

## “Breaking the Mold- I am Success”

### Director's Desktop



Geraldine E. Graham, Director

While 2014 marks the 50-year anniversary of the creation of Upward Bound nationwide, June 1, 2014, will mark the start of the 48<sup>th</sup> consecutive Program Year of Oakland University's Project Upward Bound College Prep Academy. In June 1966, PUB began addressing the academic, social, cultural, and career needs of eligible youth in its target areas. That is a record of service spanning 6 decades!!!

PUB is still Oakland University's longest-existing community engagement program. It is also one of OU's largest grants funded from a single source – the U. S. Department of Education.

Currently PUB serves 126 eligible participants each Program Year (June-May). But it has never served fewer than 110 per year; and in some years ran multiple summer experiences that added another 40-50 participants in the UB Fine Arts Institute and Cadet Engineering Program. That means that

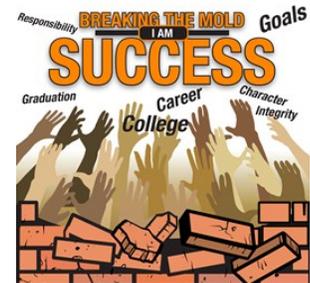
over these 6 decades, PUB has enhanced the lives of no less than 5,000 participants and their families!

To celebrate the success of the Project, PUB is putting into place a 50-Year Anniversary Celebration Planning Committee. Ideally, the Committee will be comprised of one representative from each decade (60's, 70's, 80's, 90's, 2000-2009, and 2010-2016). If you are a PUB alumnus who would like to serve on the Planning Committee, please email [PUB@oakland.edu](mailto:PUB@oakland.edu) with a note explaining the skills or other assets you have to contribute to the planning process.

To date, PUB's 2013-2014 program year has been very productive. The 2013 Summer Academy served 44 residential scholars. An additional 8 juniors participated in the non-residential Early Summer Academy to complete College Seminar in preparation for transitioning into Senior Seminar last fall.

Thirty-six new Scholars were admitted for the 2013-2014 Program Year to replace the large 2013 graduating class. The Academic Year kicked off in September with after-school College Club adding Saturday Academies and PUB Clubs in October. Given this year's excessive snow, we were fortunate to have had to reschedule only one Saturday.

PUB Scholars and parents stepped up and did a fantastic job during our Community Service season through donations of both goods and services. Focusing on Financial



Literacy, this year's College/Career Day gave PUB Scholars a peek at what it's like to be a financially responsible adult.

Eighteen juniors spent two days in Grand Rapids at the MI-CAPP Student Leadership Summit learning more about the history of TRiO and preparing, with 112 other delegates, to Tweet the U. S. Congress en masse about the benefits of TRiO.

This year on March 15 PUB celebrated its Class of 2014 with a banquet and recognition program. The 2013-2014 Program Year closes out with three activities:

Ms. Graham and Mrs. Clements said good-bye to seniors by sharing an evening of culture on March 30.

Juniors will make their college research presentations in front of an audience of students, staff, and parents on May 17.

In June select juniors will go to Washington, DC for the National Student Leadership Congress sponsored annually by the Council for Opportunity in Education.

The 2014 Summer Academy Residential Team is already in place. Hiring of the Academic and Instructional Teams is underway. And the whole PUB Team is looking forward to continuing PUB's long tradition of service to students.

*Geri Graham*

Project Director



# Congratulations to:

- ◆ *Stephanie Bell, Christopher Davis, Diasia Turner* and *Alante Joyner* who are featured on MI-CAPP'S TRiO video on YouTube. To view the video, go to: <http://youtu.be/GMR8oQymvz0>
- ◆ Alum *Timothy Tucker* who made the Oakland Community College **Dean's List** for earning a 3.5 or higher in his first semester, Fall 2013. Way to go, Tim!
- ◆ Alumnus *Catherine Pannell* who graduated from OU in 2013 and is now a **Social Worker** at Orchard Children's Services.
- ◆ The following students who are PUB's 2014 delegates to the **COE National Student Leadership Congress** in June in Washington, DC: *LaTisha Baker, NiNesha Baker, Janae Chunn, Jordan Cowser, Darryl Granberry, Stephenson Kent, Jr., Bryan Munoz, Sierra Tolbert*. **Christopher Davis** is an alternate.
- ◆ Former Peer Mentors *Jeremy Drake, Jr.* (U. S. Navy) and *Curshawn Jackson* who recently got married. Jeremy is stationed in Italy and Curshawn will graduate from Oakland University this year.
- ◆ *Vanessa Perkins* who is a semi-finalist for the Gates Millennium Scholarship.



