



# Upward Bound News

SEPTEMBER - DECEMBER

## Summer Academy, 2009

### STAFF:

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The 43rd annual Upward Bound Summer Academy, hosted by Eastern Michigan University, marked the beginning of another successful program year. Upward Bound students lived and worked on the Campus of Eastern Michigan University and enjoyed a genuine campus experience. This year's theme, "Chivalry or Courtesy," explored the evolving changes in gender roles and was expressed across the students' curriculum.

Students engaged in multiple classes and academic workshops. Mathematics was headed, once again, by Mr. Mills who returned to the summer academy for the 7th consecutive year. Science labs benefited from the leadership of Mr. Lupinacci, while English language arts students participated in active writing workshops with Miss Hutchins. Students also enhanced their technology skills with Ms. Ambrose-Gun and increased Spanish speaking and writing with Ms. Carvajalino-Stelmok. For their efforts in each academic pursuit, students earned a letter grade and accumulated credits to put toward their high school transcript.

Each summer academy offers a variety of specialized training to Upward Bound scholars. This summer was particularly bountiful in offering ACT preparation classes under the auspices of Mr. Eckford, Career Exploration with Ms. Peoples, and continuing academic support with Upward Bound teaching and residency hall assistants Ashley Bartley, Troy Harris, Kristin Overbeck, Jamie Jackson, and Rodney Young.

In addition to academics, at the conclusion of classes, students had the opportunity to engage in a variety of activities including bowling, Tai Chi, swimming, roller skating, basketball, and miniature golf. Students also toured several in-state college campuses including the University of Michigan, Western Michigan University, and Central Michigan University.

Students with the appropriate merit score and who earned a "C" or better in their summer courses were invited to visit Denver, Colorado. After a brief flight, students plunged into several days of non-stop mountain adventure which included climbing the famous red rock structures at Garden of the Gods, spelunking at Cave of the Winds in Colorado Springs and white water rafting in Fort Collins, Colorado.



Garden of the Gods



Mystery dinner theatre



Suiting up for the rapids



UB white water rafting

## *Summer Academy 2009 Con't*

Topping everyone's list was the mystery dinner theater experience where students interacted with live actors in a refurbished funeral home turned theater. A mock marriage ceremony joined Upward Bound's Ciera Crout and a leading man in virtual matrimony while all participants got to guess, "who done it!"



Ciera Crout on stage

Out-of-state college visits included Colorado State University and University of Colorado at Denver. The whirl-wind tour of the "Mile High City" culminated in an excursion to the Black American West Museum where students discovered their western roots.



Black American West Museum

Summer Academy 2009 will long be a summer to remember!

## *Program Specialist Announced*



**Welcome to Upward Bound Ms. Hutchins**

Here ye, here ye! Ms. Julia Hutchins, formerly of Cottonwood, Arizona, joins the staff of Upward Bound as Program Specialist.

Ms. Hutchins, a veteran of EMU's Upward Bound Summer Academy, taught middle and high school Language Arts and supervised the Title One Native American program in Arizona before joining the Eastern Michigan University Upward Bound team.

A graduate of the University of Michigan, Ms. Hutchings received her Masters in the Art of teaching from Marygrove College, Detroit and currently pursues doctoral studies with the University of Northern Arizona. Ms. Hutchins looks forward to traveling with and serving the students and families of Upward Bound. Her doors are always open.

## *Dr. Ben Carson/Gifted Hands*



From left to right: Corey Robinson, Terrance Dowell, Dion Schoffner and Damarqio Williams

Saturday, October 4, 2009, Upward Bound traveled to Central Michigan University in Mt. Pleasant, Michigan for a rare opportunity to meet Dr. Ben Carson, renowned pediatric neurosurgeon, motivational speaker and author.

Born in Detroit, Dr. Carson overcame poverty and other challenges. By going to college and working hard, he was able to rise to the top of his profession. His personal philosophy of hard work and faith was well received by the large, mostly college-aged audience.

In addition to his famous separation of conjoined twins, donating time in Africa, and mentoring young people, Dr. Carson founded the Carson Foundation. Through his foundation he has granted over three hundred scholarships to students in need to help them in their quest for a college degree. Dr. Carson at the close of his presentation, charged the young members of his audience to “do something for someone else for seven days.”

## *Wiards Orchards*

This past October, the whole Upward Bound program visited the Wiards Family Orchard in Ypsilanti for some old fashioned fall time fun! While munching on apple doughnuts and sipping apple cider, students learned some apple trivia before heading out to the orchards to pick their own apples and pumpkins. Afterwards, students visited the petting farm, wended their way through the labyrinth and corn maze and they also enjoyed a tractor-pulled hayride with their peers. The evening was topped-off with a visit to the spine-chilling “Mineshaft”, a haunted excursion at Wiards.

