

S.T.E.P Bulletin

UB Parent Newsletter

Bluegrass Community and Technical College Upward Bound Program

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Success Takes Every Person

Character Counts!

Welcome to a new school year filled with new opportunities. My name is Jessica Creech and I am the new Student Development Specialist for Upward Bound. First you should know that I am really looking forward to working with you and our UB students. I began working with Upward Bound in graduate school in 2004. However, this is my first full-time position with the program; which I began in June of this year. Also, I have earned a M.A.E. in Higher Education from Western Kentucky University and BA in Media Communication and Public Relations from Asbury University.

This year, Upward Bound students will be working on character development. We will be using Sean Covey's, *The 6 Most Important Decisions You'll Ever Make*, as a guide for our discussions. (Sean Covey also authored *The 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens* which we learned about last year.) His book explores school, friends, parents, dating and sex, addictions and self-worth. Our goal is to help students make positive decisions in each of these areas and build their over-all character on the way to becoming adults. We will also be learning about finances, careers, study skills and many other topics along the way.

Your support for students and the Upward Bound program will be vital throughout the year. For students to be at their very best, it is essential that we work together to help them through the obstacles they will face. To this end, I welcome hearing from you. Along with you, I am eager to see our students succeed.

UPWARD BOUND STAFF

Sharonda Steele, Director

Jessica Creech, Student Development Specialist

Erica Williams, Administrative Support

Parent Announcements:

WELCOME BACK!

- * **School Visits:** School visits are once a month. Messages will be posted to Facebook about upcoming visits.
- * **Summer Evaluation:** Please do not forget to complete and return the parent summer evaluation. Evaluations must be turned into the UB office for students to receive their stipend.
- * **Summer DVDs for Sale:** DVD copies of our summer talent show and awards banquet slide show are available for purchase through December. You may purchase one DVD for \$3 or both for \$5.
- * **ACT Fall & Winter Test Dates:**

| <u>Test Date</u> | <u>Registration Deadline</u> |
|-------------------|------------------------------|
| October 22, 2011 | September 16, 2011 |
| December 10, 2011 | November 4, 2011 |
| February 11, 2012 | January 13, 2012 |

(Students can register online at www.actstudent.org. Fee waivers are available in the UB Office.)

- * **Fall & Winter Return Trip Dates:**

September 17, 2011 October 15, 2011
November 19, 2011 December 17, 2011
No return trip in January. Check announcements for further details.

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CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to all of the UB students who participated in in the summer program and received awards. Good job!



FROM THE DIRECTOR...

Upward Bound is making an effort to build stronger relationship with students, schools and families because we all need to work together to be sure our students are successful. As you read this edition of the U.B. Parent Newsletter, I want to remind you that your student's success is truly a joint effort. It is dependent upon all of us fulfilling our important roles: students, parents, and Upward Bound working together.

Students must work hard and strive to achieve their goal of pursuing a college education. Upward Bound must provide the necessary high quality services and activities to help students succeed in high school and be prepared to enter college. Parents--your role is critical. You are called upon to provide encouragement and support to your child as well as reinforce the goals of Upward Bound.

In addition to supporting the mission of the program, we are also asking you to partner with us to help continue to provide the same level of services to students. In this era of budget cuts and rising costs, Upward Bound is also experiencing tough financial times. Due to limited funds we will be making a few changes to the way we serve students. We will be trimming some of our academic year services as well, particularly in the area of tutoring and stipends. Student must go to tutoring and submit their grades to our office regularly in order to receive a program stipend, please help us reinforce this. In addition, we will be seeking other supplemental funds and sponsoring several fundraisers throughout the year.

We need parents to support these efforts in any way that you can. We welcome suggestions.

2011-2012 UPWARD BOUND STUDENTS

BOYLE CO.

Adam Houghton, Dustyn Lane, Brianna Cornett

BRYAN STATION

Kayla McRae, Darionna Logan, Michael Larbi, Autumn King, Tanesha Hood, Daven Florence, Aliyah Beatty

DANVILLE

Demitri (Max) Ray, Iesha Bailey, Aaliyah Jones, Iesha Mays, Alea Bates

EAST JESSAMINE

Tashan Hairston, Devon Burnside, Loren Mason, Taylor Thomas, Brandon Williams

GEORGE ROGERS CLARK

Maranda Dawson, Brittany Ford, Patrick Ford

HARRISON COUNTY

Linda Robinson, Justin Purcell

HENRY CLAY

Alexis Bell, Cambria Collins, Cheyenne Mitchell, Marci Perkins, Ann-Marie Simpson, Sara Taylor, Autumn King, Dymond Body

LAFAYETTE

China Green, Angela Marshall, Jalen Sleet, Genaya Smith, Emanuel Tate, Siara Thompson



Upward Bound in St. Louis—Summer 2011

DUNBAR

Cailan Sandusky

TATES CREEK

Lucia Leszczynski

WEST JESSAMINE

Samesha Broadus, Sidney Gates, Isaiah Kang, Joseph Kang, Rico Walker, Evan Whitaker