



# UPWARD BOUND MATH & SCIENCE



Preparing students for the future

September — December 2015

Upward Bound Math and Science Newsletter

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### UPCOMING SPRING EVENTS:

- SIUE MLK Luncheon
- Cougar Store Grand Opening
- Robotics Workshop II
- Parent Workshop
- Black History Month Events



## FALL ORIENTATION

After a small semester break between our summer and academic year, UBMS classes resumed on October 10th. To kick off the academic year we had an orientation to introduce our students to what they should expect, as well as go over our Program's expectations.

Here at UBMS one of our primary missions is to get students college ready. This is achieved through many venues. Ms. Kevettria Townsend our local Illinois Student Assistance

## FIELD TRIPS

Classes, academics, and grades are a big part of what we focus on here at UBMS. When it comes time to compete for scholarships and college admission we want to make sure our students are prepared. That is why we believe the more well-rounded a student is, the more competitive they will be. This is why we are constantly looking for field trip opportunities that will help diversify and expose our students to innovative ideas while fostering new ways of thinking.

Our fall semester has been very busy in its short amount of time. In addition to Saturday Sessions, students also had the opportunity to join various field trips.

In October, nine students were selected to attend the American Association of Blacks in Energy event at the JJK Center in East. St. Louis where they heard from engineering professionals discussing current energy issues. Additionally, two of our male students, Morwin Coney and Aaron

commission Representative (ISAC), was present at our orientation and spoke with our students on how to take advantage of their high school years now in order to be ready for college later.

Students also got the opportunity to meet their teachers, get their class schedules, and receive a robotics demonstration that they would be using during their upcoming STEM workshops. Student's also took the LASSI Inventory test (Learning and Study Strategies Inventory). Which is a tool we use to help student's better understand their individual learning style and study habits. This tool is intended to help students identify their areas of strengths and weaknesses to maximize their academic successes.

A huge part of our orientation was designated to go over and review the Program's rules and policies on behavior, dress code and attendance/participation. As a reminder, UBMS Saturday Sessions are always held on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of each month. Students will always be notified of any changes. Attendance and participation is critical to remain in the program and goes towards stipend credit. This academic year students will be given classes in Math, Science, English and Computers which will correlate to the classes they are taking at their home-schools. Students are encouraged to bring in their work and books from their home-school.



*Students pose for a picture with Jackie Joyner-Kersey after the Black in Engineering Event.*

Thomas from Cahokia High School were selected to travel to Carbondale Illinois and participate in the 2015 Paul Simon Leadership Conference at SIU-Carbondale. In November, UBMS students were also invited to SIUE's Dental School in Alton, IL. Students spent the day on campus learning about dentistry and shadowing dental professionals.



# Dentist for the Day: SIUE's School of Dental Medicine



Over the past 12 years SIUE's School of Dental Medicine and Upward Bound Math & Science have partnered to bring students a wonderful experience immersed in the Dental Sciences. Since its inception, Dr. Poonam Jain at the Dental school has graciously hosted 100's of Math and Science Students.

Dentist for the Day is a day long



event that students spend at the Dental School's campus learning various topics including but not limited to: nutrition, oral health, how the mouth connects and affects other body systems such as the heart, brain and lungs, as well as study real patient's photos and hear from young dental professionals.

The day is designed to fully immerse students in all facets of what it takes to become a dental professional. Students heard from three current dental students discussing their individual paths and how they ended up in dental school. "Hearing student stories firsthand makes dental school more tangible for our high schoolers" states UBMS Director, Elke Harris-McIntosh. In addition to the three dental student speakers, Dr. Jain also coordinates additional dental students to come in during an extended lunch period to talk with our student's one on one. This time is very valuable to our students as it is designed to give them the opportunity to ask many questions that may help them better prepare for college.

The second component of Dentist for the Day includes hands on experience in the dental lab and a walk through of the dental clinic. UBMS Students with the assistance of dental students fabricate teeth molds in the dental lab. Students really enjoy this experience and get to take their molds home with them at the end of the day.



Cahokia students posing in front of the Alton Dental School's Science Building with Dr. Jain.

## Robotics Workshop

This year we have been excited to offer our students the opportunity to work in the field of robotics. As part of our STEM component, UBMS purchased Lego robotic kits that students will work on throughout the year.

