



Academic Achievement Programs NEWSLETTER

September 3, 2024

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A Message from the Interim Director of AAP:

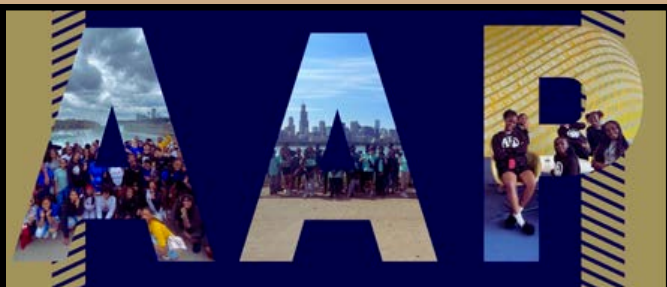
Dear Friends of Academic Achievement Programs at The University of Akron,

The Department just finished an amazing Summer program. All four programs provided enlightening activities for our student scholars post the COVID 19 pandemic. Upon reflection, shifting from the summer program to the academic year, we have made some exceptional accomplishments. We have collectively elevated the department to a new and stronger stage. We are continually offering our students challenging opportunities to succeed academically,

increasing the number of campus and community partnerships, continually improving our social media presence, improving our newsletter content while strengthen and solidifying our bonds as a staff.

Our commitment to build our staff is also bearing fruit. We have added a new academic advisor for Upward Bound Classic, Myija Brown; Morgan Rieke as Secretary for Upward Bound Classic and we will continue to strengthen and build our team as new positions are slated to be filled during the upcoming fall season.

Additionally, to support our team's commitment to excellence, we have completed position manuals for all new AAP employees; provided to each new hire to offer



institutional, departmental and position specifics that would allow each the opportunity to have a ready list of resources immediately available. We will continue to work to fill available openings in line with AAP's organizational chart. It is my goal to build a team designed to serve our scholars, and offer them opportunities that will enhance their scope of possibilities designed to move them towards reaching the goals they have set for themselves.

As we move forward, we will continue to support each other and confront any and all challenges presented to us. It is my desire to use available resources to positively impact the lives of all of our program scholars.

Thank you for your continued committed support.

Warm regards,

Dr. Fannie L. Brown
Interim Director
Academic Achievement Programs



Stay Up to Date

Here are the official University of Akron, Academic Achievement Programs social media pages to follow in order to find out about upcoming events, Student Spotlights, and more:



@deptaapuakron
Scan the QR or click the
logo to take you to our
page



The Department of Academic
Achievement Programs, The
University of Akron
Scan the QR or click the logo
to take you to our page

Other relevant sites:



@ubcuakron
Upward Bound Classic

@uakron.oie
The Office of Inclusion and
Equity

@omd.uakron
The Office of Multicultural
Development



Official Website for
Academic
Achievement
Programs
<https://www.uakron.edu/aap/>

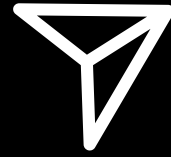
Student Spotlights



STEP Summer Program Award Ceremony

STEP concluded their last day of classes with an award ceremony, where students were recognized for their hard work and dedication throughout the summer program through a variety of awards.

A special mention to students Andrew Lor, Teah Stephenson, Jania Knaff, Evan Hetrick, Cesar Pinones-Montano, Frederick Turner, Bijita Yangpang, Masa Jankovic, Za'neyce Sanders, and Simon Chuwan, who were each given the title "Student Ambassador" for the upcoming year.



Congratulations to D'Maris Williams, winner of the 2024 Green Family Scholarship! D'Maris is an incoming freshman and participated in STEP and Upward Bound.

"Everyone can be great, because everyone can serve."

-Dr. Martin Luther King Jr

Student Scholar Spotlights are posted weekly on the Academic Achievement Program's Instagram page during the academic year. With new spotlights coming soon, make sure to follow to stay up to date on our students' accomplishments!

Attention school counselors, teachers, and staff: Click here to make your own nomination for Instagram's Student Spotlight!



A Message from STEP's Interim Program Director

Mary Williams



Welcome back!

STEP hopes you had an enjoyable Summer. The 6-week Summer Program provided numerous opportunities for middle school program participants to engage in learning and fun activities. Field trips included local visits to the Perkins Stone Mansion and John Brown House, Akron Art Museum and a tour of the Bridgestone USA facility. The final day of the program was spent at the Columbus Zoo & Waterpark. It was a special day packed with lasting memories.

