



# UPWARD BOUND MATH & SCIENCE



Preparing students for the future

January — May 2016

Upward Bound Math and Science Newsletter

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### UPCOMING SUMMER EVENTS:

- Orientation
- CTBS Testing
- Summer Session
- Summer Trip
- Code Red



Art piece from "365 Days with Dad" art series by visiting artist Cababi Bayoc

## MLK LUNCHEON



Our spring semester kicked off in early January to begin the second half of our academic year. Each year Upward Bound Math and Science students are invited to participate in Southern Illinois University Edwardsville's annual Martin Luther King Jr. Luncheon.

This year's luncheon was titled the "Voices Of The Unheard". Dr. Martin Luther King dedicated his life speaking for the unheard through his work as a leader in the United States

## FIELD TRIPS!

Spring Semester forged a variety of field trips and workshop opportunities for our students! UBMS looks for field trips and activities that will help broaden our students experiences and perspectives, as well as open up new opportunities.

In celebration and observance of Black History Month, UBMS Students headed to Edwardsville, Illinois to the AMC Theater where they watched "Race", The Jesse Owens Story. Through film, students can learn and remember the story of Jesse Owens, the Olympic athlete who paved the way, (of all places in Nazi Germany) breaking through barriers for the inclusion of Black American Athletes in the Olympics.

By April UBMS had one busy month ahead from field trips to the capital to visiting artists. On March 19th, a group of 12 students were selected to join a local chapter of Illinois YMCA Youth and Government on their 67th Assembly at the Illinois State Capital. A second group of 8 students also made this trip later with the Paul Simon Youth and Government Day on April 9th. Students toured the Capital building while learning about the different houses of leg-

islative movements during the 1950's and 1960's. Unfortunately, this year our Upward Bound Students were not able to attend the luncheon due to the inclement weather that cancelled schools across the area. While our students could not be present, Upward Bound Math and Science was proud to still be represented by Program Counselor Lara Jennings as she accepted SIUE's MLK Humanitarian Award for 2016.

Lara was nominated by Program Director Elke Harris-McIntosh to be considered for the prestigious award for her work in Palestinian human rights and various other community work. Lara was then selected by a committee to be the recipient of the Humanitarian Award. The entire UBMS family is proud of her contributions!



islation, the appellate courts and how to pass a bill.

We are also fortunate to be invited in other activities around the community. UBMS Students were invited to a speaker series with Artist Cababi Bayoc, as he spoke and demonstrated his "365 Days with Dad" art series. Our busy April ended with 23 UBMS Students attending the annual event, "Flawless". The event is focused on empowering young men and women through workshops, guest speakers, career panels and much more!



Pictured above: Sharlena Owens smiles in front of the capital building.

Pictured Left: UBMS Students sit on the stairs inside the Illinois State Capital Building as they await their tour.

# It's a Bird...It's a Plane... NO! It's...UBMS Robotics!

It has been a very exciting time for Upward Bound Math & Science and our STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) Component, lead by our very own STEM Coordinator, Mrs. Candi Johnson. This year UBMS Students have had two Robotic Workshops with our first introductory workshop in the fall and our second one that took place on February 13th. Mrs. Johnson has spent many prep hours learning to teach our students about block coding to build and bring to life our robots.

During this Spring Semester students gathered to continue building and programming their robots. Students

are using the latest model of Mindstrom EV3 Lego Robotic kits to learn computer science and technology. Students will continue their robotics curriculum into the summer as they begin programming their robots to complete challenges!

UBMS also enjoys giving back to the community and encouraging the next generation of young scientists and mathematicians! UBMS answered the call when SIUE's Headstart asked if we would be willing to visit their students and give a robotics demonstration. Mrs. McIntosh, Mrs. Johnson and Ms. Jennings prepared to visit two pre-school aged classrooms where they demonstrated how



*Pictured above: SIUE Headstart Students react to seeing UBMS Robot, Oliver, move and interact*

our robots work, what our students do with them and how scientist and people can use robots in everyday life. All of the students were called scientists for the day as they played a version of "Simon Says" as "Programmer Says" to illustrate to our young scientist how a robot can only do whatever the Programmer programs it to do. Students then moved into a robotic craft time as they constructed their own robots

out of "found" objects (aka trash) and similar materials scientists would use to make robots such as plastics and metals. Our young scientist also were exposed to lessons on the benefits for our environment when we reuse and recycle materials.

