What a great year! **Thirteen** Upward Bound Seniors will graduate next month and move on to college! **Thirty One** Upward Bound students will attend Summer Academy which begins on June 1st. This past month, we attended, and enjoyed

- The theater production of Tartuffe, a humorous comedy of bourgeois values and religious hypocrisy.
- We attended the MSU convocation lecture and motivational presentation of baseball legend Cal Ripken, Jr.
- Our students participated in the Missouri State TRIO game night at Level One Game Center for an evening of games, bowling, camaraderie and great food!
- We also participated in a presentation by the MSU College of Agriculture regarding the George Washington Carver Agricultural Camp and learned to make peanut water!
- Additionally, we learned about Study Abroad opportunities in college and how to make this a reality for their future.
- We also discussed financial aid in college and how to research colleges online.

**AND,** as always, our students continued intensive ACT preparation activities and study

**Whew!**

I am greatly impressed with all **52** of our college bound students. As we wind down the school year and gear up for Summer Academy, I am left regenerated and motivated by the enthusiasm and spirit of our students and their families. Our goal is to help you achieve your dream of going to college. You are **ALL** on your way! Way to go! ~ Mrs. Killian
TaJuan Wilson

1. Your life is your canvas. You are the artist. This is the true meaning of creativity. It’s that simple. It sounds frou-frou, I know. But the deepest point of all creativity is what you choose to create in your life. In other words, no one can make your life better than you can. No one can make choices for you. No one can know your heart like you do. Being the painter of your canvas means that you have the power to change directions, change your mind, drop a class, change a major, and even change schools. It means that your authenticity matters. It means that your preferences are more than just “whims,” as adults will often suggest. It means that you have to learn to trust your ability to create this life of yours. Not many people have learned how to live like this. They don’t trust their own inside. This is why they have to rely on all that externally focused advice. And why they, consequently, spend the bulk of their lives shouting at the screen. 2 – 25 is not old

When I was in college, I thought that twenty-five-years-old was ancient. In my world view, you hit 25, you got married, you had all the answers (which is, after all, why you chose to have kids), and then life would pretty much plateau. Many college students – like me at the time – believe there’s a THERE they’re reaching for. They believe in that illusion of a plateau. Even though it’s funny to remember when you thought 25 was old – the deeper point is this: There is no old. There is no plateau. And there is no THERE. Every time you reach one THERE, there’s another THERE that stems from your current THERE. You’re always in movement. You’re always beginning.

3 – Be. Do. Have. (In that order.)

Most of us learned this backwards. Most of us learned it like this: Do [big successful thing]. Have [big successful stuff]. So that you can BE [cool inward state.] Contrary to most advice – that whole equation needs to start with BE. This is where many parents get scared about trusting their children’s choices.

4 – Anything worth doing is worth doing badly

Trying new things, and doing them imperfectly is the best teacher. Raising your hand in class and getting it wrong is better than sitting there and never trying. My belief is this: (Plug your eyes if you don’t like bad words.) Sucking is highly under-rated. Sucking should be celebrated. Sucking teaches you that sucking is not the problem. Not trying at all is the problem. Trying to be cool is the problem. Learn to be comfortable being uncomfortable.” Don’t die before you die. Too many people decide to do that.

5 – As of the first day of your freshman year, your job description is no longer, “To please my parents.”

In other words...everyone will be better off if you get over your need for approval. In some ways, college is the very beginning of adulthood. Absent any other rituals in our society – this seems to be the closest thing we’ve got. Beginning adulthood requires learning to create your own path in the world. When you do this, it is often inevitable that you will meet with some disapproval from the Rental Units. (That’s what we called our parents when I was in school.) Now, I know there are parents out there who support their kid’s goals dreams and delights no matter what. Hurray and happy dance for those parents and their offspring! This is for the students who are – even unconsciously – terrified of the judgment of their parents, their family, and other adults in their lives. (Or, if you’re like I WAS — of EVERYONE. Period.) To follow your own path often means that you’ll receive disapproval from many adults in your life. I can’t stress this enough. The biggest mistake I see people make is waiting for approval for their choices. And then blaming their inaction on the fact that they didn’t get the approval they needed. Maybe it’s your parents. Maybe it’s other “adult” figures in your life. Maybe it’s your girlfriend or your fraternity brothers or sorority sisters. When you learn how to make choices for yourself in spite of disapproval – you become a leader. Even if you “fail,” you still have the choice of whether or not to call it failure or “a learning experience.”

