

Director's Desktop



Geraldine E. Graham, Director

This morning when the weather announcer used the term "wind chill," I knew that summer was over for sure here in Michigan. But the cold temperatures won't erase the fond memories of PUB Summer Academy 2015.

After the August 5 official end of Summer Academy 2015, each PUB Administrative Team member took a little breather; and now we are renewed, refreshed, rejuvenated, and ready to implement a productive academic year.

For the PUB Team, summer actually began last spring with planning and identifying summer staff, then hosting scholar/parent orientation, and facilitating team training. Once scholars moved onto campus, the action was non-stop starting with PUB's Leadership Development Institute and ending with the summer trip.

This summer, PUB employed 17 Oakland University students, undergraduate and graduate: Five on the Residential Team, 3 on the Administrative Team, and 9 on the Academic Team. This includes one undergraduate participating in the **Summer Student Campus Corp** sponsored by **Student Financial Services**.



"NO EXCUSES JUST RESULTS"

PUB is extremely proud of all of the Scholars who made the choice to live on campus this summer – especially those who stuck it out in spite of the higher standards, greater structure, and more rigorous schedule that had to be maintained. **We particularly congratulate those who met the academic, behavioral, and citizenship requirements to earn "The Big Trip."**

A primary goal of Upward Bound is to provide participants with experiences that they may not otherwise have. Two such experiences were provided this summer: **Archery Lessons** and **International Night**.

The **archery lesson** was hosted by Academic Coordinator Ava McDowell at the **Royal Oak Archers Club** where she is an avid archer and officer. Most Scholars enjoyed this new experience so much that they were willing to forfeit their telephone time that night to stay on the archery course (what, whaaaaat?). While there, Scholars also took water samples from the creek to examine the next day in the science lab; and they reported that the water was perfectly PH balanced!

As PUB becomes more ethnically diverse, it becomes more important for each of us to understand the cultural norms of one another. **The Parent Association was elated to accept this new challenge, and did a wonderful job organizing and implementing International Night.** Not only did we sample food and share information, but

we enjoyed musical entertainment and dance as well.

Starting last year with Upward Bound and continuing this year with Talent Search, TRIO programs are celebrating 50 years of service on a national level. So we felt that it was a productive use of resources to have this summer's trip provide Scholars with some **firsthand learning experiences about the source of the equal educational access movement**. Our journey took us from here to Memphis and across the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Alabama. Now the Scholars who took this trip have a greater appreciation for past sacrifices that created equal educational opportunity for them.

In that spirit, we are very pleased to announce that **9 members of PUB's Class of 2015 are a part of OU's 2015 freshman class!** Of those, 3 are in the Center for Multicultural Initiatives' **CORE Program** and 2 others are **McCree Scholars**. Here's hoping that their PUB experience will reduce their freshman anxiety; and they know that PUB is always here for support and advice (not to mention that it will be a lot easier to track them for the APR!). Welcome to OU TRIO alumni!

Geri Graham

Project Director

PUB Graduating Class of 2015—Off to College!



International Technology Academy

Pontiac Academy for Excellence

Student	College in Fall 2015
Anderson, Jamar	University of Toledo Ohio
Brooks, Sylmaira	Johnson & Wales University
Cofield, Torrey	Oakland Community College
Cowser, Jordan	Oakland University
Davis, Christopher	Oakland Community College
Dillon-Donaldson, A'Johntae	Oakland Community College
Eaton, Sabrina	Oakland University
Freeman, Roshae	Central Michigan University
Granberry Jr., Darryl	Central Michigan University
Greene, Kasianique	Ferris State University
Hartman, Ciara	Oakland Community College
Jackson, Shu'Ara	Wayne State University
Johnson, Dawaun	Oakland Community College
Joyner, Alante'	Oakland Community College
Kent Jr., Stephenson	Oakland Community College
Louris, Kiara	University of Michigan - Flint
Pfeiffer, Shane	Oakland Community College
Shelton, Jessica	Ferris State University
Spomer, David	Oakland University
Tolbert, Sierra	Michigan State University
Williams, Hope	Henry Ford College

