

Upward Bound

Winter Newsletter 2010

Volume 5 Issue 1

On The University of Notre Dame Campus

"Your College Connection"

8th Annual Student Parent Leadership Conference :
Saturday, February 27th, 2010



TRiO Scholars: Leaders on Deck

By Debra Wisler

Get ready to be inspired, challenged, and educated. The 2009-10 Student Leaders have been busy since October preparing for this auspicious event: **Deborah Boateng: Adams – Senior, Nicole Brown: Washington – Junior, Erica Liddell: Adams – Junior, Makarios Nguere: Riley – Sophomore, Edwin Santiago-Lora: Adams – Sophomore, Ashley Townsell: Adams – Sophomore.** We have 20 different workshops designed specifically to benefit parents and college bound students.

Leadership is a predominant theme throughout the workshops presented by professionals, parents and Trio Program students. These presenters have a passion for youth and want to equip the students and parents to meet the challenges they face in their pursuit of a college education.

Registration begins at 8:30am with a light breakfast buffet and College Fair . We will have a wide variety of colleges represented: **Bethel College, Brown Mackie College, Goshen College, Holy Cross College, ITT Technical Institute, Indiana Purdue Ft. Wayne, IUSB, Ivy Tech College, Purdue University, Saint Mary's College, and University of Notre Dame.**

The opening session begins at 9:30am. Mr. James Riley, a Notre Dame Upward Bound alumnus, will be the keynote speaker. James graduated from Notre Dame in 1994 with a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology. During his four years at ND, he was a member of the marching band where he was the first African American Drum Captain the school has ever had.

Please visit our website for more information or call 574-631-5669 and speak with Deb Wisler.

My First Day in College

By Tayanna Johnson
Sophomore scholar



During the month of November I was able to attend the "My First Day in College" program at Saint Mary's College. I was honored when Miss Melissa of Upward Bound asked me if I would be interested in an event such as this. I was happy because I knew that I would learn a lot from this experience, and I'm beginning college visits early, only being a sophomore.

My First Day in College was quite an experience for me; starting from the variety of students I met who attended different schools, to the hosts of the event, to all of the food that was given to us and the different activities we did.

We students were able to spend the night with our host in her dorm. The next morning, we were able to attend classes with our host. We were never hungry! The program made sure that we ate well. A tour was given of the campus. My personal favorites were when the host of the event, Stephanie Bridges, educated us on applying for college. My other favorite activity was attending the play, "Woman Unveiled". The play is known to be entertaining and comical. It's about five different Islamic women facing criticism in America because of racism.

The overall experience was delightful. Leaving, I felt well educated on applying for college. Now I know all I need to do when the time comes. Thank you Miss Melissa and Saint Mary's College for deciding on me to have this opportunity. I was able to get a "taste" of college life and I am definite that it is for me.

-Tayanna Johnson, Upward Bound scholar



Letter From The Director

By Alyssia Coates



Two thousand and ten is the beginning of a new era and great opportunities for the Trio Programs: Upward Bound and Educational Talent Search.

In 2009, I was appointed the Senior Director for the Trio programs. I am both excited and challenged by this opportunity and look forward to the new initiatives that will develop. One in particular is the Department of Education requirement that both Upward Bound and Educational Talent Search develop rigorous curriculums to prepare our students to achieve high academic success. The good news is Notre Dame Trio programs are already working to this end, as our very own Skyler Diggins of ETS is a freshman here at Notre Dame, and in May, four Upward Bound alumni will graduate from Notre Dame. Another new initiative that is in the works is our collaboration with Stuart Green and Joyce Long and their “No Parent Left Behind Program.”

At our 8th Student Parent Leadership Conference, graduates from their program will share with parents the strategies and practices that helped them to successfully navigate the educational process with their children. Then in April, we hope to have their first workshop for Upward Bound parents. While their children are receiving tutoring and academic enrichment, parents will learn ABC and 123’s about parent involvement.

