

"SUCCESS— THE ONLY OPTION!"

Director's Desktop



Geraldine E. Graham, Director

Yesssss!!! I am thrilled. I am excited. I am ecstatic about the academic improvement made by PUB's 2011 Summer Residential Scholars.

Given 6 weeks of instruction, the expectation is a maximum 2 months' equivalent grade level improvement based on the norms for the Iowa Test of Educational Development (ITED). But, **the majority of PUB's 2011 Summer Residential Scholars far exceeded this norm.** Every one progressed, but particularly notable are the following accomplishments:

Oak Park High

62% of scholars demonstrated a 1-year equivalent grade level improvement.

25% of scholars showed a 2-year grade level improvement.

Pontiac High School

60% of scholars demonstrated a 1-year grade level equivalent improvement.

10% demonstrated more than 1 semester's growth.

Pontiac Academy for Excellence

17% of scholars demonstrated a 2.5 year and another **17%** demonstrated a **1-year** equivalent grade level improvement.

50% showed **more than 1 semester** of grade level improvement.

Kudos to PUB's Academic Coordinator, Teachers and Tutors for creating true teaching and learning communities; to the Project Advisor and Residential Team for assisting with Academic Games, homework, and issues that detract from academic performance; and, of course, to the Residential Scholars for keeping their eyes on the prize!

As in past summers, Residential Scholars had to earn a spot for the **extended "Classroom on Wheels"** experience. Trip requirements:

Maintain more than 90 (out of 100) **behavior** points.

Make the **A/B Honor Roll** with no D's or E's.

Demonstrate **ITED improvement** from pre to post test.

Participants had to meet all 3 stipulations in order to qualify. **70% of Residential Scholars met all 3 stipulations!**

I am sorry to say that I was not physically present to observe all of this Summer's excitement. Knee replacement surgery kept me working towards goals of my own. But with this type of academic performance in my absence, maybe I should take every summer off! Hmm . . .

In addition to Residential Scholars, **73% of Senior Scholars participated in the 2011 Summer Academy Senior Seminar.** They worked hard all summer finding college options that are good matches for their characteristics. At the end of the summer, they were impressive as they presented their research findings to parents, staff, administrators, and other guests.

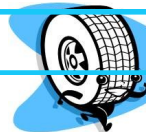
We are also pleased to report that **100% of the class of 2011 active participants graduated from high school.** Of those, **we have verified that 82% are enrolled in post secondary education this fall.** (Tracking is incomplete for inactive former participants.)

We are challenged moving into the Academic Year Program because of budget cuts resulting in the loss of more than \$17K. But, like this summer's Residential Scholars, we'll continue to keep our eyes on the prize and we'll keep doing what we do to the best of our ability!

Geri Graham

Project Director

“THE WHEELS ON THE BUS GO ‘ROUND AND ‘ROUND . . .”



A lot of people hear about the trip that PUB takes at the end of each summer and think that we are going just for fun. While fun is one consideration because the participants have been working really hard in school all summer, fun is not the deciding factor. Yes, the trip is a reward for hard work. But **it is a reward with purpose.**

One of the guiding principles in Upward Bound regulations is to provide participants with experiences that they may not otherwise have. Further, everything we do **has to generate added value** in terms of academic, social, cultural, and/or career enrichment. So a lot of thought and planning go into identifying trip destinations and selecting the experiences that participants will have upon arrival.

This year, PUB chose two primary destinations: Chicago area and Wisconsin Dells area.

Chicago – The Windy City



When these destinations were announced at the trip meeting, there was lots of chatter at the mention of Chicago; but silence fell when Wisconsin was mentioned. It was not a location that generated an enthusiastic response because participants and their parents were not aware of opportunities available in Wisconsin.

Activities which most participants had never witnessed or been involved in included: observing a medieval-type jousting match, seeing President Obama’s home and other Chicago landmarks, taking a cave tour and tours of high-end shopping and living communities, seeing a live stage performance, riding horseback, going fishing, taking a train ride, taking a water “duck” ride, exploring museums and science centers, and visiting DePaul University and the University of Wisconsin-Madison.



Red Ridge Ranch



President Obama’s Home
Kenwood—Chicago, IL

Summer trips are tools that PUB uses to help introduce participants to lifestyle options that are directly related to earnings which, of course, are directly related to educational attainment. By helping them draw these relationships, the possible outcomes of their academic achievement efforts are brought into focus and, therefore, spark their motivation to achieve at higher levels.

This is the “method to our madness.” Most of our trip experiences cannot be duplicated in the Southeast Michigan area. So we answered the call to provide new exposures; and we had fun while doing it!