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

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**Please enjoy the full color version  
of IN FOCUS at PUB's website:**

**[www.oakland.edu/upwardbound](http://www.oakland.edu/upwardbound)**

**Our Facebook Page:  
Upward Bound OaklandUniversity**

Congratulations to **Jordan Cowser**, PUB's 2014 Outstanding Student Leader. Jordan was recognized on March 1 at the MI-CAPP Student Leadership Summit's closing breakfast in front of an audience of TRiO participants and professionals from all over Michigan. He earned this recognition through **academic achievement**, participating in all of PUB's **Academic Year** and **Summer Academy** programming, and going above and beyond to serve on the **PUB Admission Interview Committee** and by helping new students adjust to the demands of PUB. In addition, he is a **PUB Ambassador** at the International Technical Academy, helping with membership recruitment and being a dependable source to get the word out when PUB needs to get a message to PUB Scholars. Because of all of this, it was easy to choose Jordan as PUB's Outstanding Student Leader!



# PUB COLLEGE/CAREER DAY

## “BREAKING THE MOLD: I AM SUCCESSFUL WITH FINANCES”



As we all know, finances are a big consideration when planning for college and career. But thanks to the **Oakland University Credit Union**, PUB Scholars learned how to **establish and achieve financial goals** as well as how to **build and protect good credit** in the workshop, “Keep Calm, Build Good Credit.”

In the “Been There, Done That” College Life Panel, college students, including PUB alumni, shared their financial aid experiences and advice about **navigating the financial aid systems**. This was enhanced by **Mr. Don Stevens, Dorsey Schools Financial Aid Manager**; and PUB’s College Club Supervisor, Ms. Shakita Billy, who is pursuing her Master’s Degree.

To top off the day, all PUB Scholars got to be adults for about 45 minutes. After this experience, most were extremely glad to return to teenaged bliss! In “Year 2021 . . .,” **each PUB Scholar was assigned “a life” which dictated their visible**



**trappings of wealth, middle class, and near-poverty.**

Those with master’s and doctorate degrees earned 5- and 6-figure salaries and sat in comfortable chairs while enjoying sparkling juice and assorted deluxe

cookies laid out on fine linen. At the opposite extreme, those with only high school or some college struggled to make ends meet, had only water at their table and didn’t even have chairs.



After the initial shock wore off, **each Scholar was required to develop a budget that was within the means of their income.** They became very creative in dealing with their life situations. **Common themes that developed were** philanthropy; considerations when choosing a life partner; how “want” can lead to incarceration if driven by illegal pursuits; how a record of incarceration can severely limit earnings potential and access to quality relationships; the impact of economics on relationships; and how education level affects your life-long economic potential and social status. Finally, **this experience also helped Scholars to understand some of the challenges and decisions parents face in trying to make the money last from paycheck to paycheck.**



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Kudos to Mrs. C. for coordinating College/ Career Day assisted by Ms. Dezarea Wade, PUB Student Clerical Assistant.



# 2014 OU Day at the Capitol

PUB was pleased to show its “Grizz Spirit” by participating in the **2014 OU Day at the Capitol**. On March 11 more than 40 bleary-eyed PUB Scholars, parents, and staff boarded the bus at 6:30 a.m. for the 90-minute journey to Lansing. Oakland University is the only state-funded Michigan university that schedules an annual day of programming and contact with legislators in Lansing, and PUB was proud to be a part of it.

We were welcomed by **OU Interim President Dr. Betty Youngblood** and addressed by **Secretary of State Ruth Johnson**. We got a chance to observe the **House of Representatives** in action lobbying and voting on legislation. One of our thrills for the day was being introduced from the House floor by **29<sup>th</sup> House District (Pontiac) Representative Tim Greimel**.

