UA UPWARD BOUND (UA UB) IS AN EVIDENCE-BASED PROGRAM WHICH PROVIDES STUDENTS SOCIAL AND ACADEMIC CAPITAL BUILDING SUPPORT NECESSARY IN THEIR SUCCESSFUL TRANSITION FROM HIGH SCHOOL INTO COLLEGE

Highlights and Event Summaries

Our First Semester
at The University of Arizona
As the Director of Upward Bound Project, Ms. Perez is responsible for the success of the program. She oversees the management of the program and oversees participant identification, selection, retention, and performance.

She hopes this newsletter informs parents, students, and all UA Upward Bound Project supporters of the importance and impact this program has on the students.
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KICK OFF ORIENTATION

Our first meeting introduced new Upward Bound families to the Project Director, Coordinator, Principal Investigator and Peer Mentor/Tutors for the semester. It was great to meet the families of the students we are working with.

During the first portion of the day we covered our mission, services, and goals with families. Parents left their students knowing the program's timeline for the semester and the commitment expected from their students.

Following the first portion of the day, students were able to meet their assigned Peer Mentor/Tutor and get to interact with others in the program.

The group was then taken to the Science-Engineering Library on campus where they engaged in the conversation of "The Value of Higher Education". Students got to know their peers by coming up with short skits about the value of education and also self reflected through journal writing.

Project Mission: To assist students graduate from high school, enter college and earn a baccalaureate degree.
We want to thank all the UB family members who have been answering our calls, emails, bringing kids early on Saturday morning, and continuing their support of your students' academic journey with Upward Bound! Looking forward to continuing our commitment and support for your students' future.

-UB Staff
2nd Saturday Academy: Exploring the Future Me

STUDENTS COVERED ESSENTIAL TOPICS TO ASSIST THEM IN ENVISIONING THEIR FUTURE GOALS AND POTENTIAL CAREERS.

For this Saturday Academy, students identified their strengths and delved into understanding how they play part in classroom, home and extracurricular activities. They also explored career opportunities that related to their areas of interests, personalities, and strengths. Students were also able to explore the University of Arizona with their Peer Mentors and they learned different facts as they located buildings and student services on campus.

KNOWING THEIR PLAN FOR COLLEGE

Students were introduced to the specific courses that are required for assured admission to the three in state school: NAU, ASU, and UA. UB staff also covered different pathways available to become a university student.

ASSURED ADMISSION RECAP!

Students should have the following in terms of academic requirements to qualify for assured admission:

1. Be an Arizona Resident
2. Be in the Top 25% of your class with a 3.0 GPA
3. Complete the 16 Core Academic Courses "Sweet 16"
Sweet 16
Complete the following year course requirements to meet college admission college requirements

4 Math
4 English
3 Lab Sciences
2 Social Sciences
2 Same Foreign Language
1 Fine Arts or CTE

startnow.arizona.edu
empiezahoy.arizona.edu
Exploring Literacy

Students were engaged in a financial literacy course through Take Charge Cats. They covered information on spending plans. The importance of evaluating spending habits was stressed during a session where they also demonstrated to create a spending plan that best fits a lifestyle, and explored "unexpected" expenses related to major purchases.

UB group also participated in the Festival of Books. Its a community wide celebration of literature which helps improve students' literacy rates as they attend author and illustrator workshops, panels, and meet with them.

Students followed up their Festival of Books experience by sharing about how they connected with authors and illustrators. Their journal prompt had them reflect on what prevents them from writing. Lastly, they all interacted in group building exercises.
LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

"Leaders Light the Way"

On Saturday, April 7, 2018 a couple of Upward Bound students joined the UB Project Director and Coordinator over to Arizona State University, West Campus for the 2018 Student Leadership Conference, "Leaders Light the Way".

Through this conference, students discovered tools needed to understand themselves, strengthen their schools, organizations, and their communities. Practical leadership training, heart-changing speaker, and fun for all was something students found on this enrichment opportunity. We hope this experience helped all students make life changing decisions to not only help themselves but to also help others.
Also on Saturday, April 7th, another group of students of UA Upward Bound attended a competition event "Arizona Financial Faceoff" by Take Charge Cats. This is a UA undergraduate student led group who's mission is to "To create financially informed youth in Arizona". By participating in this event, students learned and applied knowledge about spending plans, savings, credit basics, credit reports and housing information.
Students went to the University of Arizona's Museum of Art and were lead through various activities in the galleries. The group interpreted art, participated in workshops and wrote poems inspired by specific art pieces.

They also connected with student staff who organize the student led Spring Fling Carnival at the UA. The Upward Bound group was able to enjoy rides and play games.
The fifth and last Saturday Academy for this semester took place at the UA's Challenge Program. The whole group took part in the Low Element Course. This challenged students to work together to complete various physical and intellectual obstacles on/near the ground using props, planks, buckets, telephone poles, etc.
Ms. Perez is a proud Wildcat with two bachelor's degrees and a master's degree from the UA. She has expansive experience assisting local Tucson and south Arizona school districts, families and students with admissions, college visits, access, events, and outreach information. Her passion in increasing access and degree completion in underrepresented and minority students propels her forward in establishing and expanding the work of Upward Bound at Pueblo and Cholla High Schools. She full-heartedly believes in the goals of the Upward Bound Project at the UA and is excited to be a part of the journeys of the students who participate in the program. From the moment of acceptance in the program during high school to the moment students attain their baccalaureate degrees!

Ms. Mata is a Tucson local, graduate of Desert View High School and was a former TRIO student in her academic journey. She has professional experiences with College Advising Corps, New Start, College Academy for Parents, and directly worked in Pueblo High school. At Pueblo, she was an AVID tutor and a soccer coach. She earned her bachelor’s in Family Studies and Human Development at the UA and is currently pursuing her masters in Higher Education.
“Upward Bound provides fundamental support to participants in their preparation for college entrance. The program provides opportunities for participants to succeed in their pre-college performance and ultimately in their higher education pursuits. The goal of Upward Bound is to increase the rate at which participants complete secondary education and enroll in and graduate from institutions of post-secondary education.” (U.S. Department of Education, 2018).

**Milestones**

Established: 2017
Location:
- University of Arizona
- Pueblo High School
- Cholla High School

Tucson, Arizona
Number of Participants: 60
35 Pueblo High School
25 Cholla High School
Program Size:
- Project Director
- Project Coordinator
- Private Investigator
- 7 Mentor/Tutors
- 1 Graduate Intern

**Mission & Vision**

UA Upward Bound/TRIO (UA UB) supports underrepresented, low-income, first-generation high school students through programming that provides student personalized access to Academic Preparation & Field Research Activities. Access to Technology and Scientific Tools, Financial Literacy and Planning, and Socio-cultural Literacy to make higher education a reality for these under-served populations.

**Key Student Characteristics**

- Senior 2%
- Freshman 40%
- Sophomore 33%
- Junior 25%
- Other 2%

**Program Services**

**MENTORING**
- Undergraduate Peers
- 1 on 1 individualized development

**TUTORING**
- Undergraduate Peers
- 1 on 1 individualized assistance

**SATURDAY ACADEMIES**
- College Workshops
- Cultural Enrichment

**Summer Program**
- Academic Enrichment
- College Tours

**Student Participation**

- 86.6% participation rate at Saturday Academies.
- 300 total number of study/tutoring hours logged by students.
- 26: average of one-on-one meetings with peer mentors per student.

**3.26 Average student GPA**

16 of students in AP/Honors:

- 95% of students on track to graduate high school on time
- 100% of students planning to attend college/university after high school graduation
# NEXT STEPS: SUMMER ACADEMY

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