IN FOCUS is a publication of OAKLAND UNIVERSITY’S PROJECT UPWARD BOUND COLLEGE PREP ACADEMY

261 South Foundation Hall
Rochester, MI 48309-4401

G. Graham	Director
C. Delia	Academic Coord.
K. Jones	Project Advisor
J. Sauseda	Admin Secretary

Phone: 248-370-3218
Fax: 248-370-3217

Please enjoy the full color version
of IN FOCUS at PUB’s website:
www.oakland.edu/upwardbound



Oprah Winfrey—Harpo Studios

2011 PUB SUMMER AWARDS

RESIDENTIAL ROLE MODEL AWARD

- **One male and one female** recipient.
- Selections made collaboratively by entire Residential Team.
- Greatest number of **points above 90% of available points.**
- **Active in residential programming with no field trip absences.**
- **Regularly initiates positive, healthy social interactions with peers.**
- **Consistently demonstrates Responsibility, Respect for Authority, Cooperative Attitude, and Compliance with Rules.**

Desmond J. Graham



Talisha S. Williamson



2011 Residential Role Models



Renee' S. Thornton
2011 Spirit Award

SPIRIT AWARD

- Recommendations accepted from Instructional, Academic, and Residential Teams.
- Final selection made by Administrative Team.
- Selects one participant who **enthusiastically accepts the challenges** of the academic, social, career, recreational, and cultural programming; **seeks to learn** the most they can from all PUB offerings; and **helps someone else** do the same.

TOOL BOX AWARD

This is the highest recognition for Summer Academy Senior Seminar participants. It is conferred upon the senior who excels in each of the skill sets: Academics, Life Skills, and Character Development. In addition, the recipient has **no absences, no more than one tardy**, and has earned at least a **3.50 in Senior Seminar**.

Kineasha R. Wiggins
2011 Tool Box Award



PUB GIVES OAKLAND UNIVERSITY ECONOMY A BOOST

Although PUB provides outreach services to high school students, PUB's existence on the Oakland University campus is definitely an asset for OU. PUB gives OU students professional training and income and generates revenue for other segments of the University's economy as noted below. Currently, at least 10 PUB Alumni are enrolled at OU.

During Summer 2010:

PUB **employed 17 OU students** who earned approximately **\$28,600**.

PUB awarded tuition **scholarships** to PUB alumni enrolled at OU totaling **\$3,136**.

PUB paid **\$76,600+ in room and board** fees for the residential Summer Academy.

During Academic Year 2010-2011:

PUB **employed 15 OU students** who earned a total of **\$22,572**.

PUB awarded tuition & book **scholarships** to PUB alumni enrolled at OU totaling **\$7,790**.

At least **9 PUB alumni** were enrolled at OU generating approximately **\$144,294 in tuition and housing fees**.

During Summer 2011:

PUB **employed 18 OU students** who earned approximately **\$29,640**.

PUB provided **book awards** to PUB alumni enrolled at OU totaling **\$150**.

PUB paid **\$62,000+ in room and board** fees for the residential Summer Academy.

Of course it's not all about the money. PUB enjoys the unique position of being the most senior outreach program in the Oakland University community. **We are pleased to be such a valued and integral part of OU, and we look forward to serving the PUB target communities and the OU community for many years to come.**

Portfolios Pay Off! Congratulations to

Erica Butts for being selected as the featured Profile of the Month on the e-Profiles Website.

**Erica
Butts**



Ricky Cohen, II

Ricky Cohen for his admission to Oakland University. When he showed the Admission Advisor his PUB portfolio, it sealed the admission decision.

Erique Allen & Kineasha Wiggins for earning nominations for Denison University's Fall Overnight Program; **Darius Carter** & Erica Butts are alternates.



**Darius
Carter**



**Erique
Allen**



**Kineasha
Wiggins**

Congratulations to

PUB Alumnae Mone't Williamson who graduated from Oakland University in June, 2011 with a Bachelor's in Communication with a minor in Journalism.

Mone't was a student employee in the OU Registrar's Office and continues to work there.



Mone't Williamson
2007 PUB Graduate

Summer Residents

“It’s just not there yet!”
 “It is coming together.”
 “Oh, no – we’ll have to start over!”
 “We’ve got it!”
 “Can we print these? And we will have more tomorrow.”
 “Please let us take some computers to the dorm, please, please.”

