

# Upward Bound News

November-December 2005

## MAEOPP Student Leadership Conference 2005

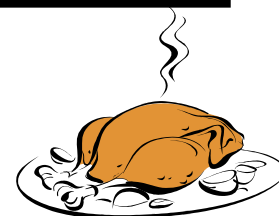
During the weekend of Friday, Nov. 4 — Sunday, Nov. 6, several students were selected to attend the Mid-American Association of Educational Opportunity Program Personnel (MAEOPP) Student Leadership Conference in Wisconsin. The conference was located at the Abbey Resort on Lake Geneva. Upward Bound students were selected based on academic achievement, positive attitude and citizenship. The students who attended were:



Randy Battle	Raven Battle
Felicia Parris	Kwamé Searcy
Kimirah Vincent	Natasha Williams

Conference participants were presented with information that they may not otherwise have received in their schools or their respective Upward Bound programs. Workshops focused on leadership, educational/career development and life skills. Also students had the opportunity to showcase musical talents in a forum called Trio Idol coordinated by Vincent Edwards. The art of public speaking was also celebrated with a oratory contest allowing the participants to engage in some friendly competition in a safe and supportive environment. The contestants prepared speeches from two to three minutes and the speech had to relate to the topic "bridging the legacy to the dream".

Natasha Williams, a senior from Washtenaw Technical Middle College, said, "The MAEOPP conference served as a huge benefit to me because the conference had various seminars that gave me more insight on my college career. I personally am grateful to have been able to attend and would highly recommend any student invited to these sort of events to take full advantage of it."



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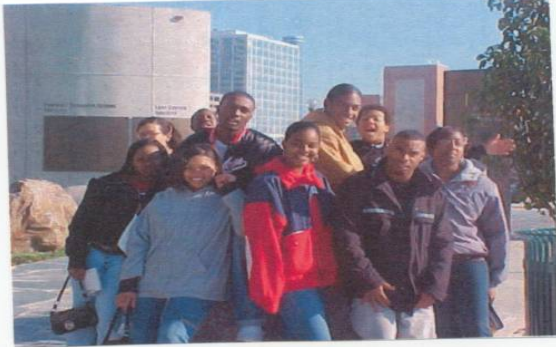
**Associate Director**  
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**Corey Baskin**

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# Outstanding Student Trip



## Cincinnati Has Much to Offer Written by Samira Finley

The Upward Bound participants arrived at Central State University (CSU), a historically black university (HBCU) with a student body of approximately 1,500 students. After our 90-minute campus tour we departed for our visit to the University of Cincinnati (UC) about an hour away. The UC campus was much different than Central State's campus due to the large student body composed of approximately 33,000 students. The UC is like a city inside of a city. We also visited the Ensemble Theatre of Cincinnati, which presented a theatrical production of *Permanent Collection* by Thomas Gibson and directed by Michael E Haney. In addition, we visited the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center (NURFC). The NURFC displayed numerous accounts of African American heritage. However, the highlight of Saturday was when we went to Kings Island FearFeast because there was a lot to do there. Among all the restaurants we visited, I enjoyed Primavista and Bubba Gumps the most. Bubba Gumps is derived from the movie, *Forrest Gump*. The meals mostly consisted of seafood. Primavista is an Italian restaurant that serves just about any type of Italian food that you can imagine. Overall the food was very appetizing. Cincinnati has a lot to offer. It has much more than I expected. My time spent in Cincinnati was great.

## Reflection on Outstanding Trip Written by John Phillips

I thought that the outstanding student trip was a lot of fun. We went to some colleges and we stayed in a very nice hotel. I think that my favorite part of the trip was walking around downtown Cincinnati. We were looking for stores but couldn't find any! Aside from the stores and time spent on the bus (which was fun too), I learned a lot from the two colleges we visited. We went to Central State University and the University of Cincinnati. Both Schools were very good in their own respect, but I was more comfortable at Central State, an HBCU. I was glad that I got a chance to visit these schools because I will be applying to both.