Nadeen Habbas-Nimer said, “I really liked the haunted house because it was my first time ever going to one. I was in a group with Dion Schoffner and Kiara Esselman. I remember that Kiara was holding onto me, it was scary and dark and we all screamed and screamed. I also liked the apple trivia because I never paid attention to apples but I learned a lot about them that I never knew before.



Joe Haywood feeds the goats at Wiards

# Meet the UB Tutors



From left to right: Ms. Overbeck, Mr. Wilson, Ms. Kaur

**DAVID WILSON:** David was born and raised in Grand Rapids, Michigan in a family of six including two younger sisters, Ciboney and Jacki, and a stepbrother, David. He joined Upward Bound 's Grand Valley math and science program as a high school student and stayed with the program into college. Upward Bound, according to David, "continues to assist me with my struggles through college." He enjoys tutoring and passing on the knowledge he has received from Upward Bound.

**KAVERI RAJULA;** Kaveri comes to Upward Bound from India from a family of five international travelers. While Kaveri completes her Masters in molecular biology, her brother is finishing his Master's in Australia. In addition to tutoring with Upward Bound, Kaveri assists students at the Holman learning center on the Campus of Eastern Michigan University.

**KRISTIN OVERBECK:** Kristin is a Junior at Eastern Michigan University in marketing . This is her third year working with Upward Bound; in the office, as a summer academy peer advisor, and a College Club tutor. She, "enjoys working with students and knowing they're going to grow and learn over the years."

**AMARPREET KAUR:** Amarpreet was born in India. She comes to Eastern Michigan University as a graduate student in the interdisciplinary program. She plans on transferring to the Mathematics department to pursue an interest in statistics. Amarpreet enjoys working with Upward Bound students because, "its really a pleasure to help students succeed in their classes so that they may have a bright future."

## MAEOPP STUDENT LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE



Kiara Esselman, Carneysha McGee, Nadeen Habbas-Nimer, Marc Miles, Rebecca Spitler and Terrance Dowell

October 30th –November 1st, marked the attendance at the MAEOPP pre college conference by six selected students. This leadership conference offered Upward Bound students Terrance Dowell, Kiara Esselman, Nadeen Habbas-Nimer, Carneysha McGee, Marcellous Miles, and Rebecca Spitler the opportunity to participate in a vast number of workshops. Students appreciated the antics of keynote speaker Mr. Ryan Moran, hearkened to the inspirational parting comments of Ms. Leslie Love, and engaged in an array of “hands-on” activities.

Prior to attending this year’s conference, participants were invited to tour the campus of Albion College. Students enjoyed a customized tour which included the new science center as well as dorms and the expanded sports center. A fine liberal arts college, Albion college also offers coordinated enrollment with the science centers, a process which yields two bachelor degrees in five years. Notable were the fine laboratories, small class size, and superb academic support. Students interested in touring or staying overnight can contact Miss Hutchins for more information.

From Albion, students traveled to historic St Charles, Illinois, located in the Fox River Valley. Here they received valuable tips on college success and had the opportunity to meet with college admissions officers from twenty-five states. Additionally, students participated in workshops on leadership, financial aid, motivation, real world challenges, and team work. Terrance Dowell, a Senior with Upward Bound reflected on the conference, “there was a lot of good information here. I think I enjoyed the Hip-Hop session the best, though. It always feels good when you have something to bring to the table.”

The Conference concluded with a post Halloween Dance.



**EASTERN MICHIGAN**  
UNIVERSITY.

**Upward Bound**

**221 Rackham Building**  
**Ypsilanti, MI 48197**

**Important Dates**

**November**

- 2 THREE COLLEGE APPLICATIONS DUE /SRS!
- 3 No School/No College Club, Willow Run H.S.
- 6 Last Day to register for the ACT test without a late fee, Jrs.
- 8-12 No College Club, WR & YHS, UB in service
- 11 National Scholarship Service College Fair for Juniors/Seniors
- 13 Progress Reports due at office for November stipend
- 14 Financial Aid Orientation (Sr's and parents) 10-12 pm.
- 18 Group meeting, 6-8pm, 301 Porter (9th & 10th grades only)
- 25-26 No College Club, Thanksgiving Break

**December**

- 1-2 Tool Tyme WRHS & Ypsi HS
- 5 ACT Prep Workshop (juniors only), 9-12, 216 Rackham
- 12 ACT Test Day
- 14-15 Last Day of College Club
- 16 Group Meeting/Service Activity, 6-8pm, Location TBA

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## Upward Bound's Mission Statement

The Upward Bound program at Eastern Michigan University prepares students for academic excellence , global, citizenship and lifelong learning by providing academic support and tutoring, assisting with college and career plans and by exposing students to diverse cultural, recreational an artistic expressions of life.

Upward Bound will foster personal growth by encouraging students to be competent civic-minded leaders, to take pride in themselves and the world around them and to realize their fullest potential as individuals.

Upward Bound is a TRIO Program funded by the Department of Education.