These phrases crowded the air again and again as the summer residents developed their production of *Take the Lead: Success is the Only Option*. With only 5.5 weeks to bring the performance into production, time was the greatest challenge. As the frenzied writers, Talisha Williamson, Sa’Vonne Keys, Jody Harrison, Kayla Lee-Mays and Jasmine Osley, finished each scene of the script, the music directors and dancers began to choreograph the selections. Joshua Davis planned and designed the graphics and backdrops. Ta’Quanda Allen, Elena Barnes, Kristen Davis, and Jasmine Osley (wardrobe and costume design) debated over the best stage fashions while James Dixon and Markell Dexter worked on the technical aspects. Then of course, the

East Side wanted a single winner to be named, they finally agreed to share the championship. When the students took their final bow, they were tired but proud and satisfied. The appreciative audience beamed with pleasure as they applauded and cheered. Success belonged to everyone, those who worked behind the scenes as well as those who performed.



Mr. Dulaine striving for harmony for all.



Practicing steps in Dance.



Mr. Dokes
Vocal Music Teacher

actors had to memorize and deliver the lines. All the students were committed and worked diligently to make this performance their own. Success was their only option. Determination motivated them. Optimism and enthusiasm energized them.

On the day of the performance, with great anticipation, the audience watched the stage vibrate to the student’s dance steps as they proudly presented what they had created. In the performance, Mr. Dulaine (JoVontae Butts) and the school principal (Kierra Strickland) struggled to keep harmony between the West Side and the East Side, the main competitors in the dance competition. At first, they would not accept a tie decision. Although the West Side and the



West Side dancing for the championship.



East Side giving it their all.



Drama in Drama



With assistance from school staff, West Side & East Side agree that they both deserve the win!

Carolyn Delia
Academic Coordinator



Summer Acad. Classes / Dorm Photos



Gospelfest / Poetry Slam / Special Guest



Carolyn Clifford
Channel 7 News Anchor

Enjoying the ride.....



Depaul University / Chicago



Horseback Riding



Cave of the Mound / Tommy Barlett Science Center / Debevic's



Trout Fishing/



ACADEMIC YEAR IMPORTANT UPDATES

ACADEMIC YEAR PROGRAMMING CHANGES

For participants who were active during the 2010-2011 Academic Year Program, PUB will look a little different this year. The changes were made for various reasons, but the PUB Team believes they will enhance the experience for participants, make it easier to meet PUB's attendance requirements, and allow more time for participants to be involved in other extra-curricular programming offered by the target schools.

College Club at Pontiac High School will be on

Tuesdays only. Last year, PHS CC met Tuesdays and Thursdays. This year, it will meet only on Tuesdays after school in C-7 and C-11.

Saturday Academies have been shortened by one hour.

They will meet from 8:30 a.m. until 11:45 a.m. Breakfast will still be served; lunch will not.

"Senior Seminar" will now be known as "College

Seminar." This name more appropriately reflects the purpose of the class.

College Seminar will begin in the second semester of junior year (instead of the summer after junior year) and run through the senior year.

College Seminar will convene during Saturday Academies. Juniors will meet an additional 4 more Saturdays than everyone else. This way, college seminar and the early college program schedules will not conflict.

Participants are required to be Residential Scholars in the Summer Academy at the end of their 9th grade.

Participants completing 10th grade should still participate in PUB's Residential Summer Academy if they are not involved in the ECP and need the academic enrichment. This will give everyone a residential experience and free them to take advantage of the Early College Program beginning in 10th grade.

PUB will, of course, be monitoring and evaluating to determine whether these changes are effective in terms of serving the intended purpose. Participants may comment at PUB@oakland.edu or on PUB's Facebook page "**Project Upward Bound at Oakland University.**"

SATURDAY ACADEMY SCHEDULE

- October 15: ACT Prep Pre Assessment for Fr, Sph, Jr
College Seminar for Seniors
- October 29: Study Skills for a Successful School Year
For Freshmen, Sophomores, Juniors, & Seniors
- November 12: Portfolio Workshop
For Freshmen, Sophomores, Juniors, & Seniors
Community Service: Bring donations for Thanksgiving Project
Volunteer to Pack & Deliver Baskets
- November 19: ACT Prep/College Seminar for Seniors
- December 3: ACT Prep/College Seminar for Seniors
Community Service: Bring children's hats, scarves & gloves
- December 10: ACT Prep/College Seminar for Seniors
- January 7: Study Skills (in preparation for Fall finals)
- January 21: ACT Prep/Coll Sem for Juniors & Seniors
- February 4: ACT Prep/Coll Sem for Juniors & Seniors
PUB Make-A-Difference Day (Make & Deliver Lap Blankets to Senior Citizens)
- February 18: Career Day
- March 17: ACT Prep/Coll Sem for Juniors & Seniors
- March 24: Practice ACT
College Seminar for Juniors & Seniors
Graduation & Recognition Ceremony
- March 31: Snow Day