Ye can lead a man up to the university, but you can't  
make him think. — Finley Peter Dunne

### Great work, Upward Bound!

Congratulations to the students who made the Honor Roll for the first marking period.

#### 4.0

Kyra Caldwell  
Jesse Campbell  
Latisha Campbell  
Octavia Gibson  
Marlin Johnson

#### 3.9-3.5

Raven Battle  
Kia Cunegin  
Kayla Dailey  
Samira Finley  
Kendra Glover  
Kenyetta Lindsey  
Felicia Parris  
Deanna Roeske  
Kwame Searcy  
Sarah Smith  
Anthony Strickland  
Antonice Strickland  
Mikael Thomas  
Jeren Thompson  
Ashley White

#### 3.4-3.0

Nath-niel Bass  
Malcolm Bibins  
Brittney Braxton  
Jaleesa Chambers  
Dustin Curtis  
Jasmine Degraffinried-Clausell  
Danny Douglas  
Charrena JonesStewart  
Aaron Joplin  
Nilima Patel  
John Phillips  
**Alonzo Richardson\***  
Breanna Riley  
Christina Saylor  
Kendra Smeaton  
Taylor Stone  
Candice Stratton  
Ayanna Thomas  
Kimirah Vincent  
LaShawn Williams

\*indicates the student of the month

### In Memory of Rosa Parks



On Monday, Oct. 25, 2005, Mrs. Rosa Parks, the civil rights hero who ignited the civil rights movement of the early 1950s, passed away. Mrs. Parks died at her home during the evening of natural causes, with close friends by her side. Mrs. Parks' courage and strength should encourage generations to come. Speaking in 1992, Mrs. Parks said, history too often maintains "that my feet were hurting and I didn't know why I refused to stand up when they told me. But the real reason of my not standing up was I felt that I had a right to be treated as any other passenger. We had endured that kind of treatment for too long."

The Upward Bound program at EMU would like to honor the memory and achievements of Mrs. Parks. Her actions were directly responsible for the creation and implementation of programs like Upward Bound, that help students of all races, backgrounds and economic status have access to the same kinds of opportunities. Thank you Mrs. Parks for teaching us how to follow through with what we believe in and that one person really can make a difference. Mrs. Parks, you will always remain a part of our spirit and we will miss you greatly!

### Student of the Month Alonzo Richardson

Alonzo Richardson was chosen as Upward Bound's first Student of the Month because he has done a phenomenal job of raising his GPA. Like many other students, Alonzo began his Upward Bound career with a low GPA. When students enter Upward Bound with low GPAs, Ms. Andrews puts them on a contract. The contract is a pact that the student makes with Upward Bound agreeing to certain conditions designed to increase their academic standing. Alonzo was able to raise his cumulative GPA by .32 during the 2004-2005 school year and he has garnered an honor roll GPA of 3.4 for the current marking period. Great job, Alonzo!

And that's just what makes Alonzo a model Student of the Month. Alonzo takes college preparation seriously. He knows that going to college will require advanced and honors courses. Succeeding academically will help him succeed personally and professionally in the future.

Ms. Gonzales says she has been watching Alonzo very carefully and he has truly come a long way in a short period of time. "Alonzo is a very intelligent and strategic young man who is a little impulsive at times," she said. While she wants Alonzo to be careful about the "impulsive" part, she is ecstatic about his academic achievements. "What I want to celebrate about Alonzo, is the fact that Alonzo has overcome incredible odds. He is building on his strengths, he is seizing opportunities and he is succeeding!"

Ms. Richardson, Alonzo's mom, is very proud of her son. She says, "Alonzo has taken a lot of negatives and turned them into positives." This, she adds, "has helped Alonzo become an achiever." At parent teacher conferences, teachers talked well of him. He has traditionally struggled in classes like English, but this marking period Alonzo got an A. Other things that make his mom proud are that he is a wonderful athlete. He is a state wrestling champion and he's a varsity football player. Also, something that Ms. Richardson feels is important to note is that Alonzo has an "unstoppable will to succeed; he hates to fail!" Ms. Richardson has no doubt that her son will definitely succeed in receiving a college degree.

