

The Mission of Dustin's GreenHouse

Dustin's GreenHouse cultivates hope and opportunity in the lives of under-served and under-recognized high school students in Guilford County through unique global and service based learning programs and initiatives. Similar to how a gardener nurtures flowers in a traditional greenhouse, Dustin's GreenHouse nurtures *possibility* in the lives of students – striving to equip them with the values, sense of purpose, perspective and support they need to grow into compassionate, well-rounded and productive citizens.

The Globetrotters... The Globetrotter Program is an interactive and “outside of the classroom” learning environment that focuses on self-actualization and global exploration. The program includes a 6-8 month in-country curriculum, as well as a 2-3 week international trip that combines physical adventure with cultural enrichment and philanthropic service. To date, the Dustin's GreenHouse Globetrotter Program has taken students and teachers from across Guilford County to Guatemala, Uganda, Ecuador and the Galapagos Islands, Peru, Romania, Hungary and South Africa.

The Village... The Village is a leadership development program aimed at changing the power of influence in the lives of teenage girls. The program runs annually and exposes students to personal development exercises and activities, mentor relationships and service based learning environments that empower participants to take more control over their social, academic and professional futures.

The Human Experience Club... *The Human Experience (“THE Club”) is an extra-curricular enrichment club we are piloting at Grimsley High School. THE Club engages students at a grassroots, community-level in the human experience. By encouraging students to actively participate in service learning and global awareness, THE Club promotes self-awareness of what it means to be human.*

The Students We Target



High school is a formative and vulnerable experience for most students, and arguably one of the most pivotal chapters in a child's life. It represents a period of time during which academic successes and failures, extra-curricular activities and personal/life choices begin to have a direct impact on the opportunities that will (or will not) be available to a student in the future. High school is also a time when self-esteem seems to dissipate, family dynamics are tested and new levels of negative influence begin to surface at every turn.

Recognizing that we cannot possibly serve all high school students, DGH has chosen to focus on the kids in the "gray" zone. These are students who are not recognized for exceptional talents or achievements. Nor are they classified as "at risk." These are the under-nurtured students who too often are overlooked because they do not draw attention to themselves – through positive *or* negative behavior, and the results of these omissions mean untapped potential and missed opportunities.

Globetrotter Evaluation Criteria

Characteristics We Look For In a Globetrotter:

- A desire to explore different cultures, customs and beliefs with a compassionate heart and an open mind
- A commitment to investing in personal growth which requires vulnerability, self-reflection, honesty and self-discipline
- An ability to work well with others in diverse, high stress environments
- A track record of being able to overcome adversity and to learn from one's mistakes
- A positive attitude and strong work ethic
- Charisma and a sense of humor
- A desire to serve others and to be a part of something that is bigger than one's self

Dustin's GreenHouse also takes into consideration the following:

- The anticipated impact a Globetrotter experience would have in the student's life
- The unique contributions a student would bring to a Globetrotter team
- Socio-economic limitations that would otherwise limit/prevent an applicant from pursuing similar experiences
- The applicant's involvement in supplemental GreenHouse programs and initiatives (e.g., Dustin's Village, "THE" Clubs, etc.)

Applicant/Scholar Requirements

- Applicants must be enrolled in a high school within the Guilford County Schools system. (While students in their senior year are eligible for Globetrotter scholarships, freshman, sophomore and junior students are given greater consideration due to the fact that they can return to school the following year and serve as change agents/ambassadors for the program going forward.)
- Applicants must submit a completed Application Packet, which consists of a student application and nomination/sponsor form. (Teachers, principals, employers and/or community or church leaders are invited to complete nomination forms on behalf of applicants.)
- Applicants cannot have a criminal record.
- If selected, scholars are expected to attend all team meetings and functions.
- If selected, scholars are responsible for their own transportation to and from meetings.
- If selected, scholars are required to get a US Passport, or demonstrate that they already have a valid US Passport. (This includes financing the cost of the passport, approximately \$120, and managing the passport application in a timely manner.)
- If selected, scholars will need to have an up-to-date Tetanus Shot and will be expected to get the vaccines required for traveling to our destination country. A list of vaccines required for each country can be found at the Center for Disease Control's website. (Students are also responsible for financing the cost of these vaccines.)
- If selected, scholars will be responsible for raising \$100 that can be used for spending money while in our destination country.

Globetrotter Selection Process

Applications for the 2012 Globetrotter Team are due **Monday, October 31, 2011**.

Students who fit within the Applicant/Scholar Requirements and who demonstrate some of all of the characteristics we are seeking in a Globetrotter scholar will be invited to participate in a series of in-person interviews, which will take place in November.

A selection committee will then consider information gained through application packets, student interviews *and social media* to narrow the applicant pool down to a group of 14 prospective finalists and 4-6 alternates.

The 14 prospective finalists will be invited to join the 2012 Globetrotter Team contingent upon their ability to satisfy scholar expectations, which include:

- (i) Attending team meetings and participating in team events;
- (ii) Demonstrating behaviors that are consistent with those conveyed in their application packet and during the interview process;

- (iii) Playing an active role in team development activities, including helping to raise funds for community service initiatives; and
- (iv) Demonstrating ownership over the Globetrotter experience (which includes meeting passport and immunization deadlines.

A final list of the 2012 Globetrotter Scholars will be published in April of 2012.

Note: Any alternate who is not pulled onto the team (based on a prospective finalist's inability to meet requirements or expectations) will be put on a list of "highly targeted" applicants and will be given priority consideration the following year.

Additional Information

Application and Nomination Forms will be posted online by 5:00pm on Tuesday, September 20, 2011. <http://www.dustinsgreenhouse.org/nomination.html>