Other Important Dates

- October 14: Junior/Senior Trip to Grand Valley SU
- November: Various College Fairs
- March 3: PUB Parent Conference

THINGS YOU'LL WANT TO KNOW

LEARNING OUTCOMES

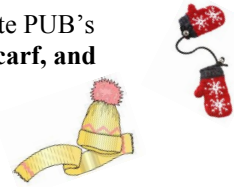
PUB has more good news. In fall 2010, PUB established an expected learning outcome that by the end of the academic year, newly admitted participants would have mastered at least 2 study skills strategies, one in information processing and one in study aids. To affect this outcome, PUB integrated Study Skills modules into PUB Clubs and Saturday Academies. As measured by the LASSI-HS for pre and post assessment, **85% of new admits developed functional mastery of an information-processing study skill, and 90% of new admits developed functional mastery of a study aid.**



Based on this positive outcome, **PUB will continue to incorporate Study Skills modules into the curriculum.** At each high school grade level, participants will receive enrichment in a different study skills area. The expected result is that **by high school graduation, each participant will have accumulated a sound set of study skills to support post secondary success.**



December: Help organize and facilitate PUB's Annual Children's **Hat, Scarf, and Glove Drive**



February: Provide fabric, help with **assembling, and delivering lap blankets** to senior citizens



March: Be an **Ambassador** for the PUB Parent Association Conference (Seniors Only)

Based on proof of involvement and the time spent in each of these activities (time log, sign-in sheets) **PUB will issue a Community Service Certificate** verifying the amount of time participants were involved. (PUB cannot provide certificates for activities which are not associated with PUB. The sponsoring organization should provide those certificates.) **So get involved in PUB's Make-A-Difference projects.**

COMMUNITY SERVICE

With school, homework, extra-curricular activities, and part-time jobs all vying for attention, it can be a challenge to identify opportunities to accumulate community service hours. PUB can help with that! **Choose one or more PUB Community Service activities to record in your schedule right now.** That way, you can be involved in Community Service throughout the entire Academic Year with no stress! Here are several opportunities to collaborate with the PUB Parent Association to get it done!



October: Help organize and facilitate PUB's Annual **Thanksgiving Food Drive**

October: Sign up with PUB to **assemble food baskets** for the Lighthouse Thanksgiving Project

November: Sign up with PUB to **deliver food baskets** for the Lighthouse Thanksgiving Project (must have a vehicle or partner with a parent or other participant who has a vehicle)

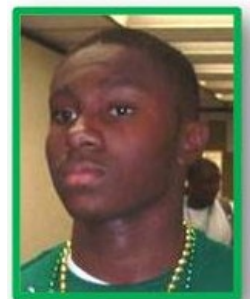
TELL US SO WE CAN TELL IT!



PUB participants, we know you're doing great things. We just don't know what they are! **Tell us all the positive things you are involved with** in your families, in your communities, in your schools, and in your churches so that we can broadcast them to the TRiO community in the newsletter.

Are you on the Debate Team? Did you score the winning point? Was your name mentioned on TV (like Jody Harrison for being an excellent football player)? Were you accepted into the Early College Program or the National Honor Society? **These and similar accomplishments are worthy of attention, and PUB wants to give it to you. Just tell us.**

Jody Harrison



WE'RE GOING WHERE?

“Drumroll . . . The destinations for the 2011 PUB Summer Academy trip are (pause), Illinois and Wisconsin.” Long faces stare blankly back at me following my big announcement. Immediately I say, “Don’t become discouraged too quickly because I guarantee you have never been on a trip to Illinois and Wisconsin like the trip you will take with Project Upward Bound.” The response to follow will prove this statement to be true.

It just wouldn’t be a PUB trip if we didn’t start off with a college visit or two. There weren’t enough words to describe the beauty of the **DePaul University** campus nestled right in the urban setting of Chicago. DePaul, whose mission is, “I will show you the way of wisdom,” embodies an old style feel in the midst of city living. The staff provided an extensive tour to all the key spots on any college campus: cafeteria, rec center, library, a classroom, dorm, and student union. Lastly, but most importantly, was a visit to the TRiO Programs Office which included Student Support Services and McNair Scholars Programs. A spark or two was definitely found in the eyes of several PUB participants at the conclusion of the visit.

The **University of Wisconsin-Madison**, although under major construction, welcomed PUB with a warm reception. UW-M staff provided PUB participants with a detailed overview of the University including information on their 2 TRiO Programs, EOC and SSS. PUB participants’ college options continue to grow . . . decisions, decisions, decisions.