Congratulations to Alonzo Richardson, the Upward Bound Student of the Month!

#### **Congratulations to the 2005-2006 Student Advisory Board**

**President** — Britnee Brewer and Tradell Hawkins  
**Secretary** — Natasha Williams and Antonice Strickland  
**Historian** — Kyra Caldwell, Felicia Parris and Antonice Strickland  
**Treasurer** — Kia Cunegin and Anthony Strickland

#### **Cultural Enrichment Activities Committee:**

Kyra Caldwell, Latisha Campbell, Tradell Hawkins, Felicia Parris and Antonice Strickland

#### **Fundraising and Community Service Committee:**

Jazmyn Cheese, Kia Cunegin, Ayanna Thomas and Natasha Williams

#### **Academic and Personal Enrichment Committee:**

Britnee Brewer, Jesse Campbell and Anthony Strickland

**"Leaders aren't born they are made. And they are made just like anything else, through hard work."  
— Vince Lombardi**

### **Willow Run vs. Ypsilanti**



The school that has the largest increase in overall GPA by mid February will win a College Club pizza party!

### **Upward Bound's GPA Challenge**

Do you want to attend a

**Detroit Pistons** game?

Yea? There's only one **Catch**.

By February 2006, you must raise your average GPA by a least .2!

Example: 2.8 must raise to a 3.0





# Senior Section



- Feb. 13 Last date to turn in completed financial aid application (FAFSA)
- Feb. 28 Last date to return corrected FAFSA (if necessary)
- March 15 Narrow down college choice
- April 1 Submit enrollment documents

## Quote of the month!

“You must do the things you think you can not do.”

— Eleanor Roosevelt



### Happy Birthday!

Be sure to wish these students a happy birthday when you see them.

#### November

- 6 Christina Colbert
- 9 Randy Battle, Jr.
- 10 Kimirah Vincent
- 16 LaShawn Williams
- 26 Brittany Dumas
- 26 Mikael Thomas
- 27 Kia Cunegin
- 28 Isiah Paschal

#### December

- 3 Jesse Campbell
- 8 Christina Saylor
- 10 Tiarra Meads
- 15 Kendra Glover
- 21 Brittney Braxton
- 26 Lance Provost

## Important Dates



Please place the following dates on your calendar.

- 11/30 Group meeting, 6-8 p.m., Guild Hall in McKenny Union
- 12/2 Report cards due, Willow Run High School
- 12/7 No College Club, Ypsilanti High School
- 12/10 ACT prep, 9 a.m. to noon, 217 Rackham Hall (juniors only)
- 12/12 Report cards due, Ypsilanti High School
- 12/21 Group meeting, 6-8 p.m., Goddard Lounge
- 12/26-1/6 Holiday break
- 01/9 College Club resumes
- 01/25 Group meeting, 6-8 p.m., location TBA
- 02/3 Report cards due, Willow Run High School
- 02/13 Report cards due, Ypsilanti High School

### ACT National Test Date Reminder

<u>Deadline</u>	<u>Test Date</u>
Nov. 4, 2005	Dec. 10, 2005
Jan. 6, 2006	Feb. 11, 2006
March 3, 2006	April 8, 2006
May 5, 2006	<b>June 10, 2006</b>

Contact Mr. Baskin for more info!

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**Upward Bound Mission Statement**

**The Upward Bound program provides the academic support, college preparation, career exploration and personal growth necessary to help students excel academically, enroll in and graduate from college, set and accomplish their goals, and to realize their fullest potential as individuals.**

Upward Bound is a TRIO program funded by the U.S. Department of Education and sponsored by Eastern Michigan University.