Great News! In January we accepted 24 new students into the program from Adams, Clay, Penn, Riley, St. Joseph and Washington. During the next two months the students will experience the rigors of Upward Bound and learn about the four principals of a scholar; Dreams, Decency, Dignity and Diligence. In April, after successfully meeting the expectations of a new participant, they will officially be inducted into the program as an Upward Bound scholar. At this dinner, the scholars are presented with a certificate that recognizes their first milestone in the program. It is always a joy to see the smiles on the students and their parents face during this special occasion.

Also coming up is our 3rd annual Father Ted Fun Run Walk on April 25th. This year we added a 10K to the running course. We are partnering with Notre Dame Rec Sports as they will have a training class for first-time 5K runners to train for the run. All the proceeds received are for college scholarships for 10 Upward Bound graduates. Last year we raised \$8,000 and an additional \$4000 was provided through our internship partnership with the Chamber of Commerce. If you are interested in having a trained high school graduate as an intern this summer, please contact our office.

Save the date! On Saturday, August 28th, we will host our inaugural **Youth Education Advancement Gala** to raise funds for our summer residential program. During the summer our students live in the dorms on campus and take classes for high school and college credit. Our 100 % high school graduation and college enrollment rate is in a great part due to the experiences our students have during the summer. We impart onto our students the social and cultural capital that is necessary to navigate the high school and college application process, and we teach them resiliency to the barriers they encounter in school, at home and in their communities.

Upward Bound works! If you would like to visit and see us in action call the number on this newsletter.

Student Student Leaders



Did you know you can apply to be an Upward Bound Student Leader? Six Student Leaders are hand picked by the staff every year in the spring. To apply, ask for an application at the Upward Bound office. You must attend all of the meetings and be committed to the process. Student Leaders plan our annual Student/Parent Leadership Conference, including the theme, logo, advertisements, meal, award categories, and budget. They also create a professional workshop and present it to the public at the conference in February. The students meet regularly in a special iConnect group to plan the presentation, and meet monthly with Mrs. Melissa to learn their leadership and conference planning skills. In October, they also travel to a three-day student leadership conference in Illinois.

Fall Snapshots



Left, front to back: Scholars Guadalupe Garcilazo, Andrea Williams and Princess Dalieh participate in a hands-on artist lecture and dance workshop at the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center with Latin Tango artists *Flamenco Vivo* on November 17, 2009. The scholars also attended the performance the following Friday.

Right: Scholars Princess Dalieh and Andrea Williams listen intently to the Flamenco Vivo artists on stage at the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center.



Right: Upward Bound had the largest student group on *Make A Difference Day* in October 2009. We cleaned, weeded, and pruned for the Near Northwest Neighborhood Association, helping them get ready for their Art Beat Event. From left, scholars Amanda Gilmour, Guadalupe Garcilazo, Aric Chokey, Emily Birr, Shari Richey, Director Alyssia Coates, and scholar Roberto Martinez.



Upward Bound Welcomes New Students

Adams High School

Lourie Cox
Gavin Miller
Johnathan Nguyen
Cassandra Reyes
Manjai Zelee

Riley High School

Robert Anderson
Darrina Brimmer
Marissa Foley
Sabree Freeman
Alejandro Harber
Jovantai Lewis

Penn High School

T'Aaliyah Williams

Clay High School

Tyler Brown
Ciera Davis
Taren Johnson
Hunter Jones
Jocelyn Lula

Washington High School

Tyanna Douglas
Jessica Garcia
Darrin Lawson
Amber Starr Petrowsky
Michael Taylor Jr.
Denise White

St. Joseph High School

Amber Riley



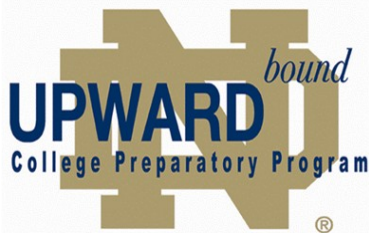
Congratulations to you all!

The new students were selected based on academics, potential, and need. They all completed an extensive application process and interview.

The students will be inducted into the Upward Bound program as “scholars” when they complete their 55 day probationary period in late March.