Comments from the **OU alumni panel** were very insightful. Some of their **advice included**:

- Be involved on campus, volunteer, move around and be everywhere that something is happening so you have quick, easy, and convenient access to opportunities.
- Surround yourself with good like-minded people.
- Keep a positive outlook – sometimes obstacles are opportunities.
- Ask for help - people like to help.
- Ask questions but also seek answers and problem-solve on your own.
- Always have a back-up plan.
- Read good books.
- Take chances/risks. Try, and don't be afraid to fail.
- Develop habits that employers look for: timeliness, enthusiasm, initiative, helpfulness, efficiency, curiosity, honest effort.
- “You can make a difference or you can make excuses, but you can't do both!”



PUB Scholars with OU Mascot “Grizz”.

**A big PUB THANK YOU to OU's Government Relations, Student Congress, and OU Day at the Capitol Planning Committee** for making it possible for PUB Scholars and parents to be included in this annual OU activity.



OU & PUB students and parents in the State Capitol Speaker's Library listen attentively to Michigan Secretary of State Ruth Johnson.



OU & PUB Students, Parents and Staff on Capitol steps

# MI-CAPP STUDENT LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

**PUB sponsored 18 delegates**, all juniors, for the February 28-March 1 MI-CAPP Student Leadership Summit held on the campus of Grand Valley State University in Allendale and Grand Rapids, MI. At the following PUB Saturday Academy, 12 delegates shared their experiences with the rest of the PUB student body during March 15 General Assembly. The 6 others have written articles that appear below. Through these reflections, all PUB Scholars reap some of the benefits of the Summit.

The theme for this year's SLS caused participants **to learn about past TRiO history and create today what will become tomorrow's TRiO history**. One of the primary Summit outcomes was an electronic "blast" of Capitol Hill on March 19 using Twitter and other social media tools. Congratulations to **Stephanie Bell, Christopher Davis, Diasia Turner, and Alante Joyner** all of whom are featured in the video of TRiO participants and TRiO alumni sharing how TRiO worked for them. **To view the video, go to:** <http://youtu.be/GMR8oQymvz0>. The video and petition were excellent precursors to the Tuesday, March 25 Capitol Hill TRiO advocacy visits made by TRiO professionals, alumni, students, and supporters.



Jordan Cowser

In the Student Leadership Summit, I was refreshed with TRiO history and informed with a lot of information. The main thing I learned about was the beneficial programs that TRiO has to offer. In my personal opinion, Upward Bound Math & Science Programs were the best for students with doubts and fears about science careers. UBMS acts like a mentor and provides academic support to measure that the scholar is achieving academic progress. Student Support Services is also another great program that watches over the student and provides tutors from freshman year through the upper class years.

Another thing I learned from the Summit was that no matter where we are from, the programs have the same family relationship as ours. Our hashtag for this year is #TRIONATION. One of the most valuable pieces of information was how PUB opens doors for scholarships. Being a part of Oakland University's PUB, along with getting a 21 on the ACT and a 3.3, you can get an Upward Bound scholarship to Grand Valley State University.

Oakland University  
Project Upward Bound



The weekend was a very outstanding, influential, and happy learning experience. I've never been in a learning environment like I experienced at the Summit. Something that stood out for me was the program itself and how everything was set up. What also impressed me was the fact that college students actually took time out of their day and from their studies to give back to us; it was phenomenal.

I was included in this program because of the leadership I've shown. The opportunity made me realize that as a member of Project Upward Bound, I have plenty of sources that can help me become wise. There are actually people who want to see me succeed in life and graduate from college. As my responsibility, I have to make sure that I take advantage of every opportunity given to me. Many students aren't appreciative enough to realize that people actually want to see them make it and not fail.

This leadership program made me want to take on more of a leadership persona than I have now. We were put in workshops that taught us more about the TRiO programs than I knew. One of my favorite workshops was "Communication Skills." It helped me and others learn how to communicate more without speaking. After touring Grand Valley State University and seeing how people's personalities are, I've added it to the college choices that I will consider.