Thank you to those who helped to make the Summer Program one of the best ever -- Mr. Terry Robinson and Bridgestone USA, the University of Akron's Office of Inclusion & Equity, Dr. Sheldon Wrice, Vice-President, and the Academic Achievement Program, Dr. Fannie Brown, Interim Director. Special appreciation to our hardworking staff: Regina Duhart, Reeya Gajmer, Pa Lor, Sensei Lee Harris, Lily Hunger and Dr. Joseph Boateng.

Recognition awards were presented at the closing program. For the first time, STEP Ambassadors were selected based on

their academic performance, leadership skills, conduct and attitude. These students will serve as student leaders and role models to present and future program participants. We are proud to congratulate the following Ambassadors for this school year (see Student Spotlight for more).

Additionally, STEP's undergraduates continue to shine as they pursue their college degrees. Congratulations to our Spring 24 graduates: Cara Mia Bentley, Alyssa St. John, Jaden Vaughn, and Josslyn Xiong.

We are planning another exciting semester and school year. Several educational and entertainment events are planned for the fall term for all STEP Fellows. Looking forward to full participation! Remember the poem, "Hold Fast To Dreams," by Langston Hughes as you continue to aspire to excellence in all areas of your educational journey.

Mary Williams,
Interim STEP Program Director

A landscape photograph showing a field of tall, golden-brown grasses in the foreground, with rolling hills and mountains in the background under a clear sky.

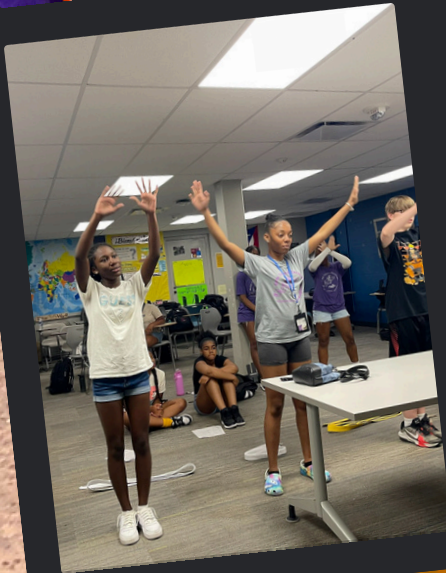
Hold fast to dreams,
for if dreams die, life
is a broken-winged
bird that cannot fly.

Langston Hughes

STRIVE TOWARD EXCELLENCE PROGRAM (STEP) ANNOUNCEMENTS



- STEP middle schoolers will have a mandatory orientation for the 2024-2025 academic year on Tuesday, September 17th at 5:30 PM in the College of Business Administration.
- The Fall workshops and topics have been tentatively scheduled. Please mark your calendars for the following:
 - Saturday, October 5th - “The Dangers and Advantages of Social Media”
 - Saturday, November 9th - “Conflict Resolution”



More updates coming soon!



A Message from Educational Talent Search's Assistant Program Director

****Welcome Back, ETS Students!****

We're thrilled to welcome you back for another exciting year with the Educational Talent Search (ETS) program! As we embark on this new academic journey, we're eager to support your goals, spark your curiosity, and help you reach new heights.

This past summer was nothing short of amazing. We had the privilege of serving 175 students from 6th to 12th grade, each of whom made the most of the opportunities

TRiO

EDUCATIONAL TALENT SEARCH



If you know a student that wants to join our program, please contact one of our advisors to receive some information on how to start the application process.

provided. Middle school students had a blast exploring COSI, Imagination Station, and the Columbus Zoo—each trip filled with fun and learning.

Our high school students ventured further, with 58 of you exploring the vibrant city of Washington D.C. You visited remarkable sites like the Museum of Illusions, the National Museum of African American History, and even had the chance to tour Howard University. These experiences were not just about seeing new places but about broadening your perspectives and inspiring your future ambitions.

As we look ahead, we're excited to continue this journey with you. Here's to another year of growth, discovery, and success!

All the Best,
Dr. Jones

ETS Summer 2024



UPWARD BOUND CLASSIC ANNOUNCEMENTS

A Message from the Lead Academic Advisor,



Hello,

Happy fall AAP from the wonderful UBC team! Our summer program was an absolute blast! Over the course of six weeks, we had the pleasure of spending time with 35 amazing kids who truly made the experience unforgettable.

We packed the schedule with exciting and educational outings. The kids explored college campuses, getting a taste of what higher education could be like. They had a blast at COSI, diving into hands-on science activities, and they spent a day at the zoo, learning about wildlife and conservation.

Beyond the educational and fun outings, the best part was seeing the kids form lifelong friendships. It was heartwarming to watch them bond over shared experiences, games, and projects. We're thrilled that this summer program wasn't just about learning and exploration, but also about making memories and friendships that will last a lifetime.

