

# “The Admission Game”

## Program Description & Outline

Peter Van Buskirk uses unique program elements to engage audiences and unveil mysteries often associated with the college-going process. By taking them inside the decision-making process as members of an admission committee at a fictitious college, he empowers audiences with an intimate knowledge about the process that fosters educated consumerism.

In “The Admission Game,” students and parents learn what to look for in researching a good college “fit” and how to prepare to compete successfully for admission. Peter’s ability to personalize a complex and often mysterious process makes the experience “real” for both students and their parents. In a recent survey of nearly 2,000 program participants:

- 95% said “The Admission Game” was among the best college orientation presentations they have ever experienced.
- 99% said the program gave them tools /ideas to become more competitive applicants.

### **Program Outline**

#### **Part One: Orientation to the Admission Selection Process**

- I. Introducing the Pyramid of Selectivity™—A contextual guide to decision-making
  - A. Factors that make a college “selective”
  - B. A college’s selectivity has a bearing on how credentials will be evaluated
  - C. Use the Pyramid as a guide to finding a good college “fit”
- II. The Agenda™—What do colleges look for in admitting students?
- III. The Hidden Agenda™—Important factors that admission officers don’t like to discuss
- IV. Hotspots and Hooks™—A review of the application and where to look for key information

#### **Part Two: Credential Review**

- V. Welcome to the “Committee”
  - A. Meet the candidates (four fictitious applicants)
  - B. Rate the curriculum and discuss the importance of course selections
  - C. Identify the “Hooks”—factors that help the candidate stand out
  - D. Discover the importance of telling your story
  - E. Essay review (includes tips on essay writing)
  - F. Talent talks—What do you have to give?
- VI. The vote (the audience votes to admit one of the four candidates)
  - A. Who gets in and why?
  - B. Additional Q&A