Student	College in Fall 2015
Bell, Stephanie	Santa Monica College/CA
Chunn, Janae	Oakland University
Dowell, Cameron	Saginaw Valley State University
Grandberry, Zasmynne	Lane College
Mitchell, LB	Undecided
Munoz, Bryan	Oakland University
Turner, Diasia	Oakland University



Pontiac High School

Student	College in Fall 2015
Bermudez, Xenia	Adrian College
Brinson, Kahrissamai	Western Michigan University
Hall, Paul	Oakland Community College
Hawkins, Quinton	Oakland University (O2O)
Modest, Christopher	University of Arkansas Pine Bluff
Sanders, Myreonna	Oakland Community College
Taylor, Ceaira	Michigan State University
Vining, Raykuwan	Oakland Community College
White, Karli	Oakland Community College

Oak Park High School

Student	College in Fall 2015
Baker, LaTisha	Oakland University
Baker, NiNesha	Oakland University
Hamlett, Kiah	Eastern Michigan University
Woods Jr., Platin	Oakland Community College

**IN FOCUS is a publication of
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PROJECT UPWARD BOUND
COLLEGE PREP ACADEMY**

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of IN FOCUS at PUB's website:
www.oakland.edu/upwardbound**

**Our Facebook Page:
Upward Bound OaklandUniversity**

2015 - 2016 ACADEMIC YEAR PREVIEW: PUB ALUMNI ENROLLED AT OU - AN ECONOMIC INJECTION





SUMMER ACADEMY 2015 A/B HONOR ROLL SCHOLARS



Nicole Barnes	Nou Cheng	Christian Martinez	Angelica Tibbitts
Pamela Beltran	Cameron Clark	Be'Anca McNeir	Micaiah Webb
Jose Betancourt Ocampo	Jezreel Evans	Quaivonte Myers	Mylicia Williams
Brandi Carr	LaShonda Ghee	Amyre Newbern	Jose Ybarra III
Anastasia Carter	Sahreyah Herring-Jones	Alonna Sistrunk	
Wang Chang	Ciera Kirkland	Crystal Smith	

PUB 2015 SUMMER ACADEMY AWARDS

Academic Distinction

(For earning at least 3.80 in all core classes)



Brandi Carr, Ms. Graham



Daddy Jones, Sahreyah Herring-Jones, Ms. Graham



Micaiah Webb, Ms. Graham



Spirit of Upward Bound Award

Left to right: Ava McDowell (Academic Coordinator), Jose Ybarra III, Ms. Graham (Program Director), Nicole Clements (Project Advisor)

Left to right: Jenna Williams (Dance Teacher), Gwen Foxx-Dokes (PA Coordinator & Drama II Teacher), Jose Ybarra III, Back: JoVontae Butts (Teacher Asst./Tutor), Raphael Foxx (Music Teacher), Renee Blunt (Drama I Teacher), Erica Butts (Teacher Asst./Tutor), Abhaysingh Rathwa (Teacher Asst./Tutor), Soudamini Suraneni (Teacher)



Greg Dokes Performing Arts Award



Left to right: Tiffany Carr (Peer Mentor), Brandi Carr, Marcus Webb (Head Resident)



Left to right: Timothy Tucker (Peer Mentor), Wang Chang, Marcus Webb (Head Resident)