Stephenson Kent, Jr.



**LaTisha Baker**

This year's Student Leadership Summit was a great experience. This was my first time attending a student conference and I wish to experience another at a different location. At the conference, the big focus was on TRiO, what it means, and its purpose. Before this, I only had a limited knowledge of TRiO.

But now I know much more. Not only did this expand my knowledge, it expanded my communication skills to interact with students from other TRiO programs.

My favorite workshop was "Team Building – Why?" because the game we played, "Stepping Stone," was very fun. Although it took us a minute to play the game successfully, we learned to be considerate before beginning actions to do something with people. We learned that we have to help one another and use our resources before they are quickly taken away. We have to make a plan, sketch, or even blueprint of our ideas before we can do it, and make sure everyone makes it to the top successfully. I also enjoyed the dance – that was very exciting.

This was an experience I won't ever forget; and I hope others can experience the same excitement. This was a trip to get away from everything and just listen, learn, and have fun.



**Bryan Munoz**

When I first looked into the room full of TRiO participants, I immediately felt a bond with everyone. We all looked at each other knowing we would be aiming for the same goal – success. The most interesting fact I learned was that everybody grew up with obstacles to overcome. Some were easier than others; but, even if difficult, Upward Bound has guided us through them.

It amazed me how past program alumni have come to grow up into successful adults. And, in reality, I feel terrified about how soon college life is to come. And time is definitely not on our side. As a young high school student, I have truly seen the value of education open up before my very eyes.

Chills spread down my body when a speaker announced that only 20% of TRiO-eligible students are accepted into TRiO programs due to limited funding. Gladly, this is my sign of gratitude for continuing to participate. Over 90% of TRiO members graduate, earn scholarships, and are guaranteed a much greater rate of staying academically well-rounded.

During the course of the 2-day Summit, I was influenced to become something greater in life so I can transform the lives of others. With great knowledge, we can keep addressing the masses of less fortunate students to be accepted into more programs. I hope that one day I get to share how I overcame my obstacles with others and give thanks to Upward Bound in front of a big crowd like the one on this trip.



**Janae Chunn**

February 28, 2014, was the first day of the Student Leadership Summit. It was a very educational and interesting experience. I learned more than I expected. When we arrived at Grand Valley State University, we took a short tour. We learned about the college and how life is there on campus.

After the tour, we went to workshops. During the workshop, I was taught more about the Upward Bound Program. Furthermore, I learned about other TRiO programs similar to Upward Bound. Before this conference, I would not have known when it was established, who founded it, and, most importantly, that my Project Upward Bound at Oakland University was not the only Upward Bound group. I've always thought that we were the only one until I went to the Summit.

During the scholarship dinner, students received awards. Listening to some of their stories, it made me wonder. Some had hard times growing up and others were the first to graduate high school. So for them to get to college was a blessing. Those students motivated me to do my best and be on top of my game.

The next day, we went to the Eberhard Center. While we were there, we got videotaped saying a line about "what TRiO gives to me." TRiO gives me motivation to strive for the best! After that, it was a morning of fun. We went to four different sessions. In every session, there was an activity to accomplish. It was something like teamwork. Most of us didn't know each other, so we learned about one another. Overall, this experience was great and educational.



Alante` Joyner

The weekend was awesome. We did a lot of amazing stuff. We first went to lunch at Wendy's (LOL) and met new people who were curious about us. Then we checked into the hotel and went to Grand Valley State University. I learned so much there about the college; and, later,

about the people from all over Michigan who were very nice and we were mixed in groups together.

One of the first activities was that college students made poster boards about "What is TRiO." I really learned a lot about that: There are 8 different programs world-wide. That's why the students chose the hashtag #TRIONATION, meaning TRiO is all over the world and mixed with so many people. This was one of the best leadership programs!

The workshops taught me to always be open to meet new people and be friendly because they could lead me to many opportunities. After seeing some of Grand Valley State University and learning what they offer, it especially gets added to my college choices because they do have somewhat of what I want to go to college for. This weekend experience made me realize what more of an adult I need to be and more responsibility I need to take for my life.