Let's get this new year started AAP!

With kindness,

Lead Academic Advisor
Upward Bound Classic

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- Summer stipends are available to anyone who participated this summer and completed the whole program. Please come by our offices and pick yours up.
- Be on the lookout for weekly emails that will include information for the upcoming school year such as fall orientation and monthly workshops at your schools!



*Upward
Bound Classic
Summer 2024
Highlights*

A Message from Upward Bound Math Science Interim Assistant Program Director



Hannah Boulware

As the summer heat begins to fade and we prepare to kick off a new school year, I can't help but think about the familiar yet exciting journey of getting ready for school. Whether it's the memory of battling for that iconic Crayola 64-pack with the built-in sharpener (a battle I still remember losing!) or simply the challenge of settling back into a school routine, this time of year is always a mix of nostalgia and anticipation.

I'd also like to take a moment to reflect on the fantastic summer program we just wrapped up. It was wonderful to see so many of our students engage in enriching activities, make new friends, and learn in a fun, relaxed environment. The success of the program has us all energized and ready for the new school year ahead!

As we transition from summer to the classroom, I'm looking forward to seeing everyone back, ready to take on new challenges and make more great memories. Let's embrace the upcoming school year with the same enthusiasm and energy that made our summer program so special.

Here's to a great start to the school year!

Love and Rockets,
Hannah Boulware, CRC
Interim Assistant Program Director for Upward Bound
Math Science

Contact Upward Bound Math Science

Hannah

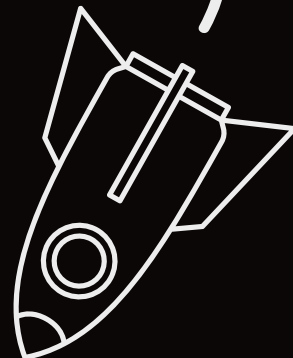
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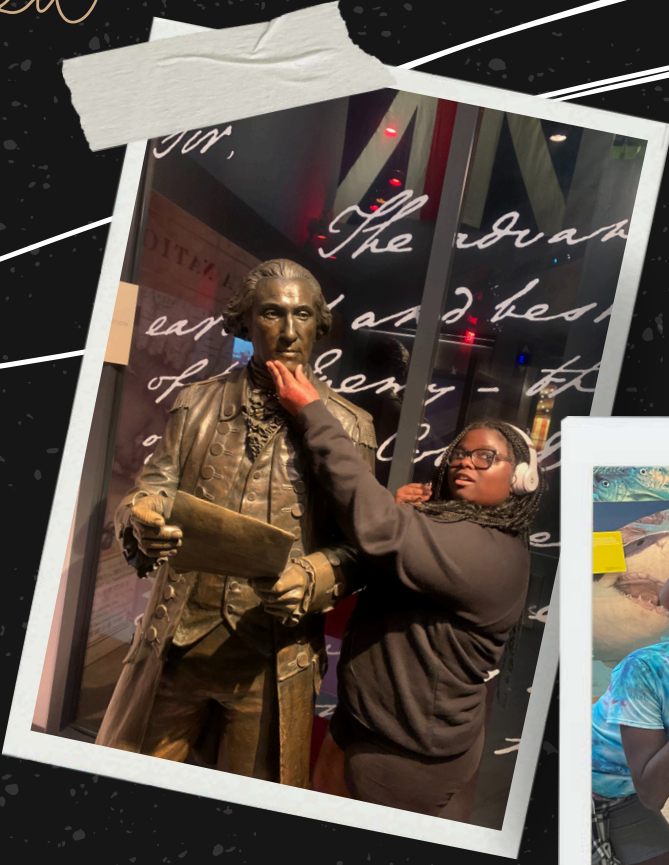
Work: (330)-972-
6562

If you know a student who wants to join our program, please reach out to receive some information on how to start the application process.



