

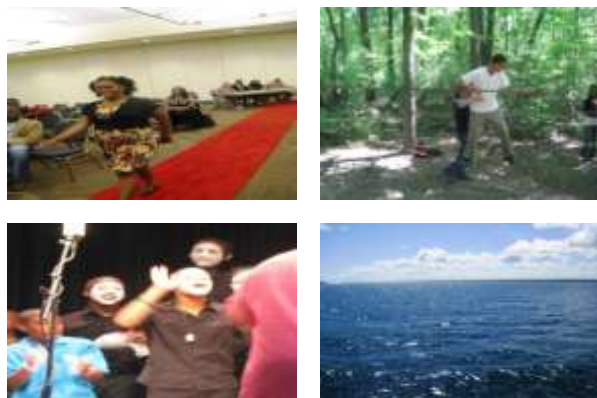
## This Is It, My Blueprint For The Future

### Director's Desktop



Geraldine E. Graham, Director

PUB served 46 residential participants this summer. Aside from an elective, they were enrolled in Spanish, English Composition, Reading, Writing, Science, Guidance, and Performing Arts. Our Classroom on Wheels Excursion was a journey "Up North" which was an eye-opening experience for our urban population in more ways than one! They also enjoyed extensive social enrichment activities right here on campus.



I am pleased to introduce this Summer 2010 edition of In Focus because it represents six weeks of hard work by PUB's Publications Class. Their project, under the supervision of Ms. Rebecca Tomczak, was the production of this newsletter; and the challenge was to get it ready for distribution at the Summer Academy Awards Program. So, to the Publications Class, congratulations on a job well done and on meeting your deadline!

PUB's 17 active Senior Seminar participants focused on finding realistic options for "good fit" colleges, identifying financial resources to pay for their education, and developing their electronic profiles for admission advisers to view. Their summer project consisted of individually developing, and presenting to parents and administrators, a PowerPoint presentation of their research findings and conclusions as related to their college matches.



PUB Mentors and staff

The summer excitement began way back in the spring when PUB started seeking summer team members. The PUB Team members are highly skilled in their respective specialties and committed to student development. The use of Skype to conduct live interviews of out-of-state applicants for the first time resulted in an eight-member

The parent presence was high - hosting the Annual Scholarship Gospelfest (chaired by Ms. Fair) and Family Day (chaired by Ms. Guy), and supporting night watch efforts in the residence hall. Congratulations to Ms. Shana Caldwell and Mr. Samson Carter, Jr. who received the Night Watch Champion Certificates for being on duty 10 out of 22 nights. And to Parent Association officers, thanks for a good year: Ms. Reshaunna Fair, President; Ms. Renee Blunt, President-Elect; and Ms. Jacqueline Page, Secretary.

Residential Team that consists of individuals from Michigan, New York, Washington, DC, and Illinois.

This summer was not without challenges. But, consistent with our theme, "THIS IS IT: My Blueprint for the Future," we are proud of the work of participants who began paving the way for a brighter future. We look forward to continuing to support them in this work throughout the next Academic Year.

Geri Graham  
Project Director

# Teamwork and Personal Growth

## Camp Tamarack

By Jasmine East



Ms. Jasmine East

What's the definition of teamwork? Is it the sense of accomplishment that is felt when everyone in a group fully participates in an activity? Perhaps it's the support that members of a group give to one another.

You will never know until you experience it yourself.

Often as individuals, we chose to live independently in an environment. Through teamwork, we learn to trust the ones we love. We learn that two heads we better than one (in this case, twenty heads are better than one!) I learned this through an unforgettable experience at Camp Tamarack where I found the leader in myself and in my P.U.B. sisters. Leadership is an important characteristic to have; you need it to succeed. At Camp Tamarack we got to choose whether we wanted to be a leader or a follower. We used different exercises or activities to express this "leadership". These activities consisted of paying attention, listening, talking, participating, having your own opinion, having confidence and taking chances.