Female Residential Role Model



Male Residential Role Model

SUMMER ACADEMIC AND SOCIAL PERFORMANCE OUTCOMES

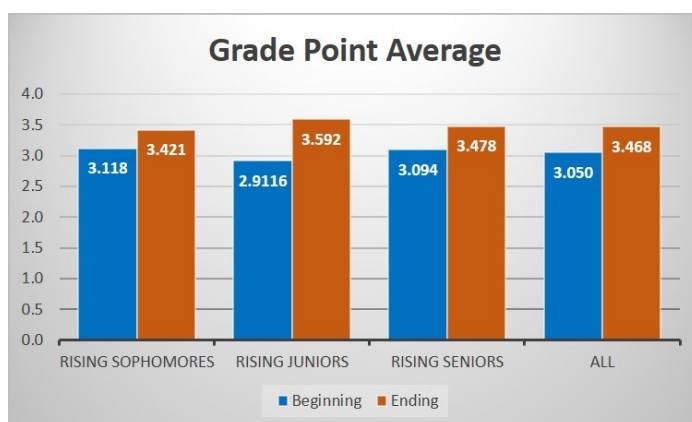
Seventy-seven percent of Scholars who started the Summer Academy were retained on campus until the end of Summer Academy; 98% were eligible to return in the fall; 2% must meet a preliminary requirement before returning due to issues that arose in Summer Academy.

Along with attendance, the following three elements were primary factors determining who earned the summer trip.

GRADE POINT AVERAGE

<u>Average GPA</u>	<u>Rising Sophomores</u>	<u>Rising Juniors</u>	<u>Rising Seniors</u>	<u>All</u>
Ending	3.421	3.592	3.478	3.468
Beginning	3.118	2.9116	3.094	3.050
Change	+ .303	+ .680	+ .384	+ .418

Sixty-five percent of persisting Scholars were on A/B Honor Roll. The lowest final GPA was 2.308 (up from 1.800) and the highest was 4.000.

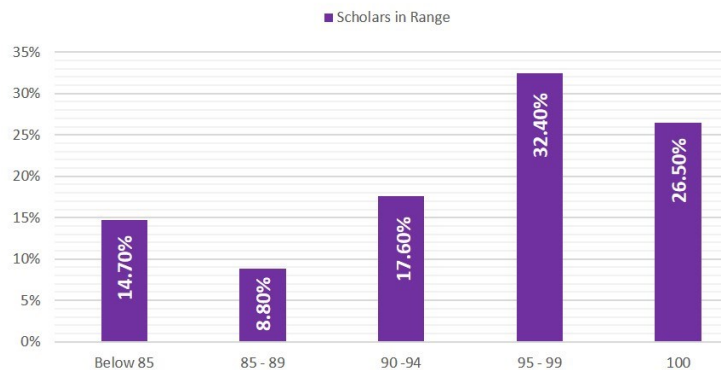


IOWA TEST OF EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

	<u>Rising Sophomores</u>	<u>Rising Juniors</u>	<u>Rising Seniors</u>	<u>All</u>
Average Improvement	.90	1.26	1.34	
Average Score				9.504

Ninety-seven percent of persisting Scholars showed improvement. The other 3% were already operating at the highest level of the test. The least improvement was 0.28 months (already a high performer) and the greatest grade equivalent gain was 4.14 years.

Behavior Incentive Points



RETAINED BEHAVIOR INCENTIVE POINTS (at end of Summer)

<u>Star Category</u>	<u>Points Range</u>	<u>Scholars in Range</u>
Gold Star	100	26.5%
Silver Star	95-99	32.4%
Bronze Star	90-94	17.6%
Copper Star	85-89	8.8%
No Ranking	Below 85	14.7%

Star Ceremony: *Congratulations to 100-Point Club!*



All PUB Scholars are Stars! Their star status was recognized every Sunday evening when they walked the red carpet to be awarded **gold, silver, bronze, and copper stars in recognition of the cumulative behavior points** they retained out of the 100 they started with on the first day of Summer Academy. PUB salutes those Scholars who were members of the “100-Point Club” from the first to the last day:

Pamela Beltran

Jose Betancourt Ocampo

Brandi Carr

Wang Chang

Cameron Clark

Jezreel Evans

Sahreyah Herring-Jones

Taylor Smith

Micaiah Webb

An added bonus was that 3 of the Star Ceremonies included **motivational speakers** who encouraged Scholars with their own stories. Our thanks to the following role models, secured by Head Resident Mr. Webb, for volunteering their time on Sunday evenings to share with PUB.