Mrs. Nicole Clements, PUB Project Advisor; LaTisha Baker; Jordan Cowser at the MI-CAPP Student Leadership Summit in Grand Rapids, MI

### COMMUNITY SERVICE: "LOVE THY NEIGHBOR . . . "

Annually, there are several PUB Make-A-Difference projects on which scholars and parents team up to make successful. For the 2013 **Lighthouse Thanksgiving Project**, PUB contributed more than 80 hours accepting, packing, and delivering food to shut-ins. On delivery day, PUB was the biggest group there! In December, the focus was providing hats, scarves, and gloves to less-fortunate children through the **Welcome Clothes Closet**. These contributions were certainly appreciated since this was an unusually cold and snowy winter.

Our final project was making lap blankets and greeting cards and delivering them personally to the **Regency at Waterford nursing home**. We started out singing for them and then distributed 90 blankets and cards to bring a little cheer to the residents. They were delighted to see us; and, as usual, some of our PUB Scholars were extremely moved by the experience of giving of themselves.

Many thanks to the **PUB Parent Association** for coordinating and directing the choir and helping Scholars to make 90 blankets 90 minutes! And thanks to the **Oakland University Academic Skills Center** for maintaining a donation box during PUB's Thanksgiving food drive.



# “WE BELIEVE THEY CAN FLY . . . TOUCH THE SKY!”

Saturday, March 15, 2014, marked another day of rejoicing mingled with sadness. On that day, PUB said the official good-bye to its Class of 2014.

In the presence of other PUB Scholars, parents, staff, and school officials, each PUB graduating senior shared what PUB has meant to him or her and where they will be enrolled next fall. There was no shortage of tears, laughter, or cheers as we all reveled in their accomplishments.

Not only did we celebrate graduates, but we recognized freshmen, sophomores, and juniors for perfect attendance, academic progress, and academic achievement. According to one of our special guests, “*This is the best program of its kind that I’ve ever been to.*”



## Graduates



**Sareen Abouzahr**  
Pontiac Academy for Excellence  
College: *University of Michigan*



**Ta'Quanda Allen**  
International Technological Academy  
College: *Ferris State University*



**Joshua Davis**  
International Technological Academy  
College: *Michigan Institute of Technology*



**Desmond Graham**  
Pontiac Academy for Excellence  
College: *University of Michigan*



**T'Andre Hardnett**  
Oak Park High School  
College: *Eastern Michigan University*



**Vanessa Perkins**  
Pontiac Academy for Excellence  
College: *University of Michigan*



**Karlee Perrymond**  
Pontiac High School  
College: *Michigan State University*



**Kierra Strickland**  
Oak Park High School  
College: *Oakland University*



**Tiara Thomas**  
Pontiac Academy for Excellence  
College: *Western Michigan University*



**Raymond Vining**  
Pontiac High School  
College: *Michigan State University*



**Elise Williamson**  
Pontiac High School  
College: *University of Michigan*

**Elena Barnes** - Oak Park High School  
College Choice: *Undecided*

**Catherine Daoud** - Oak Park High School  
College Choice: *Univ. of Michigan*

**Markell Dexter** - Pontiac High School  
College Choice: *Undecided*

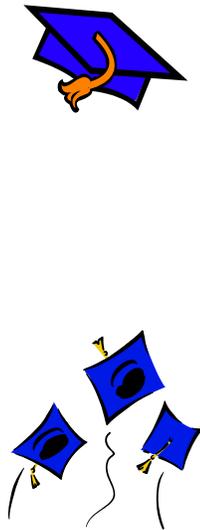
**Taylor Harney** - Pontiac High School  
College Choice: *Undecided*

