



# UPWARD BOUND MATH & SCIENCE



Preparing students for the future

January — May 2015

Upward Bound Math and Science Newsletter

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## UPCOMING SPRING EVENTS:

- Graduation
- New Cohort Orientation
- Summer Academy

## Martin Luther King Luncheon

The New Year has brought Upward Bound Math and Science Students many opportunities and successes! On the 21st of January, six of our Upward Bound Students were invited to attend the Southern Illinois University Edwardsville's Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Luncheon event, held in the Meridian Ballroom of SIUE. This was the thirty-second annual MLK Luncheon hosted by SIUE in observance of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday.

The theme of this year's luncheon was "Letters of Purpose: Dr. King's Global Perspective". The Student's in attendance had the



Students Pictured with Dr. Eugene Redmond, Pictured Left to Right in Front Row: Chanda Wallace, Daria Atkins, Martell Cotton, Mikiyah Bell, Markeisha Hill,

Back Row: Darwin Harris



Students gathering at the lunch table during the SIUE MLK Luncheon. Pictured Left to Right: Darwin Harris, Daria Atkins, Martell Cotton, Chanda Wallace, Mikiyah Bell

Backrow: Markiesha Hill.

unique and special opportunity to hear the remarks given by Dr. Eugene B. Redmond. Dr. Redmond is an SIUE Emeritus Professor of English and an East St. Louis Poet Laureate. In addition to his poetry rendition coupled by his daughter, Dr. Redmond recounted his experiences with traveling to our Nation's Capital and participating in the March on Washington for jobs and freedom. Dr. Redmond and his daughter carefully weaved their words to capture the experience of the poem titled "Dreaming With Wings: Odyssey of an Era."

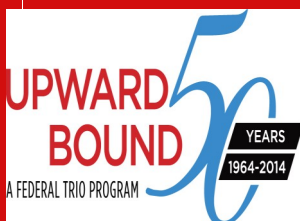
Dr. Redmond's poetry is closely connected to the Black Arts Movement and the City of East St. Louis. The Students of Upward Bound were honored to meet a local inspiration and had an opportunity to meet and speak with Dr. Redmond after the event.

## BALTIMORE

From St. Louis to East St. Louis to Baltimore



**Our Prayers and Thoughts are with Baltimore**



# SIUE's Regional Science & Engineering Research Challenge



Our focus at UBMS is to provide a rigorous curriculum that gives students the needed tools and knowledge to excel in Math and Science. President Obama has even made it a goal of his administration to boost Math and Science for young scholars and has stated that the future of our country and economy depends on the ability of our young scholars to both contribute and compete in the fields of math and sciences.

Last semester we were delighted to report that 3 of our Math & Science students teamed up with the National Corn-to-Ethanol Research Center (NCERC) and competed in the SIUE's Regional Science & Engineering Research Challenge (SERC).

The Team worked together to answer their research question on how much ethanol household trash/compost can naturally produce. Their research showed support that ethanol can

be extracted from compost and that added enzymes such as yeast and the composition of the compost does have an impact on the amount of ethanol the compost yields.

On Saturday, March 28th, Mikiyah Bell, Martell Cotton and Paris Patterson entered their Trashcan Ethanol project into SIUE's SERC. All morning the students met with judges presenting and defending their findings. The girls also were available to answer questions during the open floor time while judging continued.

The ladies received a second place ribbon in their Biochemistry category. The team also received an Amazon gift card for \$100.00 each from SIUE's National Corn to Ethanol

Research Center for their success and participation. We commend these three ladies because not only did they represent UBMS with great prowess but they also bring a greater representation to African-American women in the field of science. According to the National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics, African-American women only make up 2% of the entire Science and Engineering workforce. We are truly proud of our students!



*Participants stand in front of display at SIUE, presenting the results of "Trashcan Ethanol"*

## Math and Science Students Place in Regionals

## Spring Workshops

Our Spring Semester may have been one of our busiest yet here at UBMS. Our seniors have been very busy with college applications, FASFA, testing, Scholarship applications, prom and graduation. We really wanted to make sure we were assisting our seniors in the best way possible. At the beginning of the year in January UBMS invited Ms. Antoinette Jones,

educational counselor and Septemebre Williams, iSAC representative and motivational speaker to meet with our students and parents to assist them in their FASFA application and talk about College and Scholarship applications. Parents and students were able to get questions answered and complete their FASFA.

Even though this last semester was very busy we also wanted to add some fun activities to the mix. Program Coordinator, Mrs. Johnson held a "Natural Disaster Preparation Activity: Dodging Disasters". This activity is part of an exercise produced by the UN to help communities, families and institutions be better equipped and prepared if ever disaster strikes.

The students divided into teams and used computers to access the online simulated disaster game. Each team had the responsibility to consider their community and were given the task to pre-



*Student Brandy Brown sits with Guest, Septemebre Williams working on scholarships during a Scholarship and FASFA workshop.*

pare for disaster. The game allowed students to critically assess their own families and communities' disaster action plans.