*Pictured Right: UBMS Students Martianna Allen and Jackie Bailey check out items to purchase during the Opening of the Cougar Store!*



## Cougar Store

This academic year was the first year UBMS began implementing our new Cougar Store. Our Cougar Store is designed as a PBIS (Positive Behavior Intervention and Support) method which is backed by evidence-based research and the Department of Education. In other words, UBMS believes in rewarding those students who go above and beyond their role as students to foster positive behavior and community.

Through this reward system students can earn "Cougar Bucks" when good conduct is observed by staff. Ms. Lara notes one of her favorite examples is when Freshmen UBMS Student, Damien James, took the time to pick up an eating area that other students had left less than tidy. "It is a great thing when students show concern for other people in their community even though they do not have to", says Ms. Lara. The Cougar Store is in place to reward such students. Students can then use their Cougar Bucks they earn to spend at the Cougar Store on fun and various items.

During the Fall Semester and throughout the academic year, students began earning their cougar bucks. The first Cougar Store opened in the Spring Semester. But, our planning started even earlier with collecting donations from different departments around campus. A special thanks goes to the Office of Student Affairs for their generous donations to our Cougar Store.



## Director's Desk

As we near the end of our first Academic year I want to congratulate our 2019 Cohort for their successful year with Upward Bound Math & Science. We continued with recruitment and welcomed 13 new UBMS Students before the year was out!

We will continue into the summer with a full curriculum across the subject areas and I know students will continue to make me proud. This summer we are adding a new nightly "Character Development" component. This has been added as a means to help students develop their critical thinking skills and mindfulness in how they interact with the world around them. Because, at Upward Bound we understand

that a well rounded student is a happy and successful student.

This spring UBMS Staff also took part in training that will allow us to work on our website that will bring about faster and more up to date information to our parents and students. For more program updates and reminders, I want to continue to encourage you to connect with us on Facebook and utilize our Text 101 messaging system to get the most up to date information.

Again, great year and we look forward to seeing all our students this summer to begin another great year for our rising Sophomores!- **Mrs. McIntosh, Director**

## COUNSELOR'S CORNER

A word from your Counselor: I have been very proud with our students and their progress this far with the Program. Students continue to have great attendance and high spirits! This has been one of the busiest years yet in my 3 years working with UBMS! Here at UBMS we strive to bring the most that we can to our Students, Families and Alumni!

Over the course of the Academic year students meet with me so we can go over academic goals, social development and much more. This year I administered to students the LASSI test which is a tool we use to assess student's individual studying habits and approaches towards school and learning.

But, it is not just our students learning this year. As part of our commitment to professional development, staff took part in the "Parents & Teachers as Allies" Program with NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness). This program helps better connect educators to understanding and working with and promoting the students' mental health.

Throughout the year we are also committed to being a resource to our parents and alumni. On February 13th we held our first Parent Counsel meeting. Parents attended a workshop prepared to help create a

successful high school experience and foster a partnership between parents and students. Parent Counsel meetings also provide a means to connect with other parents of high schoolers as a social support system.

In addition to our parents and students, we continually look for ways to stay connected and be a resource to our UBMS Alumni! Facebook has been a wonderful tool for this! We stayed connected to our Alumni as the 2015 Cohort went off on their first year of college and have been in connection with other past cohorts too!

We always strive to post current job, internship and scholarship opportunities on our page. And, for the first time ever, we have offered our very own new scholarship "Bridging Success First-Year Fund". This is a need based scholarship designed to assist UBMS Scholars in their first year with unex-

pected expenses such as book fees, housing or traveling costs. It is with my privilege to say this Spring Naeelah Chism, Darwin Harris and Paris Patterson were the three recipients of this Award. These students were selected based on their academic achievements and performance in their first year of college. Congratulations for your accomplishments!

