



Application for Admission *Institute of the Humanities* at West Orange High School

Student's Name: _____ Student's ID Number: _____

Middle School: _____ Counselor's Name: _____

Please complete all of the information requested on this application and return it to your middle school counselor, no later than February 7, 2020. Failure to do so will disqualify you from applying to the IH program.

Admission to *The Institute of the Humanities* is based upon the following criteria:

1. Student must be recommended for the honors level in both English *and* Social Studies.
2. Consistent and above average academic performance in all subjects.
3. Student must have strong interest in the Arts and Humanities
4. The ability to demonstrate critical thinking skills.
5. Above average ELA and Social Studies recommendations.
6. Clear and thoughtful response to the attached writing assignment.
7. Signature of parent/guardian on completed application.
8. Requirements for the programs will include, but are not limited to, attendance at special programs such as school performances and participation in subject area clubs and activities.

Note: *Students must be enrolled in both Honors English and Honors Social Studies classes of the IH program. A student may not drop one IH course and remain in the program. Students are also required to take one IH full year elective or 2 semester electives.*

I have read and understand the requirements and the selection process for *The Institute of the Humanities* and understand acceptance into this program is a full year commitment.

Student's Signature _____ Date _____

I hereby give permission for my son/daughter to apply to *The Institute of the Humanities* and understand the selection criteria.

Parent's /Guardian's Signature _____ Date _____

The Institute of the Humanities
Teacher Recommendation Form

Student: _____ Middle School _____

English Teacher recommendation completed by:

Name _____ Title _____

Please rate the student on each of the following areas of personal competence:

(Please check the appropriate box)

- | | | | | |
|--|--|----------------------------------|--|------------------------------|
| Grasps fundamental ideas and concepts: | <input type="checkbox"/> Above Average | <input type="checkbox"/> Average | <input type="checkbox"/> Below Average | <input type="checkbox"/> N/A |
| Synthesis complex information: | <input type="checkbox"/> Above Average | <input type="checkbox"/> Average | <input type="checkbox"/> Below Average | <input type="checkbox"/> N/A |
| Completes assignments, fulfills contracts: | <input type="checkbox"/> Above Average | <input type="checkbox"/> Average | <input type="checkbox"/> Below Average | <input type="checkbox"/> N/A |
| Accepts constructive criticism: | <input type="checkbox"/> Above Average | <input type="checkbox"/> Average | <input type="checkbox"/> Below Average | <input type="checkbox"/> N/A |
| Assumes responsibility: | <input type="checkbox"/> Above Average | <input type="checkbox"/> Average | <input type="checkbox"/> Below Average | <input type="checkbox"/> N/A |
| Is motivated to achieve: | <input type="checkbox"/> Above Average | <input type="checkbox"/> Average | <input type="checkbox"/> Below Average | <input type="checkbox"/> N/A |
| Has good work habits; is disciplined | <input type="checkbox"/> Above Average | <input type="checkbox"/> Average | <input type="checkbox"/> Below Average | <input type="checkbox"/> N/A |
| Has positive sense of self: | <input type="checkbox"/> Above Average | <input type="checkbox"/> Average | <input type="checkbox"/> Below Average | <input type="checkbox"/> N/A |
| Shows potential for more advanced study: | <input type="checkbox"/> Above Average | <input type="checkbox"/> Average | <input type="checkbox"/> Below Average | <input type="checkbox"/> N/A |
| Recommended for Honors English 9 | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No | | |
| Recommended for Honors History | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No | | |

Please check one:

I Highly recommend Recommend Recommend with reservation Do not recommend
that this student be admitted to The Institute of the Humanities at West Orange High School

Teacher's Statement

Teacher's Signature _____ Date _____

Please return to student so he/she may include in the application packet.

A sealed envelope must be used by the evaluator with evaluator's signature written across seal.

The Institute of the Humanities
Teacher Recommendation Form

Student: _____ Middle School _____

Social Studies Teacher recommendation completed by:

Name _____ Title _____

Please rate the student on each of the following areas of personal competence:

(Please check the appropriate box)

Grasps fundamental ideas and concepts:	<input type="checkbox"/> Above Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Below Average	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Synthesis complex information:	<input type="checkbox"/> Above Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Below Average	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Completes assignments, fulfills contracts:	<input type="checkbox"/> Above Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Below Average	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Accepts constructive criticism:	<input type="checkbox"/> Above Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Below Average	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Assumes responsibility:	<input type="checkbox"/> Above Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Below Average	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Is motivated to achieve:	<input type="checkbox"/> Above Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Below Average	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Has good work habits; is disciplined	<input type="checkbox"/> Above Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Below Average	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Has positive sense of self:	<input type="checkbox"/> Above Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Below Average	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Shows potential for more advanced study:	<input type="checkbox"/> Above Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Below Average	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Recommended for Honors English 9	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No		
Recommended for Honors History	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No		

Please check one:

I Highly recommend Recommend Recommend with reservation Do not recommend
that this student be admitted to The Institute of the Humanities at West Orange High School

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The Institute of the Humanities: Writing Sample

The IH (Institute of the Humanities) is designed to provide students in the program with a chance to explore the humanities and their significance to human life. As we go through the course of the year, we will constantly delve into the wide spectrum of the humanities. Let's start by exploring the questions below.

Assignment Directions/Guidelines

- Read the excerpts below. They come from the website of the University of Stanford's Humanities program.
- Develop the following writing task into a 3 paragraph essay.

Defend the following statement: The Humanities help us to better understand human society/culture. In your response, present a specific example.

- Essay MUST be typed and double-spaced.
- Do not plagiarize what is stated in the reading. Rather, use it to gain an understanding and then present your OWN thoughts.

What are the Humanities?

The humanities can be described as the study of the myriad ways in which people, from every period of history and from every corner of the globe, process and document the human experience. Since humans have been able, we have used philosophy, literature, religion, art, music, history and language to understand and record our world. These modes of expression have become some of the subjects that traditionally fall under the humanities umbrella. Knowledge of these records of human experience gives us the opportunity to feel a sense of connection to those who have come before us, as well as to our contemporaries.

Why are the Humanities Important?

Insights into Everything

Through exploration of the humanities we learn how to think creatively and critically, to reason, and to ask questions. Because these skills allow us to gain new insights into everything from poetry and paintings to business models and politics, humanistic subjects have been at the heart of a liberal arts education since the ancient Greeks first used them to educate their citizens.

Understanding Our World

Research into the human experience adds to our knowledge about our world. Through the work of humanities scholars, we learn about the values of different cultures, about what goes into making a work of art, about how history is made. Their efforts preserve the great accomplishments of the past; help us understand the world we live in, and give us tools to imagine the future.

Bringing Clarity to the Future

Today, humanistic knowledge continues to provide the ideal foundation for exploring and understanding the human experience. Investigating a branch of philosophy might get you thinking about ethical questions. Learning another language might help you gain an appreciation for the similarities in different cultures. Contemplating a sculpture might make you think about how the artist's life affected his or her creative decisions. Reading a book from another region of the world might help you think about the meaning of democracy. Learning the history of an event or people might help you to have a better understanding of the past, while at the same time giving you a clearer picture of what the future holds.