The goal of the game was to have the least number of casualties and loss of infrastructure as possible. Winners of this exercise was Daria Atkins, Kevneisha Guyton, Darwin Harris and Markeisha Hill with the fewest lives lost and loss of infrastructure.



*Mrs. Johnson helps students plan their city's disaster action plan. (pictured: Jaylon Cotton-McKire)*





## Congratulations 2015 Graduating Seniors

Stephanie Anderson	Brian Brown	Edward Fleming	Markeisha Hill	Jaylon Cotton-McKire	Courtney Sykes
Daria Atkins	Charzae Brown	Kevneisha Guyton	Marriel Hill	Zemondre McKinzie	Darius Tollet
Aubreyana Bedford	Marcus Brown	Le'Andrea Haley	Diamond Lee-Powers	Nyjae McNeal	Chanda Wallace
Mikiyah Bell	Naeelah Chism	Janel Handy	Dominique Mackin	Marquisha Miller	Zaria Wicks
Xavier Bonner	Martell Cotton	Darwin Harris	Alexus Malone	Paris Patterson	
Brandy Brown	Donovan Crowder	Karmen Haywood	Lacey McCray	Isaiah Ray	



## Senior Banquet

As we say our final farewells to our graduates and bring in our new TRiO-scholars UBMS would like to extend our most sincere and warmest congratulations! On Friday, May 8, we began our festivities by honoring our seniors at The National Shrine of Our Lady of the Snow in Belleville, Illinois. Parents, Students and Guests were invited to dinner as awards, honors and scholarships were disseminated.

Our guest speaker for the night was Ms. India Clark, a graduate of Howard University School of Business who is a Certified Public Accountant. Ms. Clark gave an amazing speech on her experience with college and provided a lot of take home information for our students. There were 34 students recognized for their participation in UBMS and were presented with success/leadership clocks and 16 students were honored for their dedication to the program as 4-year participants and presented with a certificate and pen set. Other distinguished awards disseminated were: the Citizenship Award (*Markeisha Hill, Marriel Hill & Darius Tollet*), special recognition award with a \$100 Science Awareness Scholarship (*Martell Cotton & Chanda Wallace*), Highest GPA Award with a \$100 Science Awareness Scholarship (*Brandy Brown & Le'Andrea Haley*), Highest ACT Award with a \$150 Science Awareness Scholarship (*Brian Brown*) and the Scholastic Achievement Award which was presented with a certificate and laptop computer (*Paris Patterson*).



**Special Guests:** Mr. John McIntosh, Ms. India Clark, Ms. Amber Brown, Ms. Rene Smith, Mr. Jesse Dixon



**Distinguished Award Winners, Left to Right:** Brian Brown, Paris Patterson, Brandy Brown, Martell Cotton, Chanda Wallace, Le'Andrea Haley & UBMS Director, Elke Harris-McIntosh



**Citizenship Award Winners, Left to Right:** Marriel Hill & Markeisha Hill. In Absentia Darrius Tollet

## **Counsellor's Corner**



Academic opportunities, life-long friendships and new experiences are some of the ways our seniors have used to describe their last four years of Upward Bound Math and Science. Over the years we have had the pleasure of watching our students grow and use these experiences and opportunities to set goals and make an impact in both their communities

and futures. Seeing all the success of our students with every scholarship won and college acceptance letter it is evident that UBMS has made a difference in the lives of our students. However, it is also very evident that the success of this program is coupled with the willingness and dedication of our participants. We could not do it without their positive attitudes and the willingness from both students and parents to help make UBMS what it is today. I want to take a moment to say thank you to all our students and parents for your willingness and dedication to all the success we have seen! As you go off and start the next chapter of your life in college I wish to leave you with one thing, and that is, the world is truly what you make of it! Best of luck to you, and always remember you have a life-long ally with you here at UBMS!

Thank you for the awesome ride!

*-Ms. Lara*



**Congratulations to our Graduate Students upon your graduation! Thank you for all your hard work you put into UBMS! (Left to Right: Sai Panyam, Ravi Velukonda & Pooja Punukollu)**

### **Contact us**

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**Find us on Facebook: Search SIUE**

**UBMS Cohort 2015 Official**

### **Important Summer dates**

**June 9th:** New Cohort Orientation; Main Campus 6:30 pm

**June 15th & 16th:** Testing

**June 22nd - July 24th:** Summer Academy

**July 3rd:** No Summer Academy

**TBA:** End of summer trip

### **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**

**SIUE Foundation** for their monetary contributions that made possible "Science Awareness Scholarships"

**NCERC** for their contributions of resources assisting UBMS Research Team compete in Regionals and monetary award.

**Mr. John McIntosh II**, CEO New York Cleaners, Inc., for his continuous contributions over the years to UBMS scholars and the donation of a laptop computer to one graduating senior (winner of Overall Scholastic Achievement Award)

**Spring Graduate Assistants:** Ololade Mustafa, Sai Panyam, Pooja Punukollu & Ravie Velukonda

**Thank You All!**