







**ARIZONA GEAR UP**

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May 1, 2017

Dear GEAR UP Family of <<First>> <<Last>>,

Congratulations! I am pleased to inform you that your 11th grade GEAR UP student has been selected to attend the Northern Arizona University (NAU) GEAR UP Summer Leadership Academy (GUSLA), which takes place from **June 11 through June 16, 2017** at the NAU campus in Flagstaff, Arizona.

GUSLA is an exciting opportunity for your teen to meet GEAR UP students from across Arizona as they participate in activities focused on the development of leadership skills, life skills, learning-to-learn skills, and college knowledge. During GUSLA, while living in the residential halls (dorms) on the NAU campus under close supervision, your teen will participate in:

* Academic and Personal Excellence Training provided by skilled staff from a top rated, internationally known training company - Seeds Training (www.seedstraining.com)
* The NAU Challenge Ropes Course, a series of adventure-based learning activities that build community among the students as they work together through mental and physical challenges so that both the group and individuals can succeed
* Financial aid and college knowledge workshops
* A community service project
* Campus tours, which will offer opportunities for the students to see the NAU Campus in an interactive way.
* Supervised, age-appropriate activities such as sports, arts and crafts, group exercise, etc. There will also be a Talent Show and a Dance. Please see the Parent Handbook for more information on these activities.

All students selected to attend GUSLA receive a GEAR UP Scholarship to attend, so there is no charge for participation. Transportation to and from NAU will be provided by your school district - your GEAR UP Coordinator will provide details about pick-up and drop-off times and locations. If an unexpected conflict arises, and your child will not be able to attend GUSLA, it is important that you let the GEAR UP Coordinator at your school know immediately so that another student, who was placed on a ‘wait-list’, can be selected to attend in his/her place.

We recommend that you request a copy of the GUSLA Parent Handbook from your GEAR UP Coordinator. The GUSLA Parent Handbook (in English and Spanish) can also be found on our website, <http://nau.edu/COE/Gear-Up/Cohort-Student-Services>. This Handbook provides important details about GUSLA. If you have additional questions, please contact me or your school’s GEAR UP Coordinator. I look forward to welcoming your GEAR UP student to GUSLA for a life-changing experience in June 2017!

Sincerely,



John ‘Tie Guy’ Acedo
GUSLA Director