**ARIZONA GEAR UP**

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**AZ GEAR UP Summer Leadership Academy (GUSLA)/**

**GUSLA Ambassador Student Program (GASP)**

**at Northern Arizona University (NAU)**

Dear GEAR UP Parent/Guardian,

Last summer, your child was selected to participate in the GEAR UP Summer Leadership Academy (GUSLA) held on the NAU campus in June 2014. This first year of GUSLA was a tremendous success! It is NAU/GEAR UP’s goal to offer this college campus experience to as many of our students as possible over the next few years. At the conclusion of GUSLA 2014, many of the student participants expressed a desire to return to the program in summer 2015. In response, NAU/GEAR UP is pleased to announce that students who attended the GUSLA last summer are eligible to apply for the new *GUSLA Ambassador Student Program*, which will be held on the NAU campus in Flagstaff from **June 14 to 19, 2015.** GUSLA is designed to motivate students to succeed academically in high school; enhance study skills, communication and positive decision making; build leadership skills; and foster personal growth. The *GUSLA Ambassador Program* is designed to build on the important skills learned last year, and provide increased opportunities for the development of your child’s leadership skills. Student *Ambassadors* will have an enhanced curriculum, and will learn strategies to help guide and support first-time GUSLA attendees.

Over 200 GEAR UP students from across the state attended GUSLA 2014. The *Ambassador* Program can accommodate only 20 students in 2015, so this will be a competitive process. The good news is that this opportunity will continue to be available each summer through 2017, when GEAR UP students are juniors in high school, therefore students who are not selected as *Ambassadors* this year, will have a future opportunity to attend. Transportation, lodging and food costs for selected students *Ambassadors* will be paid by GEAR UP.

To be considered for selection to participate in the *GUSLA Ambassador Program* this summer, please return the completed application to me by \_\_\_\_deadline. I will forward the application to the NAU/GEAR UP Office in Phoenix, where the selection process will take place. If you have any questions, don’t hesitate to contact me.

 Sincerely,

 GEAR UP Coordinator