Do you know a student that would like to apply for Upward Bound? The staff recruit in the schools in the fall of the academic school year. Watch for informational presentations in the middle schools, and ask your guidance counselor for an application! Or, go to our web site for an application at www.nd.edu/~upbound.

Pictured above: New student Tyler Brown with mom Peggy at orientation.



Parent Advisory Committee

Get involved in 2010!

Upcoming Events

- **Feb. 10-11** MOODYS student conference, Indianapolis
- **Feb. 27** 8th Annual Student Parent Leadership Conference
- **March 4**, First Book Club Meeting
- **March 11** Purdue University Day Visit
- **March 27** Tokyo String Quartet, DeBartolo Performing Arts Center
- **April 5-8** Junior Spring Break College Visits, Nashville TN
- **April 17** Rebuilding Together (new student community service)
- **April 25** Father Ted's Fun Run/Walk for Upward Bound
- **May 6** End of Year Junior college prep workshop
- **May 18** Senior Celebration Dinner
- **June 7** Summer Program 2010 begins
- **June 21** Bridge Program & Internship begins (graduating seniors)
- **July 11** Summer Program ends

By **Melissa Richmond**

The Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) is a group of parents who gather together to support Upward Bound students and their college goals.

Great things can happen when parents, students, schools and Upward Bound work together. The committee has met three times with fantastic results. Upward Bound parents and students are already working towards the first goal: to fundraise for a cultural study tour for Upward Bound students in the spring of 2011.

Our meetings are always on Thursdays, once a month starting at 7 p.m. in the basement Upward Bound event room. (See below for dates)

If you can't be present at all the meetings but would like to get involved, call me at 631-6835 or email mrichmo1@nd.edu and I will add you on the PAC email list. The committee's next step is to create a budget and estimated number of students for the trip, and only those students and parents who have shown commitment to this process will be involved in the trip.

Want more information? Come talk to some of the PAC parents at the committee's booth, which will be set up during the college fair portion of the Student Parent Leadership Conference on February 27th.



Important PAC Dates

- 2/27: PAC Booth at the Student Parent Leadership Conference
- 3/18: PAC monthly meeting (All meetings @ 7 p.m., UB event room)
- 4/29: PAC monthly meeting
- 5/8: Nelson's Port A Pit fundraiser for Puerto Rico
- 5/27: PAC monthly meeting



Farewell Letter from Miss Tiara

Tiara Corkins-Belcher

When I reflect on my experience with this program, my mind wanders in many different directions. My first Upward Bound experience was as an Upward Bound

Scholar. When I applied for the program, my friends and I were so excited and we all applied together. We waited to hear something and when we did, we found out that we were on the waiting list. I was a little disappointed, but we all encouraged each other and decided to plan out our summers.

At the end of the school year, we received letters that we were accepted and to come out for the summer program. I don't know what happened, but I'm glad it did.

Upward Bound did so many great and wonderful things for my life. I met some amazing people who will be lifetime friends. I had the opportunity to go to places where I would never have been able to go on my own. Alyssia wanted us to experience so many things, and we did. My favorite trip was when we went to New York. Between catching the subway, walking around New York City, and meeting Cedric the entertainer, I don't know which is my favorite memory.

Rafael and Alyssia were outstanding mentors. Rafael always offered a humorous side to everything. I could joke around with him and get him to laugh, I still do. But when I needed advice, he was able to offer that as well.

Alyssia became more to me than a mentor. She is someone I grew to respect and love. She offers not only sound advice but I know she truly cares about what she does and the students. I know that my relationship with her will only continue to thrive.

After high school, I decided to become a RA for the summer residential component. I liked it so much, I did it three summers in a row. The past three summers have been such a great experience for me. I connected so well with the students and I was able to teach them things, whether it was school work or things you don't learn from a book. They also taught me things.

Tiara is an Upward Bound alumnus and past employee. She recently graduated from Bethel College with a degree in elementary education, and she moved to Fort Wayne in January.