Mr. Marcus Webb, Ms. Courtney Lewis,
Mr. Ahmad Proctor



Mr. Marshawn Pettes



Mr. Stephen Pace

Academic Games Winners



First-Place Team: \$15 Movie Gift Cards

Savonna Arhin Nicole Barnes Ciera Kirkland Amyre Newbern



Second Place Team: \$10 Little Caesar's Gift Cards

Pamela Beltran Nou Cheng Javon Jones Alonna Sistrunk Ashley Xiong



Third Place Team: \$5 McDonald's Gift Cards

Sahreyah Herring-Jones Panama Jacques Be'Anca McNeir Tami'a Williams

SUMMER ACADEMY PROGRAM EVALUATION RESULTS

Seventy-four percent of Scholars who attended the Summer Academy submitted a program evaluation. Here are some interesting outcomes:

Orientation & the First Day

- 75% felt like orientation prepared them for what to expect
- 75% felt like the trust & team building exercises were a positive and effective start to summer
- **94% felt like the on-site registration and dorm check-in processes were easy**

Attitude & Personal Growth

- 73% believed they had matured significantly from the start to the end of the Summer Academy
- **90% experienced successes and, because of that, will seek other success opportunities**
- 77% came to understand why PUB has such a strong structure; slightly fewer, 71%, understood that the structure was to help them develop the self-discipline needed to succeed in college.



Academics

- Completing Summer Academy made 87% feel more confident about being successful in upcoming fall classes.
- Being able to choose an elective made PUB more interesting for 87% of Summer Scholars.
- **Academic Games was a fun way to learn for 90% of Scholars.**
- 77% felt like teachers took enough time to explain new topics, while 87% felt like they were able to get extra help, and **97% felt that their subject-related questions were answered in class.**

SSS Jeopardy \$\$\$

Financial Aid	Scholarship	Cost of Attendance	Loan Repayment	Student Aid
100	100	100	100	100
200	200	200	200	200
300	300	300	300	300
400	400	400	400	400
500	500	500	500	500

Final Jeopardy

- Scholars felt they **learned something they didn't already know**, but in varying degrees:

Math – 93%	Science – 83%
Electives – 92%	English Composition – 52%
Spanish 90%	Guidance – 66%
Performing Arts – 87%	Reading – 52%



Social/Cultural/Career

- 97% appreciated receiving weekly behavior (points) reports to let them know their standing.
- 90% believed the summer trip was a good performance incentive; however, 48% would not have changed the behaviors that prevented them from going on the trip.
- **97% said they were committed to behaving in a manner that will help them achieve their goals**, but 58% didn't feel like the behavior point (honor) system gave them a chance to demonstrate maturity and responsibility.
- 84% believed having lived in the dorm this past summer will lessen their discomfort about living in the dorm in their freshman year of college.
- 79% believed their Peer Mentor was a positive influence in their lives.
- Parent Appreciation Day was a positive experience for 87% of Scholars.



Overall, 81% felt like Summer Academy was a good experience and a good use of their time.

PARENT NEWS

GOSPELFEST

Gospelfest Chair **Elaine Carr** put together a program that had everyone clapping their hands, tapping their feet, and singing along. Nine different groups and individuals, plus the PUB Gospel Choir, wowed the audience with singing, praise dancing, and mime performances. These great performances were topped off with a delicious dessert reception in the hallway. **Thank you and congratulations parents on raising \$1,132 for the PUB Scholarship at OU.**



Elaine Carr



FAMILY DAY

Family Day was a blast this year! In spite of the fact that some folks were missing in action due to suspensions, it was still a great time. The Residential Team did a great job of keeping the games going while **Ms. Clark** coordinated the food assisted by **Ms. Boyles**, **Ms. Tibbitts** and many other parents. Kudos to **Grill Master Jacques** and **JoAnn Boyd** for making sure the burgers and dogs were excellent!