**Laneesa Jones** - International Tech. Academy  
College Choice: *Undecided*

# 2014 Graduates & Their Families



Vanessa Perkins      Joshua Davis      Karlee Perrymond



Tiara Thomas      T'Andre Hardnett



Desmond Graham      Sereen Abouzahr      Ta'Quanda Allen



Raymond Vining      Kierra Strickland      Elise Williamson



**Geraldine Graham, PUB Director, with Sereen Abouzahr, 2014 Director's Award Recipient**



**Nicole Clements, PUB Project Advisor, with Desmond Graham, 2014 Tool Box Award Recipient.**

# Certificate Recipients

Academic Progress



College Club Perfect Attendance



Saturday Academy  
Perfect Attendance



PUB Club Perfect Attendance



Academic Achievement



Academic Success,  
Character Development and Life Skills

## ONE LAST HURRAH

After spending 3-4 years with each senior, every year, Ms. Graham plans a special cultural event called “**Senior Send -Off**” to launch seniors out into the world on a positive note. On March 30, this year’s Senior Send-Off started with dinner at “**Beans and Cornbread**” in Southfield. After that, it was questionable as to whether we could stay awake to do anything else. But we were wide awake for the fabulous production of “**Beauty and the Beast**” at Detroit’s fantastic **Fisher Theatre**. And thanks to a great group discount, we were able to enjoy the view from the front section of the main floor. Not a bad way to say good-bye . . .



## BIDDING A FOND FAREWELL



After almost 7 years as PUB’s Academic Coordinator, Ms. Carolyn Delia has decided that it’s time to enjoy life from a different perspective beginning May 1, 2014. PUB appreciates Ms. Delia’s years of service and the grace with which she has carried out her responsibilities. She freely contributed her expertise, professionalism, positive attitude, and team spirit to help make sure that PUB achieved its mission and objectives. Ms. D., you were a critical part of our team and it will be hard to find someone to fill the shoes you so ably wore. Our best wishes and we hope that you’ll have more time to spend with those grand babies as well as other family, friends, and relaxing pastimes. Stop back by to see us if you get the urge!

# SUMMER 2013 SUMMARY

The Academic Year has been so intense and flown by so fast that it was near the end before we realized that no fall newsletter had been published. So bear with us while we bring a few facts to your attention about the 2013 PUB Summer Academy.

- ◆ 44 Residential Scholars were enrolled.
- ◆ 4.5% voluntarily withdrew from Summer Academy because of the intensity.
- ◆ 6.8% were suspended from Summer Academy (including 1 Project dismissal).
- ◆ 68% earned the summer trip by earning A/B honor roll & 85+ behavior points.
- ◆ 86% of Scholars ended the summer with 80 or more behavior points (of 100).
- ◆ 90% (of those remaining) made improvement from pre-test to post-test.
- ◆ 91% were retained into the Academic Year.

One of the highlights of last summer was that we awarded our first Greg Dokes Performing Arts Award to **Sarah Gonzalez**. Other awards were earned as follows:

Residential Role Model: **John Ross Dristy**, Male; **Mariah Kelley**, Female

Academic Distinction (3.9+ in all 8 classes): **Darryl Granberry Jr.**, **Sylmaira Brooks**, **Sierra Tolbert**

Spirit of Upward Bound: **Darryl Granberry, Jr.**

PUB is ahead of the game this year. We are pleased to announce that **Ms. Andrea Robertson** will be returning as Head Resident. PUB Alumni **Amber Briggs** and **Joshua Guy** will also be returning as Peer Mentors, joined by 2 new faces, **Dezarea Wade** and **Randy Holloway**. PUB Alumnus **Joi Turner** will also return to the Night Watch position.

## Summer 2013 Photo Review



Annual Gospifest



Electives Showcase



Dorm Activities



Creative Arts Studio



Family Fun Day



Fashion Class



Biology Class



Summer Awards

## **IMPORTANT SUMMER 2014 DATES**

May 10, 2:30 p.m.: Juniors take Iowa Test of Educational Development  
May 17, 8:30 a.m.: All others take Iowa Test of Educational Development  
Parent Meetings on Sundays at 7:15 p.m.— 6/22, 6/29, 7/13, 7/20, 7/27

June 20:	On-Site Registration	July 23:	Electives Showcase
June 22:	Dorm Check-In	July 27:	Parent Appreciation Day
July 3:	Holiday break starts at noon	July 30:	Let's Have Dinner Day
July 7:	Holiday break ends at noon	July 31:	Performance & Awards Program
July 13:	Family Day Cookout	August 1-5:	Summer Trip
July 17:	Scholarship Gospelfest		

Note: No vacations or non-emergency absences are allowed during PUB's Summer Academy.