And with this, it moves us along to our second Summer Component to begin in June! I am looking forward to another great summer!

Sincerely, your Counselor,  
~Lara Jennings

### Special Recognition

#### Perfect Attendance:

Martiana A., Morwin C., Shenaiya H., Tiana H., Darielle O., Aniyah S., and CryShundra W.

**M.V.P:** Morwin Coney



**Naeelah Chism;** Winner of UBMS's 2016 Bridging Success First-Year Scholarship Fund.

Naeelah is a freshmen attending McKendree University working towards her Bachelor of Arts in Political Science.



**Paris Patterson;** Winner of UBMS's 2016 Bridging Success First-Year Scholarship Fund.

Paris is a freshmen attending University Arkansas Pine Bluff working towards her Bachelor of Arts in English Education.



**Darwin Harris;** Winner of UBMS's 2016 Bridging Success First-Year Scholarship Fund.

Darwin is a freshmen attending Grand Valley State University working towards his Bachelor of Science in History and Political Science.

## 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

Joe Kline: Biology Instructor

Santhosh Bysani: Math Instructor

Brajesh Karna: Computer Instructor

Joy Johnson: English Instructor

# TRIO

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## REMINDERS

Final Report Cards are due!

Be ready with some colleges in mind for summer when we start to research our college choices!

Let us know of any known absences so it does not negatively affect you, your stipend or the summer trip!

Medications on Campus? You must tell us so we can help you properly and safely manage it!

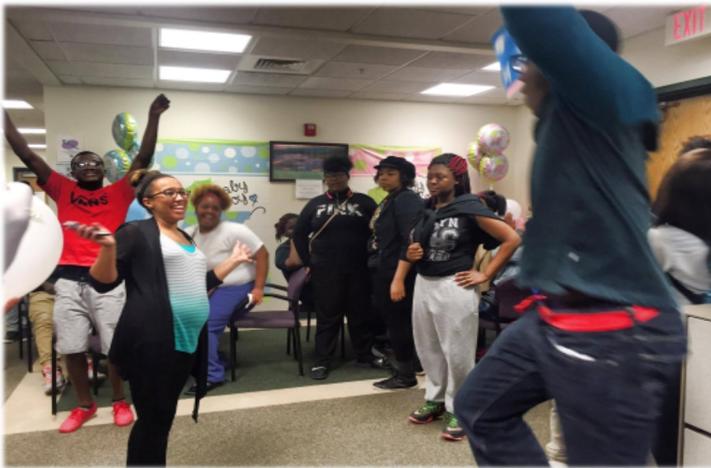
All Skyward Forms must be complete!

## Important Upcoming Dates

June 9th :	Summer Orientation
June 13th:	CTBS Testing
June 14th:	CTBS Testing
June 27th:	First day of Summer Session
June 30th:	Early Dismissal
July 1st:	No Summer Session
July 4th:	No Summer Session
July 29th:	Last day of Summer Session
August 1-4th:	End of Summer Trip
October 8th:	Saturday Sessions Begin

## Congratulations

It is with extreme happiness to congratulate our STEM Coordinator Mrs. Candi Jonson and husband Mr. Matt Johnson as they await their new arrival Neko Johnson in early September! Many congratulations from the whole Upward Bound Math & Science Family!!...Oh yes, IT'S A BOY!!



Pictured above: Five UBMS Cahokia Students landed in the top 10 of their freshmen class. (In no order) Congratulations to: Darielle Odom, Shenaiya Harris, She'Miya Lambert, Chelsea Brooks & Shayla Porter.

## 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

**Office of Student Affairs:** Thank you for your donations to our Cougar Store! Your generous donations help keep our mission going!

**YMCA and Paul Simon Youth and Government Groups:** Thank you for your contributions to our students and the unique exposure into the importance of Government.

## Contact us

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