## Growth— By Erica Butts

I often sit in my room, questioning not my physical growth, but internal and mental growth. This is the growth that defines me in every way. Throughout life, we, as the youth of our society, feel as if we are pressured to reach maturity immediately, when in all reality, a sense of growth must take place in order for us to do so. We must find our own identity and set goals which we are capable of accomplishing. Maturity and growth comes from reasoning and understanding who we are and who we wish to be; not who the media persuades us to be. Most importantly, one must reach a state in life where one is confident in one's self. I have experienced quite a few nights when I bawled my eyes out through anger and pain because I lacked confidence which altered my growth in true knowledge of myself. As teenagers, we allow ourselves to accept lies to suffocate us. Therefore, we feed off of the incapability and not the ability that we possess. This could damage the growth and maturity which is necessary to take place. Growth is not defined by success or failure which has fought for existence in our life; but by the amount of times a person stands back up, admits the wrong, and continues on the journey ahead. Growth never stops, no matter how old a person is, it's a lifelong experience... but only if one takes advantage of it.



Ms. Erica S. Butts

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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)

# THE SCOOP ON A FEW PUB Staff Members



**Ms. Allison:**

*By Jamari Chunn and Savonne Keys*

Ms. Allison likes people and loves children! She has a passion for helping others with and listening to their problems. Therefore, she made psychology her field of study. She attended Grand Valley State University for four years and developed an interest in abnormal psychology. She admits that sometimes the classes are long and difficult, but she loves to help people along the way. Her dream is to one day work with young children.



**Ms. Jones:**

*By Rebecca Tomczak*

Ms. Jones was raised in Detroit and attended college in Alabama. She returned to Michigan and has remained here ever since. She enjoys being a part of the staff at PUB and has a special interest working with youth. She aims to be a calming and stable influence and encourages students to keep going in their academic careers and never give up on their dreams. She credits her mom for being her role model, and also her late brother, who passed away from a terminal disease. She recalls how, during his illness, he never complained and inspired all those around him. Ms. Jones is committed to demonstrating to those around her the same kind of positivity that her brother inspired her with. For Ms. Jones, the greatest part of her job is seeing students successfully complete the program, embark on their future careers and make their dreams become reality.

**Mr. Raju:**

*By Ka'sha Daniels*

Mr. Raju graduated from Manhattan International High School. He also went to Cazenovih College in New York City. He majored in criminal justice and home land security. One of his long term goals is to be an investigator and take care of his family. Mr. Raju believes that the people at PUB make an impact on students' lives, and this gives them hope. Some of the things that he is looking forward to doing this summer at PUB are to have a positive influence on the students and guild them and lead them to the right path. To Mr. Raju, being a mentor is to be a role model and have positive influence.



# THE SCOOP ON A FEW PUB Staff Members (continued)

## Ms Rashida:

By Ka'sha Daniels.

Ms. Rasheda graduated from Cardozo High School in Washington D.C. When she was in college, she was in a program call Student Support Service. When she was in that program, she found out about Oakland University PUB and decided to apply. Currently, she attends Howard University in DC. Her major is psychology and her minor is English. One of her long term goals is to be an author. She wants to write self help books, present books and do seminars. If a student is giving up on PUB, Ms. Rasheda will give them good evidence to stay- herself! She was in Upward Bound for 3 years in DC. She likes how the staff at PUB gets to know the students and structures the program around their needs. To her, being a peer mentor allowed her the opportunity to connect particularly with young ladies and show them how negative situations can be turned into positive ones. "Stay focused," she tells the students. "You can get easy distracted by other things such as friends, home life, or school issues. Remember why you're here, and keep pursuing your dreams."



## Ms. Eralda:

We use technology very often and like using technology. Some peo-



Kayla Lee-Mays



Mrs. Eralda Caushaj

ple make technology their career. We interviewed Mrs. Eralda Caushaj, one of the tutors in our publications class. She said that what got her started in technology was that where she is from, technology is popular, and she tries to stay updated on the latest technology. While we were interviewing Mrs. Eralda, we asked her if she was she the first person in her family to study technology. Her response was that technology wasn't well known in her family, that they were undecided whether or not it was the best decision for her to make, but when she did it they were proud that she made the decision. Mrs. Eralda is currently a PHD student at Oakland University in Computer Science. In 2003, she received her bachelor's degree.