FAMILY NIGHT

More than 50 parents and siblings joined PUB Scholars for dinner in Vandenberg Dining Hall on Wednesday, July 29. This was a chance for families to spend quality time before Scholars departed for the "Big Trip." While every Scholar did not have family guests that night, **70% of those who completed the program evaluation said they enjoyed having family share this time with them.**



INTERNATIONAL NIGHT

This summer we had a more ethnically diverse group of Scholars than we've had in the past. So we decided to have International Night so that everyone could learn about each other's culture. Many thanks to **the Ybarra's** and **Ms. Gonzalez** for coordinating this fantastic event and to **all parents/relatives who contributed to make it a success!**



Summer Memories



Biology / Chemistry

Peer Mentors

Golf Lessons

2015 Summer Performance

Conflict Resolution



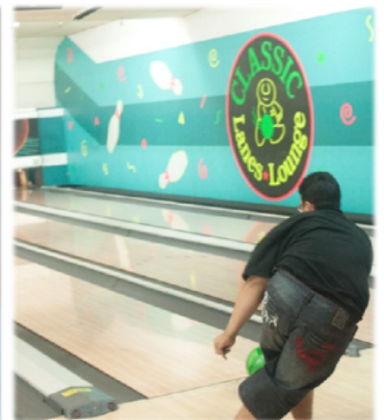


ETIQUETTE DINNER



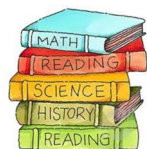
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**FINAL EXAM
"BLOWOUT"**





FROM THE ACADEMIC COORDINATOR



Ava McDowell
Academic Coordinator

Going into my first Summer Academy here at PUB, I had high hopes for a great teaching team, talented and knowledgeable tutor/teaching assistants (TTAs), and compelling learning opportunities for PUB scholars. With the theme “No Excuses – Just Results”, I challenged the entire Academic/Instructional team to do three things: Try a new technique; set and maintain high standards; create an engaging learning environment to stimulate scholar interest and curiosity. Scholars

were challenged to be proactive in their learning, be responsible for getting work completed at a high level, and ask the questions needed to accomplish this.



Summer really started on May 15 with the Spring Iowa Test of Educational Development (ITED) to measure scholars' understanding of concepts. The results of this set of 9 individual tests are computed as Grade Level Equivalencies (GLE). For example, a scholar completing 9th grade, with a score of 9.7, would be considered “at grade level” in their understanding of concepts. The lower their score is from their actual grade level, the more at risk the scholar is of not achieving academic success. The May average GLE for scholars who completed Summer Academy was 8.62. The average 2015-2016 school grade level was 10.4. We had some work to do.

Summer Academy classes began on June 30. Scholars were placed in **Math, Science, English, and Spanish** based on their projected classes for the Fall and their ITED scores. **STEM** class is a perennial favorite elective and was joined by two new electives this year: “**#JustTheFacts**”, a research-based class where scholars learned how to use different resources to find information and to



prepare a presentation of their findings; and “**WPUB**”, a weekly news program highlighting PUB and Oakland University activities and shown at weekly Parent Meetings. **Financial Literacy** and **Guidance** filled out the early afternoons and

each day concluded with the scholars' favorite classes, **Performing Arts** (Drama, Music, Dance, Production).

Each Wednesday was a **Lab/Success Zone Day**. Biology classes went to the Biology lab in Dodge Hall to **dissect frogs and pigs**.



Chemistry classes went to the Chemistry lab in Hannah Hall to explore **using different elements**. When the scholars were not in a science lab, they were in The Success Zone, a

computer lab in Elliott Hall to work on **classwork, online classes, or supplemental material** to improve their academic performance.