Well, we can’t have all work and no play; so off to dinner we go. Did you ever think that you would enjoy having dinner and watching knights and horses compete in a jousting match for the hand of the fair maiden? Well, hold onto your hats and get ready for an experience you will never forget at the **Medieval Times Dinner Tournament**. We ate a hearty meal like they

did back in medieval times – with our fingers! At the same time, we cheered on our Black & White Knight, Don. Although he did not win, we had a great time watching him defend the ancient shrine!

To say we had a culturally packed itinerary is an understatement. Who would have ever imagined that we would be within feet of **President Barack Obama’s private home** as well as the home of Nation of Islam Leader **Louis Farakhan**, and that of **Oprah Winfrey**? We also saw **Harpo Studios** where the Oprah Winfrey show was taped for so many years. We explored the world famous **Magnificent Mile**, **Navy Pier**, and saw a view like no other from the peak of the also-world-famous **Willis Tower/Skydeck Chicago**. You can’t go to Chicago without having dinner at **Ed Debevic’s** or tasting some of **Garrett’s** popcorn.



Ed Debevic’s

On to Wisconsin . . . From this day forward, never ask Mrs. Jones “Have you ridden a horse before?” (Inside joke) Talk about the experience of a lifetime – there is definitely more to it than just sitting there riding. When asked, less than 10% of participants had ever ridden a horse before. And coming from an area with very little public transportation, the **train ride** was also unique. But the activity that seemed to be most cherished was **trout fishing**. Most participants had never gone fishing before and could not stop talking about the number of fish they caught. The Wisconsin experience also included seeing **Ripley’s Museum**, an **illusions dinner theatre**, and an afternoon at an **indoor water park**.

Finally, after all of the sophisticated cultural exposures and college exploration, we wrapped up our time in Wisconsin by taking a leisurely cruise around the Dells in a boat shaped like a duck! What a fitting end to a trip chock full of new experiences.



Skydeck Ledge
Chicago, Illinois

Kecia Jones
Project Advisor

Welcome to New PUB Admits for the 2011/12 Academic Year

Pontiac High School / ITA

Adams, Kimberly	Freeman, Roshae	Pfeiffer, Marissa
Anderson, Jamar	Greene, Kasianique	Reyes, Juan
Brooks, Sylmaira	Jackson, Shu'ara	Rowe, Henry
Cofield, Torrey	Johnson, Dawaun	Shelton, Jessica
Cowser, Jordan	Jones, Laneesa	Stephenson, Kent
Davis, Christopher	Lipson-Bey, Azure	Williams, Hope
Douglas, DaJanae	Modest, Christopher	
Eaton, Sabrina	Pfeiffer, Shane	

Pontiac Academy for Excellence

Chunn, Janae
 Chunn, Jaylen
 Copeland, Christian
 Dowell, Cameron
 Grandberry, Zasmynne
 Turner, Diasia

Oak Park Preparatory Academy

Hansberry, Janei

CONGRATULATIONS AND THANKS TO

Avinash Kommireddy. He will be moving to Cleveland, OH to work as a product engineer for Bendix CVS and will graduate from OU in December with his MBA. As an OU undergrad, Mr. Avinash was a dedicated PUB tutor. During his graduate years, he performed some data analysis for PUB and taught in the Summer Academy.

Mr. Avinash has a true heart for TRiO and believes in what we do. He made a commitment to provide a financial gift designated as an Academic Achievement Award for PUB participants. He has also committed to make this gift whenever he is able. Thanks Mr. Avinash, and best wishes in your new role with Bendix.



2011 Project Upward Bound Summer Academy Participants



**Holocaust Museum
 Farmington Hills, Michigan
 June 24, 2011**



**Medieval Times
 Schaumburg, Illinois
 July 29, 2011**

SPOTLIGHT ON ALUMNI

TRiO Alumni possess a special gift that they can share with current participants – the gift of experience. Where they are now is where current participants are headed. Alumni can tell participants the challenges to expect and share their overcoming strategies so that challenges don't become barriers. That's one reason why it is so important to make sure that participants have access to this vital resource. TRiO/UB Alumni involved in PUB's 2011 Summer Academy were:



Theresa Floyd
Peer Mentor



Adrian Lucio
Tutor



Charniqua Madden
Clerical Assistant



Catherine Pannell
Tutor



Alex Saunders
Tutor

OU Project Upward Bound
Success – The Only Option



Canei Womack
Peer Mentor

www.oakland.edu/upwardbound
(248) 370-3218
E-mail: pub@oakland.edu



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College Prep Academy
261 South Foundation Hall
Rochester, Michigan 48309-4401