Kiara Barahona

Kayla Lee-Mays  
Kiara Barahona



# Gospel fest 2010



**Varner Hall where the event was held**

formed a Gospel Choir that performed a series of inspirational praise and worship songs. Uplifting messages were given

This year, those who attended Gospel Fest were treated to a wonderful evening of Singing Dance and Drama. The Project Upward Bound Students



**PUB students**

from spoken word, as well as dance and drama. The New Bethel Baptist Church presented their children's choir and dance team...to everyone's delight! These kids inspired



**Mr. Wright, Choir Director**

everyone with their energy and enthusiasm for dance and song. A mime was performed as well as group choreography by New Bethel's Men of Standard drama team. A live praise band included keys, drums, and bass guitar.



**Ms. Mary Richardson**

A theme that seemed to emerge from the event was the Biblical illustration of fruit of the vine.



**Director of New Bethel Youth Choir**

Comparisons were made to how Project Upward Bound is investing in the lives of students (represented as the fruit), and soon that fruit will be



**New Bethel Youth Choir**

ripe and ready for harvest (represented by the students achieving their dreams and going to college). This memorable night was made possible by the efforts of all who contributed to the program.



**Parents**



**Production Staff**



**PUB Choir**



**Band**



**Jamilia Vigier-Cage  
Ka'sha Daniels**

# Thoughts on PUB & Future Careers

## Becoming an Artist

By Keith Herren

What makes a good artist? Art is very important as it enhances our experiences and tells us about ourselves as people. The artist is able to



Keith Herren

capture pieces of everyday life and reflect them back at us, giving us a glimpse into the hearts and minds of ourselves and others. A good artist must work really hard at capturing these elements of life. They must make this a creatively natural process. It may seem like an artist simply just writes down letters or notes or paints something. They can use similes and metaphors, create

different sounds or different images but there is more to an artist than just the tools they use. Being an artist is really all about dedication; it's about a lot of practice. It means that there are often rough beginnings. Criticisms may come, and probably a young artist will experience somebody putting them down. There will also be good times though either way a young artist should never give up because it would be sad to look back on life and think about the "what ifs." Also, artists need to make sure they don't overlook the other areas of their life that they need to develop to. It may not seem important but think for a second: in a writing class a student needs to learn to type, do grammar, create sentences that use similes and metaphors—all things a future artist will probably use! So wrapping it up, good artists need to keep their dreams alive!



## Mission

By Denise Cope

Project Upward Bound to me is a motivational word with a hidden meaning. To me the word project upward bound means a mission to move forward and unite. I know that we want to meet new people and unite as one but this program also helped me to realize that it's also about education. I didn't know what this program was or was about until my parent informed me about it. Then when I found out more about the program and that it was about work and school, I didn't want to be in it, but my parents forced me to stay and they pushed me and tried so hard to encourage me but I didn't want to cooperate. As I stayed in the program I felt the same because I felt that it took some of my Saturdays away. When the summer came I heard that they were having a summer academy and then I really didn't want to be in it, but I still gave it a try. As I was there I used the program in the wrong way and didn't take it seriously and I found out that there was a big field trip at the end of the program and I thought I was going to get chosen to go but when the announcement came my name didn't get called. I was and I had the points but I played around the whole program, then when the trip came close I boosted my grades up. So that tells me that I should work harder and take care of business seriously. This program is a program of success, not to play around. This program has helped me to grow up as a mature lady. I really appreciate my parents and parents for pushing me and getting me prepared for the real world. Now I know what to expect and how to become more hard working. This program has helped me out a lot.