This year's staff and scholars took their academic challenges seriously. Teachers were innovative in using project-based learning,



real life scenarios, and a great deal of hands-on learning. TTAs were given opportunities to teach lessons and did a great job, even going to the dorm during scholar free time to help with preparing for mid-terms and finals. Scholars were engaged in the classroom and used their Success Zone, Academic Games, and Finals Study Blitz time well. **I tip my hat to the teachers, TTAs and scholars for**

all of their hard work this summer and challenge them to keep it going during the 2015-16 academic year.



ELECTIVES SHOWCASE

"WPUB" WAS A BIG HIT!! The class charge was: *"Create a weekly newscast, of PUB and other OU Campus news, to be broadcast at Sunday night parent meetings."* Scholars accepted the challenge and produced some fantastic work. The faces of WPUB were co-anchors **Sahreyah Herring-Jones** and **Jose Ybarra III**. But the entire team of roving reporters, camera technicians, and production crew generated high quality work that parents and Scholars alike looked forward to seeing every Sunday night. Special thanks to **Mr. Randy** for sharing his photography expertise and applying his editing skills in support of WPUB. Great job everyone! Very soon you'll be able to check it out, with Mrs. McDowell's final edits, at OU's YouTube site from a link on PUB's website: <http://www.oakland.edu/upwardbound>



Jose Ybarra III and Sahreyah Herring-Jones

In addition to the WPUB **weekly newscast**, summer electives also included **STEM** and **#justthefacts**. In STEM, Scholars used Lego pieces and motors to generate **automated creations** such as carnival rides and robots. In #justthefacts, Scholars learned about **conducting research at the college level**. At the July 22 **Electives Showcase**, Scholars displayed their presentation skills to peers, parents, and PUB Team members by explaining and demonstrating their models and projects. Bloopers from WPUB were an added bonus!



A Moment for Real Talk

This summer was not all smooth-sailing by any means. In spite of the fact that expectations were revealed at orientation, some Scholars still arrived on campus unwilling to put in the work to earn the rewards. Still others put in the work, experienced the successes, and are anxious to keep moving forward.



More than any summer in the past, Scholars had difficulty maintaining success behaviors (see behavior outcomes chart). Some gave up and went home or committed infractions that they knew would get them sent home because they didn't want to stay and honor the rules. That was distressing for the PUB Team because of the importance of continuing to strive toward a goal. People can't always run away from uncomfortable situations; and **the habits formed in youth create the patterns that people follow for the rest of their lives. So it's best to learn to deal rather than give up!**



REFLECTIONS — THE GREAT SUMMER CHALLENGE

On this summer's trip there wasn't a whole lot of snoozing between stops. Oh no! Thanks to Ms. C. and Mr. Webb, everyone got a chance to exercise their memory to reflect upon each day's adventures. There were bus activities for each day of the trip; (1) Answer trip-related questions, (2) Scavenger Hunt, (3) Generate a rap summarizing experiences of the day (each row on the bus contributed a phrase), (4) Write a Thank-You note to a historical civil rights figure, (5) Alphabet Game! (6) Compare & contrast the universities visited, (7) Generate a personal rap to summarize impressions of the whole trip. Needless to say, creativity abounded! **The winning rap entry was written by Ms. Mariah Kelley, ITA senior.**

SUMMER TRIP

This summer's trip gave Scholars a first-hand look at history, culture, and potential postsecondary education institutions. Our first stop was in Nashville where we were serenaded by country music performers while cruising along the river on the General Jackson Showboat. We also toured **Fisk University** and spent an evening at the **Grand Ole Opry**. Then it was on to Memphis to spend some time with Elvis at **Graceland**, explore the **National Civil Rights Museum** and enjoy an evening performance at the **Mountain View Theatre**.