## **WAIT FOR IT . . . WAIT FOR IT . . .**

Soon PUB will be launching a **new web page – same address with updated information** presented in a **friendlier format**. New will be a Scholar resources page called “**Hot Links**” as well as a **Scholar Life Cycle** graphic that will explain each year of PUB to current and prospective participants. Also included will be an easy-to-read and print **calendar** and an **announcements and updates** page.

When it's ready, we'll announce the launch on Facebook. Even though you may no longer use Facebook as your primary social media tool, please continue to check PUB's Facebook page regularly for important messages including special opportunities that sometimes need a quick response.

## **PARENT NEWS**

Under the leadership of PUBPA President Carol Carter, **\$1,900 in scholarship funds** was raised by the 2013 Annual Scholarship Gospelfest. Co-chairs for the 2014 Gospelfest are **Ms. Nitasha Harmon and Ms. Lori McKnight**. During the Academic Year, parents also raised and contributed about **\$1,000 for their TRiO Advocacy Fund**.

Congratulations to the following parents who had **perfect attendance at PUB's monthly Parent Association Meetings** during the 2013-2014 Academic Year. **Wendy Cowser, Latresha Long, Christine Warren**.

PUB extends a big **THANK YOU to Tarissa O'Malley and Brionna Blackwell of Oakland University Credit Union**. They facilitated PUBPA's **monthly Financial Literacy Seminars**. This year's topics included Cash Flow Management, Personal Net Worth, and Financial Goal Setting.



## A Few Famous TRiO Alumni

**Current TRiO Scholars: Be Encouraged . . . You Are Destined for Greatness!!!**

**Oprah Winfrey**, Upward Bound: Talk Show Host, Author, Journalist, Magazine and TV Network Owner, Philanthropist, Actress.



**John Quinones**, Upward Bound, St Mary's University: Senior Correspondent for ABC News, "Prime Time Live," "What Would You Do?" Mr. Quinones is the Master of Ceremony for the Annual Opportunity Dinner sponsored by the Council for Opportunity in Education each fall.

**Viola Davis**, Upward Bound, Student Support Services, Rhode Island College: Tony Award-Winning Actress, Academy Award Nominee, Julliard graduate, and Co-Star of "The Help."



**Franklin Chang-Diaz**, Student Support Services, University of Connecticut: First Hispanic Astronaut .

**Mae Jemison**, Upward Bound, Stanford University: First African-American female Astronaut.



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**ANNOUNCING PUB'S  
ALL-CLASS REUNION WEEKEND  
IN CELEBRATION OF 50 YEARS AT OAKLAND UNIVERSITY!**

**SAVE THE DATES**

**Saturday, July 16 – Sunday, July 17, 2016**

Calling all individuals who participated in regular PUB, PUB Fine Arts Institute, or PUB Cadet Engineering from 1966 through the present. We want to see you there. So please make sure we have your contact information by emailing it to [PUB@oakland.edu](mailto:PUB@oakland.edu).

Note to clarify: Upward Bound Programs were created 50 years ago in 1964. Thus the national celebration. Project Upward Bound at Oakland University was first funded in 1966, which gives us two years to plan our project's 50th!

# PROJECT ADVISOR'S CORNER



Nicole J. Clements  
Project Advisor

As I say Congratulations and Good Luck to another graduating senior class for PUB I have to sit and reflect on this year's events. I am still amazed at how great our PUB students are performing and I only wish we could offer our services to ALL low-income and first generation students. This year it seems the focus in Washington was on the widening achievement gap. Congress

wants to know how they can graduate more students from college with advanced degrees. I am here to say, TRiO programs are the best value for their money! We are graduating students of excellence and they are going on to do wonderful things with their lives.