TRIO

Upward Bound Math Science



Making Memories
that last a lifetime



Summer 2024

New Staff Spotlight



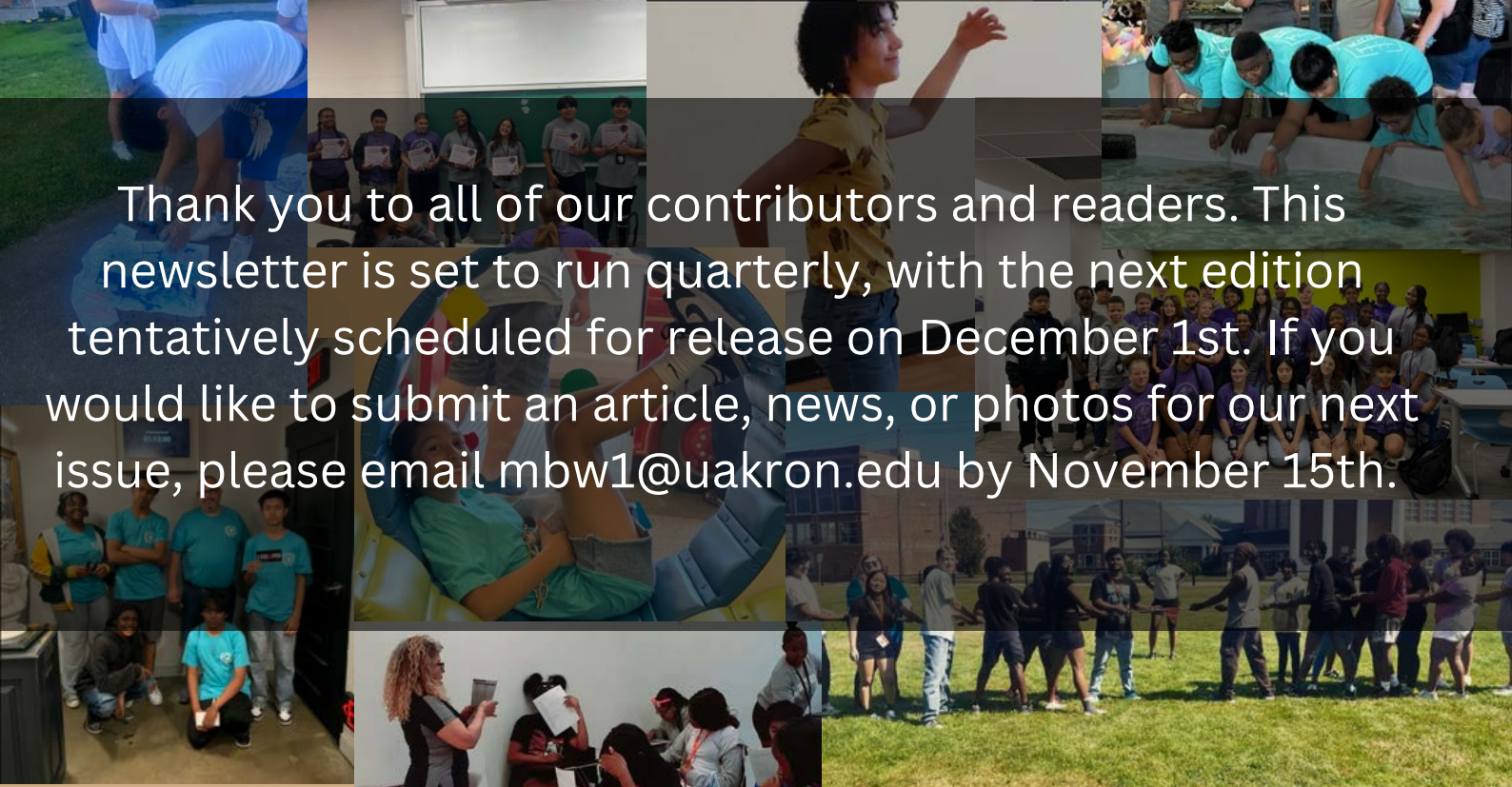
Abby Stone is the new Administrative Secretary for Upward Bound Math Science/ Before working for Upward Bound, Abby worked for Future Technologies Inc, a naval contractor, in various administrative positions. She does not have a college degree but hopes to work towards her bachelors in the coming years. Abby enjoys drawing, painting, cuddling with her cats and hanging out with her friends at church.

Myija (My-Jah) Brown is the newest Academic Advisor for Upward Bound Classic.

Her favorite color is blue and if you pay close attention, she will ALWAYS have something blue on. She loves music and will usually have some type of music playing in her office. She is a HUGE “The Sims” fan and KNOWS all “The Sims” lore. She has her bachelor’s in Educational Studies along with two other Associates (Arts and Radio and Television Production). She recently got accepted into The University of Akron’s graduate program, Educational Administration and Leadership for Spring 2025!



Morgan Rieke is Upward Bound’s new Administrative Secretary. Morgan is a graduate of the University of Akron, with a bachelor’s degree in Education. Before working with Upward Bound, she taught third grade with Akron Public Schools. Morgan enjoys reading, travelling, and spending time with her family.



Thank you to all of our contributors and readers. This newsletter is set to run quarterly, with the next edition tentatively scheduled for release on December 1st. If you would like to submit an article, news, or photos for our next issue, please email mbw1@uakron.edu by November 15th.

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Mary Williams, STEP Interim Program
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