General Jackson Showboat

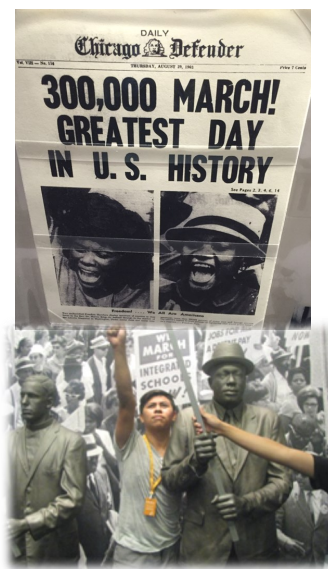


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National Voting Rights Museum



National Civil Rights Museum



Grand Ole Opry



The rest of our time was spent in Alabama stopping first in Birmingham. After a long drive, everyone agreed that our first stop in Birmingham was named appropriately - **Dreamland Barbecue!** And the outside temperature was so hot that we appreciated a day at the water park.

Dreamland BBQ

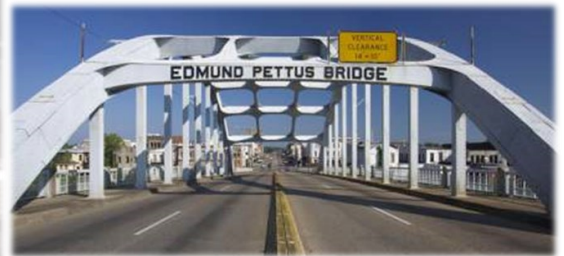


Using Montgomery as our base, we made day trips to various historically significant sites. We toured **Tuskegee**, the **University** and the **Airmen's Historic Site**. Compliments to the cooks in the Kellogg Conference Center – lunch and dinner were great!! After stops at the **Rosa Parks Museum** and **Cleveland Avenue Time Machine**, **Dexter Avenue King Memorial Baptist Church** and the **home of Dr. and Mrs. King**, we departed for Selma.



Dexter Avenue King memorial Baptist Church

Airmen's Historic Site



Edmund Pettus Bridge



In this 50th anniversary of the march, driving along the Montgomery to Selma route then walking across the **Edmund Pettus Bridge** put us in awe of the freedom marchers' stamina and determination. Visiting the **National Voting Rights Museum** also let us know of the dangers they faced and sacrifices they made to fight for the right just to be treated like human beings.

After touring **Alabama State University** and **University of Alabama**, we filled up at Golden Corral for the long trip back home. We were happy to be back, but the impressions left will last a lifetime!



PROJECT ADVISOR'S CORNER



Nicole J. Clements
Project Advisor

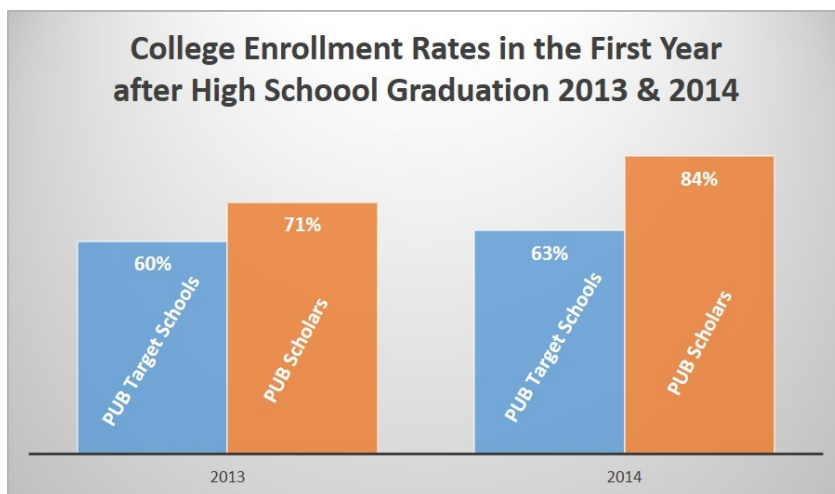
The Project Upward Bound Effect:

"Why do we have to do all of this?" "Why is everything so structured?" It seems that every PUB Summer Academy Scholar and their parent have asked these questions. And the answers we give are confirmed by an October 12 article in the *Journal for Blacks in Higher Education* which states, "**high [college] dropout rates appear to be primarily caused by inferior K-12 preparation and an absence of a family college tradition.**"

PUB addresses both of these barriers to higher education. When PUB Scholars take their first Iowa Test of Educational Development (ITED), most are performing below grade level. The ITED score along with their GPA's demonstrate Scholar's need for support to excel in their high school curriculums. Secondly, most PUB families do not have a "family college tradition;"

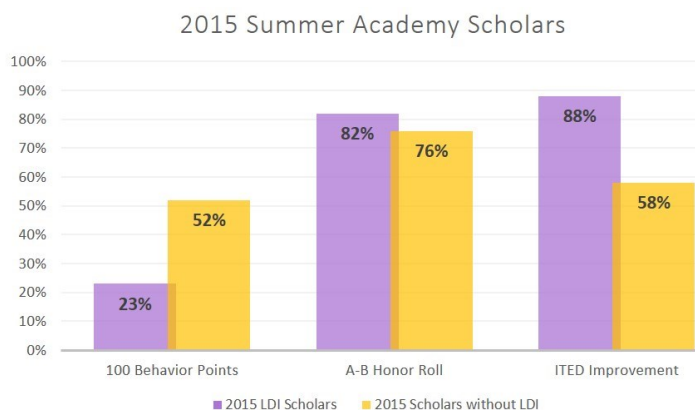
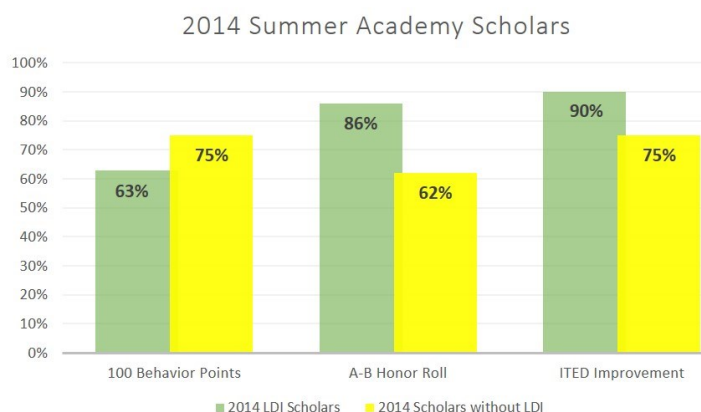
that is, their parents and/or siblings have not earned a bachelor's degree. **So we do what we do in PUB to help Scholars remove two of the greatest barriers to their earning a bachelor's degree.**

This chart proves that PUB's structure, programming, and services result in PUB Scholars developing into college-ready students. For the most recent two years for which data is available, **PUB Scholars enrolled in college at rates 11-23% higher than their peers attending the same high schools (Oak Park, Pontiac, ITA, and Pontiac Academy for Excellence) but not enrolled in PUB.**



LDI: The Results

For the past two summers, **PUB's Leadership Development Institute (LDI)** has been one of the programming elements that contributed to Scholars' improved academic performance. Under the guidance of the Residential Team and Project Advisor, LDI trained Scholars to be Positive Effective Leaders. In both summers, in terms of earning A/B Honor Roll Status and making ITED improvement, **Scholars who participated in LDI out-performed those who did not** (although there is still a bit of work to be done in regards to behavior!).



Reflections: Being able to see past traditional barriers and having an intense belief in YOUR ideas and abilities will help you take advantage of any opportunity

Ms. C.



**Project Upward Bound
College Prep Academy**

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Rochester, Michigan 48309-4401

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ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

4 PUB alumni were members of the 2015 Summer Academy Team



Marcus Webb
Head Resident



Timothy Tucker
Peer Mentor



Erica Butts
Teacher Assistant/Tutor



JoVontae Butts
Teacher Assistant/Tutor

