The last camp before reaching the peak of Mount Everest is Camp 4. Climbers spend the night there, preparing for the final trek, dreaming (if they can sleep) of the summit. It is the closest to space a human can get and follows weeks of climbing and acclimating to the challenge of limited oxygen. Metaphorically, Camp 4 at Kenyon is the place to prepare for life beyond high school, learning skills at a higher level, getting acclimated to the college experience, gathering the resources to meet your highest expectations for yourself.

Camp 4 Scholars at Kenyon will launch in Summer 2014. This intensive academic enrichment program offers high school students three weeks to work with superb professors, strengthen critical thinking and writing skills across disciplines, and experience college life first-hand. Formerly known as the Summer Kenyon Academic Program, founded in 1986 to give Ohio students supplemental academic practice, Camp 4 is open to students nationwide. The program takes place on the Kenyon College campus, in Gambier, Ohio, cited by Forbes as one of the most beautiful campuses in the world (and often compared to Hogwarts).

Camp 4 Scholars for seniors is an educational and social experience that uses neuroscience, African-American history, and visual art as vehicles to drive your critical thinking. This is a rigorous academic program to prepare you for advanced placement courses and the college admissions process. Those who complete the program receive Kenyon College credit transferable to other colleges.

As a Camp 4 Scholar, you will receive individual counseling on college admissions and financial aid. Most importantly, you'll receive encouragement to believe in your capacity for achievement. More than 80% of students who attended Camp 4’s predecessor—Summer Kenyon Academic Program (SKAP)—went on to attend college, buoyed by their summer success. In fact, nearly 30% of SKAP participants were admitted to Kenyon College. We expect even more future Kenyon grads to emerge through Camp 4.

**Academic Heights across Disciplines**

At Camp 4 Scholars, you will be immersed in the liberal arts and sciences, the foundation of critical thinking. The curriculum includes three hours of Behavioral Neuroscience and three hours of Contemporary Black History every weekday, taught by Kenyon College professors. In addition, twice a week, you will attend a studio art class. The culmination of these three challenging subjects is a heightened understanding of multiple disciplines: math, chemistry, anatomy, physiology, literature, American history, African-American culture, geography, expository and creative writing, political science, and more. In addition, you will learn the practical uses of word processing, data processing, and laboratory work.

The Behavioral Neuroscience course teaches Camp 4 Scholars about anatomy and physiology of the brain through studying the effects of drugs of abuse, while gaining a general understanding of the behavioral neuroscience field. You’ll learn about the basic anatomy of the neuron, the difference between neurons and glial cells, examples of each type of cell, and the ways in which drugs alter the functioning of the cell.

Contemporary Black History is an introductory lecture and discussion course in the history of African Americans in the United States. Beginning with Emancipation, the course traces the evolution of black culture and identity and the continuing struggle for freedom and equality. Topics include the tragedies and triumphs of Reconstruction,
interracial violence, black political and institutional responses to racism and violence, the Harlem Renaissance, jazz, blues, and the civil rights and black power movements. You will write and edit essays based on key themes in the films and readings.

**All Work and No Play? No way.**

While time is set aside on evenings and weekends to complete assignments, everyone needs time to recharge. Camp 4 Scholars have access to Kenyon’s award-winning facilities—swimming pool, racquetball and tennis courts, basketball and volleyball courts. Or you might decide to talk with friends, listen to music, or go for a walk on campus.

More structured recreation time is scheduled each night. Activities include board games, elbow tag, kickball, nature walks, scavenger hunts, and discussions with college students about college life. Weekends offer opportunities to go to the movies, dance, play pool or ping pong, and more. We will also produce a newsletter, a yearbook, and the “No-talent” Talent Show.

**A Community of Scholars**

Teachers, tutors and students live together in Gund Dorm on the Kenyon campus, with men and women on separate floors. Each of you will have a roommate, probably someone from another school.

Meals are served in the College dining halls, and they will be of the all-you-can-eat variety. Although other groups on campus share the dining room, we always eat our meals together as a group.

You will take home with you the memory of a deep bond with your fellow Camp 4 Scholars that will continue for years to come. The connections you make with people from different backgrounds sharing a love for academic pursuits will be ones you treasure.

**Tuition and Scholarships**

Camp 4 Scholars is a three-week residential program. The total cost, including tuition, accommodations, all meals, and activities, is $3,500.

We are committed to socioeconomic diversity and strive to provide scholarship aid for those who have financial need. More information about how to request scholarship assistance is available with the application materials.

Janae Peters, who is currently pursuing a Master of Clinical Social Work at Smith College, attended SKAP when she was a rising senior at Cleveland’s John F. Kennedy High School. She says the program taught her to raise the bar for her own standards of work and her identity. “The concept of an academic camp seems strange at first but makes so much sense by the time those three weeks are over. I still use many of the skills I learned in my life as a teacher, and I teach them to my students. (The program) offered opportunities that were different and challenged me to challenge myself and my goals in the best of ways.”

Students like Janae who attended SKAP, the precursor to Camp 4, have gone on to prestigious colleges across the country—from the University of Chicago to our own Kenyon College, earning bachelor’s, master’s and doctorate degrees.

**About Kenyon College**

Kenyon College is a nationally prominent liberal arts college offering 1,600 students an academically challenging curriculum in a close-knit community. The College is distinguished by the high quality of its faculty and student body, its small classes, many opportunities for collaborative faculty-student research, and the exceptional beauty of its historic campus in central Ohio. Founded in 1824, Kenyon counts among its alumni such notable figures as President Rutherford B. Hayes, poet Robert Lowell, novelist E.L. Doctorow, writer John Green, and actors Paul Newman, Allison Janney and Josh Radnor, and more.

**How to Apply**

For an application, please contact Bonnie McCluskey, Assistant Director for Registration and Operations, at mccluske@kenyon.edu or (740) 427-5032.