Front row left to right: Vanessa Perkins, Raymond Vining, Tiara Thomas, Desmond Graham, Sereen Abouzahr  
Back row: Joshua Davis, T'Andre Hardnett

## **So my first message will be to our PUB Alums.....**

This year marks the 50<sup>TH</sup> year for Upward Bound Programs! Get Involved with your old program, come back and tell your stories of success!! Send up videos, post some pictures, do whatever it takes to show that our programs make a difference!

## **To our Current PUB Scholars.....**

Continue to be involved with Project Upward Bound activities. Call the office and check in, if you need extra volunteer hours we can help you. There is always work to be done! Also, don't be afraid to tell a friend or another student about your program, WE LOVE referrals. If you have an idea or a topic that you would like to see covered let us know! We also LOVE feedback!

## **And last but not least, to PUB Parents and Supporters....**

Make sure you know who you are voting for. Do they support programs like Upward Bound? Send a letter to your representative, superintendent, or principal letting them know how much Upward Bound has helped your children. Our message has to stay current and relevant! We need TRiO programs to continue!

## **MEMBERSHIP RECRUITMENT**

I am in the process of recruiting at all of our target schools. We will be filling up quick; so if you know someone who would like to get involved, make sure to have them contact the office. We are looking for a few good 8<sup>th</sup> graders who are ready to take a journey toward excellence with us! We are also looking for good 9<sup>th</sup> graders who recognize that they don't know all the answers and are willing to listen to the people who have those answers. Hurry, spaces for 2014-2015 will fill up fast.

It always helps to have the active support of current Scholars. So if you're interested in being a PUB Membership Ambassador contact me at [clements@oakland.edu](mailto:clements@oakland.edu). Membership Ambassadors help with recruitment at their schools or may help with interviews if available.

*Mrs. C.*

## **STUDYING THE PAST TO IMPROVE THE FUTURE**

In an effort to improve service to PUB Scholars, over the next couple of years PUB will participate in a study commissioned by the U.S. Department of Education. The **Study of Enhanced College Advising in Upward Bound** will provide PUB staff with professional development, materials, tools, and other resources to enhance the college advising process for PUB juniors.

Juniors will need to complete two surveys, one before and one after receiving advising services. Then the Department will collect data to examine key outcomes including college application behaviors, college acceptance and matriculation, and receipt of financial aid.

This is an excellent opportunity for PUB to determine whether the college advising methods that it currently uses will be identified as best practices and recommended to other projects; as well as to learn other best practices that can be applied for improved results for PUB Scholars.



**Project Upward Bound  
College Prep Academy**

261 South Foundation Hall  
Rochester, Michigan 48309-4401

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## SPOTLIGHT ON ALUMNI: *Jibril Shabazz*

**High School Attended:** Pontiac Central High School—YOG 2009

**College Attended:** Oakland Community College

**Date of Graduation:** May 2012

**Degree Earned:** Associates in Liberal Arts

**How PUB Influenced My Life:** Greatly, how hasn't it? PUB was, and is, a great way to spend a portion of your summers and a little time after school. Working directly with college students who have been in your seats is such an invaluable experience. The Saturday Academy kept my mind academically focused, so I was able to easily stay above the waters of the regular school course load. The one summer I was fortunate to spend with Project Upward Bound gave me memories to last a lifetime. Yes, there is schooling with classes like Math, Science and even Language, but there is also even more fun in the end. For instance, the BIG SUMMER TRIP! My first venture outside of the country to Canada and various parts was with PUB. I had an amazing time, and still skim through the awesome photos I got to capture. Even the proper etiquette training in the Oakland Center Gold Rooms is something I reflect on every time I'm out to eat at restaurants to which proper manners are expected. I am realizing now that I am a reflection of my community and race everywhere I go. So utilizing the personal development skills TRiO offers, allows me to represent us more adequately. Coming from an urban community that offers little exposure to the grand scheme of things, PUB has allowed me to move comfortably throughout this vast world of many different cultures and social classes.

**Career Goals:** Entrepreneurship is a goal I am working towards daily. I believe it is vital to become a producer, to add to society, and improve it. Currently I am employed at Delphi in Shipping and Receiving, but I view this and any other job as only tools to accomplish my life goal of financial independence and being able to empower others to experience the same.

