

College Guidance Memo

September 2019

Read "[Finding Common Joy in College Admission](#)" by Brennan Barnard

From [Alyssa Belcher](#), Assistant Director of College Guidance:

This is an incredibly exciting time of life - figuring out who you are, who you want to become, what kinds of people and experiences you want to surround yourself with, getting stoked on all the things you are going to learn in the years to come - and we shouldn't allow stress to take that joy away. I particularly appreciate this quote from the article (linked above): "Each individual controls the attitude with which they engage." There is no single "right" way to go about life, so valuing equally all of the different options and possibilities should, and can, be exhilarating rather than debilitating.

From [Kirk Blackard](#), Director of College Guidance:

We sincerely believe that college is a match to be made, not a prize to be won. With this in mind and with a desire to tap down on the stress and anxiety the media has created about all things college, we hope you will keep the bullets of this article in mind. Among our favorite take-aways...

- With each application milestone (i.e. completion of your first application and your last), go out to dinner with family, see a movie with friends, or find some other way to reward yourself for meeting smaller deadlines.
- Identify six to 10 schools you love and which fall into *each* of the following categories: *Good Bet*, *Middle of the Road* and *Reach* schools. Need help? Come see us!
- Be creative with how you get to know a school and campus. Reach out to Christ School alumni attending a college of interest to you, sit in on a class, check out the school's online newspaper and/or eat a meal in the school dining hall.

Above all, pause, take a deep breath and know that with your diligent efforts and with support from our office, you are going to have some wonderful options.

Upcoming School Visits:

- Randolph College (September 5)
- Stetson College (September 6)
- Northwestern University, High Point University, University of Lynchburg, and Providence College (September 9)



- Elon University, University of South Carolina (Columbia), Roanoke College, and University of Alabama (Huntsville) (September 12)
- Wofford College (September 13)