Denise Cope

# Thoughts on Future Careers

## Becoming a Pediatrician

By Talisha Williamson

I interviewed Nancy Jansen, the Certified Adult Nurse Practitioner at The Graham Health Center at Oakland University. She seemed really happy and enthusiastic about answering my questions. I asked her what made her want to go into the medical field; she said it was because her mom and sister went to nursing school. She attended Oakland University for her undergrad. At Wayne State, she got her Master's Degree. She also shared that in high school, she was a medical assistant. I asked her was nursing school expensive or hard. She told me that it wasn't expensive as it is now and that she received a scholarship. She told me that nursing school was challenging.



Talisha Williamson

There were times when she failed a lot

of classes, but she didn't give up. She got help from tutors and from her mom and sister. Next, I asked her how she stayed motivated during those times where she failed and when nursing school was challenging. She said that she knew that just being a medical assistant wasn't enough and that she wanted more than that. She knew that you needed a skill in life to survive. She says that she was very persistent. She also shared that her mom was her role model and that her supervisor at the medical facility encouraged her to go beyond just working as a medical assistant. I asked her what classes she had to take during college. She told me the following: nursing classes, chemistry, biology, and lots of science classes. My last and final question was: "Do you have any advice for me, a young woman who wants to go to medical school and become a pediatrician?" She said "I know that wanting to go to medical school and wanting to be in the medical field is a very big goal and that I should break my big goal into smaller goals". She also advised to not



## Computer Forensic

I, Giselle, am interested in computer forensics and investigations. I interviewed Lieutenant Mel Gilroy. He told me that he developed a passion for his job over time. He likes that his job has the same responsibility, but different things every day. He was a student at Oakland University and received a degree in Chinese History. He manages the investigations during the school year and he says that there are only 50-70 a year, 2 or 3 days a month. He said some problems on campus like stealing text books and people breaking into other rooms. I hope to have a career similar to this one day.



Giselle Rivera-Torres



Giselle Rivera-Torres

# Fashion Show 2010



**Audience members**

The fashion show was reported by many to be a great success! So many people expressed their enjoyment of the production, and the models



**PUB students**

demonstrate appropriate ways to dress for certain occasions. A contest was also given to find out whose clothing fit the best with each occasion scenario. Events presented ranged from dinners to formals. As one of the first productions of



**Mr. Butts**

also indicated that it was a fun opportunity for them. The goal of the fashion show was to



**Mr. Chunn**



**Mr. Melendez**

Summer Academy, the fashion show gave a boost to the morale of students as well as offer insight for appropriate dress.



**Mr. Sanders**



**Mr. Carter**



**Ms. Taylor**



**Ms. Cope**



**Ms. Butts**



**Fashion show judges**





# Up North trip 2010



**Ferry ride**

Our Classroom had the opportunity to head “Up North” and see many great forms of nature and scenery. We also had a dinner cruise and visited Lake Superior State University.



**Arch rock**



**Soo Locks**



**Lake Superior State University**

**Soo Locks**



**Lake Superior State University**



**PUB peer mentors and student**



**Tahquamenon Falls**



**Boat in Soo Locks**



**Nature**



**Ka'sha Daniels**



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This year, PUB offered for the first time electives in the Program. They included Drama, Computers and Publications. Many students have expressed their appreciation for these electives and hope to keep them in the future!

QuizBowl First Place Winners: Javon Beaner, Javonte Butts, Cierra Jackson,  
Paris Spann, Courtney Teasley, Jamie Vigier-Cage, Talisha Williamson

QuizBowl Second Place Winners: Eriqie Allen, Marlori Allen, Angelique Cage,  
Kiersten Davis, Kineasha Wiggins

Jeopardy First Place Winners: Kayla Lee-Mays, Erica Butts

Jeopardy Second Place Winners: Jamie Vigie Cage, Talisha Williamson

Jeopardy Third Place Winners: Aminah Pettiford, Courtney Teasley

Summer 2010 Publications Students: Kiara Barahona, Jamari Chunn, Keith Herren, Sa'Vonne Keys, Kayla Lee-Mays, Giselle Rivera-Torres, Talisha Williamson, Cameron Blunt, Erica Butts, Denise Cope, Ka'Sha Daniels, Jasmine East. Teachers: Eralda Caushaj, Rebecca Tomczak. Tutor: Natalie Nagl.