Message from our Director

Upcoming Activities

UB CELEBRATION/POOL PARTY      SUMMER ACADEMY       2015 GRADUATIONS:
May 2nd         D4C               June 1–July 2nd

SENIOR SIX FLAGS TRIP
May 18th

Hillcrest - May 7th 7pm
Parkview - May 7th 9pm
Central - May 8th 5:30 pm
Maram Samaha
Maram is the current Parkview High School Student Body President. She is also the President of TRIO Upward Bound’s Peer Advisory Council and has served as Secretary and Vice President in the past. Other activities include Parkview Theatre Director and Parkview High School Softball Team in 2011. She is involved with Mu Alpha Theta Math Club, Leadership Springfield Academy Class 24, World Language Club, College Ambassador. She has served as a Student Council representative, the Captain for the freshman/sophomore tournament Academic Bowl, Junior Class Representative for Student Council and on the Student Advisory Team for Theatre.

Her awards and honors include Certificate of Academic Achievement placement on Principal Honor Roll 2012 to 2015. National Honor Society-Certificate of Membership, where she was the Secretary in 2014. She received the TRIO Upward Bound Summer Academy Director’s Award and was selected in Springfield to participate in Leadership Springfield Academy for the 2013-2014 year. Maram also received Advanced Rating on the Spring 2013 Biology EOC for the Missouri End of Course Assessment Award. Maram has very high academic goals, which have resulted in awards that include: a Certificate of Achievement from TRIO Upward Bound’s Summer Academy and a Parkview High School Scholarship Award for Maintaining a GPA of 3.75 or higher for five consecutive semesters in 2014 and three semesters 2013.

Maram is also very involved in her community. She has volunteered at Lincoln Memorial Cemetery on Memorial Day, at Ozarks Food Harvest, Haley’s Hope, Hot N’ Hilly and placed American flags on Veterans’ graves. Other volunteer activities include: Rare Breed, Pregnancy Care Center, Convoy of Hope and collection of donations for the homeless and those in need. She has also helped with blood drives at school and at Community Blood Center of the Ozarks, additionally she has volunteered with Parkview Theatre to help set up and cheer/work at a 5k charity race to raise awareness and fundraise for ALS disease. In the past, she interned at Missouri State University’s Tent Theatre and at the Multicultural Resource Center.

Destiny Lindquist
At Central High School, she is very involved in technical theatre and she currently works at Gordmans Department Store. She enjoys collecting records, making playlists, playing video games, cooking, writing and photography. Destiny plans to attend the University of Puget Sound for International Business so that she can later participate in Peace Corps and later work for a nonprofit organization.

She received a $20,000 presidential scholarship from University of Puget Sound. Upward Bound means everything to her; the program not only helped her to decide what she wants to pursue in life but also helped her to find the right college and stick to her gut when choosing her path.

Her biggest motivation has been seeing her family endure financial hardship all their lives, and wanting to break out of the cycle and make her own life. Her mother is her role model, as she has always been there to support her when she faced challenges. Her mother has always been a positive factor in her life and has always pushed her to achieve greater things. The most memorable senior year moment for Destiny, was when she was accepted to the University of Puget Sound, because it has been her dream school since she found out about the University during her junior year.
April 23, 2015: HHS After School Meeting
April 25, 2015: Destined for College Meeting
May 2, 2015: Destined for College Meeting
May 4, 2015: PHS After School Meeting
May 6, 2015: CHS After School Meeting
May 7, 2015: HHS After School Meeting
May 18, 2015: PHS After School Meeting
May 20, 2015: CHS After School Meeting
May 21, 2015: HHS After School Meeting

Birthdays

April 3rd - Karl Laursen
April 16th - Desiree Johnson
April 22nd - LaVaughn Lewis
April 30th - Maram Samaha
May 7th - Trinity Jones
May 12th - Kirstin Hildebrand
May 14th - Miranda Livingston