On November 14th, our STEM Coordinator, Mrs. Candi Johnson, introduced the Lego Robotics EV3 Mindstorm Model to our students. Together in pairs students worked on building the base of their robots. Each student group started by naming their robots and will continue to personalize them as they continue to work on them through the Spring and Summer. Students will begin to code their robots starting in the Spring.



Pictured Left to Right: Kelsey Simmons, Cahokia High School and Tiana Hines, Madison High School work together building their Lego Robot.

## CELEBRATIONS AROUND THE WORLD

We wrapped up our last Saturday Session of the Fall term on December 12th. As part of our mission to fostering new ideas, we took the opportunity for students and staff to get to know a little more about each other. While we all live, work and go to school with each other we all come from diverse backgrounds. In the spirit of the holiday season we arranged the day learning the different ways we celebrate the holidays.

UBMS Students first heard from former UBMS English Instructor, Ms. Ololade Mustafa. Ololade shared with students how a Christian Christmas in Nigeria is celebrated. It was a neat experience because students and staff then took some time discussing similarities and differences of how Christmas is celebrated here in the United States and in Nigeria.

Next students heard from their Math Instructor, Mr. Santhosh, as he shared stories about celebrating Diwali, a Hindu festival in India. Students learned that it is known as the festival of lights and families will light several lanterns. The students also learned about Holi, another Hindu holiday that is celebrated by Mr. Brajesh in Nepal. The bright colors of Holi certainly captured the attention of the students. Mr. Bra-



*Students playing Dreidel at the Cultural Workshop.*

esh shared with students his experience of throwing colored powder in the streets and at each other in celebration of Holi.

The students spent the last part of their day listening to Program Counselor, Ms. Lara, share her experience celebrating Hanukah. Ms. Lara brought in a menorah and demonstrated the proper way to light and extinguish the candles. Students were also taught Hebrew greetings and had the chance to play dreidel. Dreidel is a traditional game played over the eight nights of Hanukah.

Exposure to different experiences helps diversify our students which helps them be more adaptable in different environments. We appreciate everyone who shared and took part in our cultural workshop!

## Meet our Staff

### **Upward Bound Math & Science Staff**

Elke Harris-McIntosh: Program Director

Lara Jennings: Program Counselor

Candi Johnson: STEM Coordinator

Rene Smith: Office Administrator

### **Fall Staff**

Jesse Andrews: Biology Instructor

Santhosh Bysani: Math Instructor

Brajesh Karna: Computer Instructor



*Cahokia Student Joshuwa Wright making teeth impressions in the Dental Lab at SIUE's School of Dental Medicine.*

# Director's Desk

As a reminder to our STUDENTS! We will begin collecting report cards and dispersing Fall stipend checks. How is the school year going? Remember, use this time now to get to where you want to be later.

FIND US ON FACEBOOK!

*Mrs. Elke Harris-McIntosh, Program Director*

## Open Recruitment

Know a friend who **LOVES Math & Science**, in the 9th grade who would be a good fit for UBMS?

Tell them to apply **NOW!**

We have just a few spots left!

Happy Birthday

**January:** Kelsey Simmons, Joshuwa Wright, Ti'Aja Fairlee & Ariana King

**February:** Jevon Clark, D'Arthur Singleton, Martiana Allen & Morwin Coney Jr.

**March:** Kayla Dawson & Mikalah Farmer

**April:** Radricka Olden & Jhakil Patterson

**May:** Nathaniel German, She'Miya Lambert & Aniyah Silas

## Important Upcoming Dates

**January 20th :** SIUE's MLK Luncheon

**February 13th:** Robotics Workshop  
Parent Workshop: "Fostering High School Success"

**February 27th:** Black History Month Recognition  
Griot Museum, St. Louis

**TBA:** Summer Orientation & CTBS Testing

**Spring 2016 Class Meeting Dates**  
Jan. 09 & 23rd, Feb. 13th & 27th, March 12th & 26th, April 9th & 23rd, May 14th

## Acknowledgments

We would like to say thanks to all the stakeholders, students, parents and mentors who have worked with us over the years. Thank you for your time, energy and contributions. We appreciate you!

### Special Thanks To:

**Dr. Jain** for another successful experience working with SIUE's School of Dental Medicine. We also thank you for the opportunity for our students to write on their experience and donating an electronic toothbrush to the best student essay. Additional thanks to Dental Students **Mikal Bell, Brett Bocian & Solomon Nair** for your contributions!

### Contact us

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