I learned how to listen and how important it is for these students to have someone who genuinely cares for them. I tried to offer them support and my own experiences to encourage them while they went through the program.

Every time I thought it would be my last summer, something drew me back (Mainly Jazz, who convinced me to come finish her last summer with her).

I also got the opportunity to get to know Ms. Deb and Melissa. Ms. Deb is like the wonder woman of the office. I'm glad I had the opportunity to work underneath her.

And Melissa offered a different side of things. It's also nice to have a mentor be someone who is closer to your age. Thank you for your advice and help with my resume. (Students, you have a gem in Melissa. She is very organized and it is nice to have her there helping in any way she can to help you get into college, don't forget that.)

Lastly, to the students: I do not only feel like you were students I mentored and tutored. You became little brothers and sisters. Many of you I talk to often, and I am so thankful you let me into your lives. It is one thing to deal with me, but you let me break through the

exterior many young people tend to put up. You made my job not feel like a job, but something I was excited to do. I had a blast! Upward Bound has some amazing students. You always knew how to make me laugh and humored us when some of the things we did weren't all that fun. My advice is to enjoy your time in Upward Bound and high school, time will go by faster than you think. Also remember that

Alyssia, Rafael, Melissa, and Deb are here because they care, so use them as resources.

I hope I have made as much of an impact on your lives as you have mine. I am forever blessed to know all of you. I hope you all do well, and thank you for the opportunity to be involved with such a wonderful program and wonderful people.

Love Always,
Tiara Belcher



Did You Know?

Some Facts About Notre Dame Upward Bound

- 100% of NDUB scholars graduate from high school.
- 90% of NDUB scholars enroll in a college or university.
- There are 950 Upward Bound programs across the nation, and NDUB is one of the oldest, on campus since the 1960s.
- We spend a minimum of \$5,000 on each individual scholar annually.
- More than 50 NDUB scholars live on the Notre Dame campus every summer, taking classes for high school and college credit.

By Rafael Marin

What is MOODY'S?

MOODY'S is an acronym that stands for

Mastering **O**ccupational **O**pportunity **D**evelopment for **Y**outh's **S**uccess, but it is also an academic component during our summer program. It is based on the principles of Project-Based learning. MOODY'S will give a group of students a taste of reality in the professional world.

In 2004, our program received a grant from the Moody's Foundation to establish a mathematics project-based learning component in our summer academic program. This grant made possible the creation of MOODY'S, which would introduce participants to new methods of analyzing real world problems through the use of math, accounting, business writing, research, multimedia technology and business principles.

Participants have had the opportunity to take on a project where they have to go through the process of starting up a new business, and although the project is not actually implemented, our students learn about what it would be like if we were to implement it. Students conduct research and decide on the location, personnel, finances, and all the necessary aspects to run the business successfully. One of the great experiences our participants have is that they have to take on different leadership roles and learn to work individually and collectively. The projects our students have accomplished since 2004 are: International Style Restaurant in the Michiana Area, Upward Bound Promotional Video, New Credit Union, Professional Basketball team in the Michiana Area, Student Run Newspaper, and a Theme Park in Downtown South Bend. For 2010 our focus will be a little bit different because we will do more with Financial Literacy. Our 2010 team will be selected soon.



**Do you like books,
coffee, and
conversation?**

Introducing the first ever Upward Bound young adult book club, **"Inked In."**

Join us at the first meeting, 7 p.m. Thursday March 4, 2010, at the Hammes Notre Dame Bookstore. This meeting will be informational, but we are looking for a small group of students who are committed to the group for the semester.

Call Mrs. Melissa Richmond with

The purpose of the Upward Bound Program is to serve and be an advocate for first generation and low-income students from the South Bend Community School Corporation, to help them successfully graduate from high school and enroll in a post-secondary institution. Our mission is in relation to the University of Notre Dame mission, which prides it self on developing a disciplined sensibility to the poverty, injustice and oppression that burdens the lives of so many.

New Scholars:
Join the Upward Bound Myspace profile at
www.myspace.com/senioradvisor
for weekly college admissions tips, a blog and our
calendar!

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