

## LOWELL HIGH SCHOOL

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## Information and Application for consideration for the Normandy Academy

## This application is only for members of the Junior Class (YOG 2020).

Thank you for applying for an opportunity to study over the summer at the National WWII Museum in New Orleans, Louisiana and in Caen, France as part of the Normandy Academy. This application is the first step in the competition. Your materials will be evaluated without your name on them and scored using a common rubric for all of the applications. Applicants who continue to the next round will present their essay and will be interviewed before a panel of judges. The winner of the grant will be chosen by the judging panel on the basis of their presentation and interview at this stage.

The student who attends the Normandy Academy will have significant responsibilities in terms of work before the end of the semester. Anonymous donors who are alumni of LHS will cover most of the cost for participation in the Academy, but there will be some smaller expenses during the program. The dates this summer are **July 14 to July 25**.

The applicant who is chosen will need to commit to reading at least three books before July 14 as part of the preparation for the program. She or he then will travel first to New Orleans, Louisiana; and, then to France with a group of other students on the program. The work for the program will begin in mid-April and will necessitate a commitment to another course-worth of work on top of your current workload. College credit is possible, but the cost will be the responsibility of the applicant who is chosen. Traditionally, a central focus of the program is researching someone local who died at Normandy during D-Day and reading a eulogy (speech) at his grave in France. There also are speech and interview situations that will arise in New Orleans and France. Information about the program can be found at:

< https://www.nationalww2museum.org/events-programs/educational-travel/student-travel-national-wwii-museum/normandy-academy>.

Please fill out the following check-list and questionnaire and leave it in the main office mailbox for Social Studies (Mr. DeLossa). The deadline is March 4 at 2:30 p.m.

NAME/STUDENT ID #:	 	
Homeroom/House Office:		

Please see over

- I. Understanding of program requirements (please check off to indicate your acknowledgment and understanding of the program's responsibilities):
- □ I am able to travel outside of the country and would be able to travel during these dates.
- □ I would have no problem with the extra work-load during the spring.
- □ I would have no problem giving interviews, a speech in public, and appearing on television about the program.
- □ I would be comfortable giving a eulogy (speech) at a grave.
- □ I would be willing to give a speech about my experiences to the school in the fall and act as a Normandy Academy ambassador to the Junior Class next year.
- II. On a separate piece of paper, with only your student ID at the top, please answer the following questions thoroughly and complete the final short essay. <u>Please type your responses and staple them to this form</u>. You will return this form and your response to Mr. DeLossa's mailbox in the Main Office.
- 1. **Short response**: Please describe your interest in WWII in general and D-Day in particular.
- **2. Short response**: Please describe any connection you have to WWII (through family, friends, teachers or people you know in the community) or to any veteran who has served in the military.
- 3. Short response: Please describe your strengths as a student and as a person outside school.
- **4. Short response**: If chosen, how do you think this experience will benefit you in your future plans, whether in college or otherwise?
- **5. Short response**: Please describe any service for the community in Lowell or Greater Lowell that you have done or school activities in which you currently participate.
- **6. Short response**: Please briefly describe what you think "service to your country" means.
- **7.** Please write a **500-word essay** on the following theme: "The best way I can honor the sacrifice of those who have died for freedom is..."

If you advance to the next round, you will read your essay to the selection committee and discuss it with them.

For any further questions, you can contact Mr. Spencer in Rm. 646 or <a href="jspencer@lowell.k12.ma.us">jspencer@lowell.k12.ma.us</a>, or visit him. LHS Senior *Victoria Kim* was last year's Normandy Academy fellow. She is willing to talk with any students who are interested in applying. You can contact her through Mr. Spencer.

Thank you for your participation!

Robert DeLossa (Social Studies)