Shilpa Menon
MANAGING DIRECTOR, COMMERCIAL AT LCR



Meghna Prasad
CO-FOUNDER AT THE COLLEGIATE PATH

[REGISTER TODAY](#)



THE COLLEGIATE PATH



LCR
CAPITAL PARTNERS

Our partner **LCR Capital** is organizing a webinar with us on “**Key Trends in U.S. College Admissions & Overview of the EB-5 Program**” on **June 7** from **5 - 6:30 p.m. IST**.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

THE LIFE OF A BOOKWORM

WHAT IS IT LIKE TO BE A TEENAGER WHO LOVES BOOKS?—WE ASKED ZARA, A YEAR 12 STUDENT, ABOUT HER READING JOURNEY!

I wasn't always a **reader**. I was super loyal to Enid Blyton and *Narnia* by C.S. Lewis and did not explore much beyond that. One day, we had a reading comprehension test at school. I was hooked by the prologue of *Holes* by Louis Sachar. I devoured the full book and read more by the same author (memorably *The Boy in the Girl's Bathroom*, a famously weird story). This was the first turning point in my reading journey.



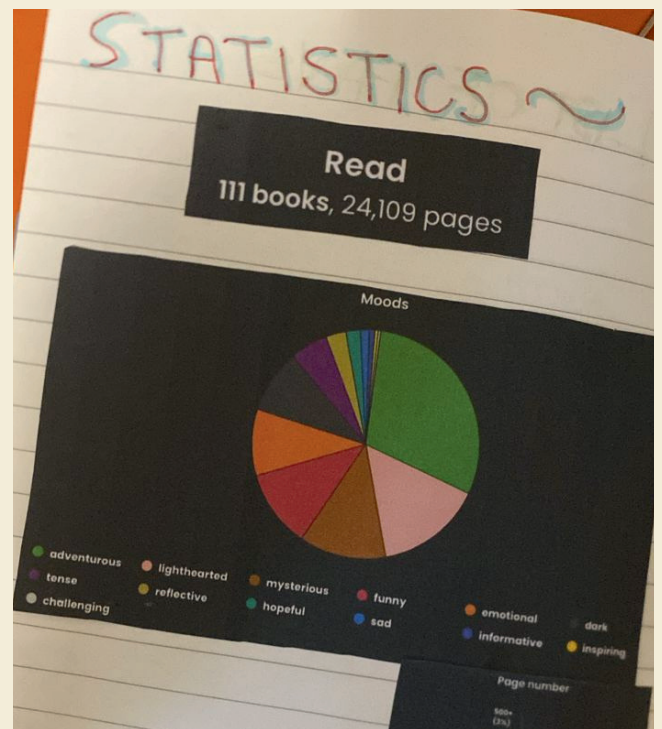
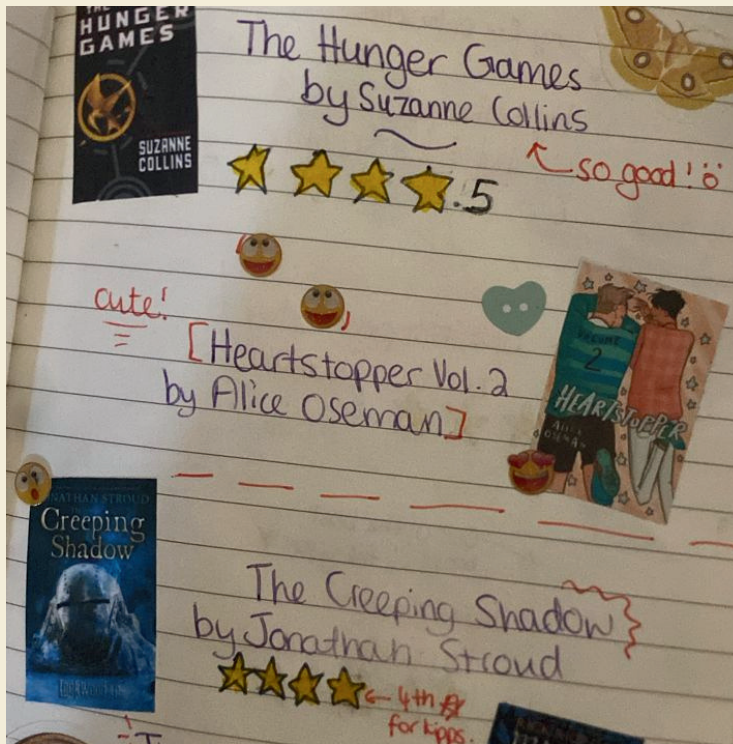
Another huge influence? **Comics**. **Marvel, DC, manga**—I didn't discriminate. In middle school, I read only manga. To this day, I'll shout it from the rooftops: **reading is reading!** Comics count. Poems count. Short stories count. We need to **fall in love** with **stories** before we start reading **Shakespeare**. Let people start where they want to start, even if it is comics!

Eventually, I did the **BBC's 100 Books Challenge**, which pushed me into new genres. I ended up going from manga to *Frankenstein* by Mary Shelley, which was a bit weird, but I enjoyed it. *The Giver* by Lois Lowry is another book that stayed with me, and I try to re-read it every year!

By 2023 and 2024, my reading habits were fully **mine**. I reread childhood favorites like *Alex Rider* by Anthony Horowitz, binged an unholy amount of comics such as *The Incredible Hercules*, and picked up new mind-blowing books such as *Daughter of the Deep* by Rick Riordan and *Lockwood & Co* by Jonathan Stroud. I stopped worrying about reading the **right kind of books** and focused on **reading what I loved**.



I'll be honest this year—I **haven't** read as much as I'd like, thanks to exams and life in general. But **I read whatever I can, whenever I can.** That's the beauty of being a reader—it doesn't have to be **all or nothing.** Even a **few pages** on a busy day count!



If you're trying to get into reading, my **advice** is **simple**—find your thing. **Comics, mysteries, fantasy**, whatever it is, start there. **Reading** should not be a **punishment**, but a **reward** on a hard day!

DID YOU KNOW?

Continuing our segment where we share some **unique and weird** facts from **colleges**—basically, anything that surprised us! Here are our picks for this edition.

Want to know more about vampires? Explore *The Vampire in Literature and Film*!

Offered by **University of Wisconsin, Madison** in its summer term, the course examines the role of vampire stories in our society, from early folklore (*Dracula*) to modern-day blockbusters (such as *Twilight*). Get ready to bite for your spot, as it is a popular course option!

Major in bagpipes with a degree in Fine Arts!

At **Carnegie Mellon University's** School of Music, undergraduates can earn a degree in bagpiping, the first of its kind globally! Students can also audition to become a bagpipe player at the Carnegie Mellon Pipes and Drums. Celebratory bagpiping has been a part of campus culture since 1939!

