



From left: Floyd Hughley (9th – Riverview Gardens) and Hakeem Bilal (9th – Normandy)

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MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

We are at a very special time of the year. The holidays are a joyous time for everyone!

In schools throughout the land, students grow excited at the prospect of what is to come. Stores are jammed with shoppers, streets explode with lights and messages of good abound. Even when people greet each other, there is a special good feeling in it — a bright and warm feeling that pervades our days. What is it that takes the dark and cold days of winter and fills them with light and warmth? It is the spirit of the holidays that we will soon be celebrating.

Yes, this is the season of love and giving. What wonders would exist if we could have love, giving and kindness the whole year through! It would be a world where concern for each other would be a daily part of life, where each individual would grow and thrive, contribute and find happiness and compassion for each other.

What a world that would be! As we take a respite from our school, let us resolve to honor the spirit of the holidays in our lives the whole year through. Yes, it would take work and cooperation, but let us continue to show love, compassion, and a spirit of giving as exhibited during this season.

Have a joyous Holiday Season and may you have the holiday spirit each and every day of your life!

Ruth LaValle
Upward Bound Director

WORDS OF WISDOM

“What lies behind us and what lies before us are small matters compared to what lies within us.”

— *Ralph Waldo Emerson*

American essayist, philosopher and poet (1803-1882)

ACADEMIC YEAR PROGRAM

The academic year of Upward Bound is off to a great start! Following summer break, 75 students returned energized and ready to learn. We held our Fall Orientation in September where we welcomed back the students and parents and gave them a preview of what to expect for the school year. The students attended classes at Harris-Stowe on six Saturdays from October through December. In addition, we were excited to offer a special Financial Aid workshop in November to inform students and parents about grants, scholarships, loans and the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) process. We look forward to an eventful Spring Semester filled with classes, workshops, field trips and college visits!



Above: Jalen Dampier (10th – Riverview Gardens) working on his résumé.



Above: From left, Alexander Bogan (9th – Riverview Gardens) and Brittany Benson (9th – Jennings)

CONGRATULATIONS!

SENIOR SCHOLARSHIPS

The senior class spent the fall season studying for the ACT, applying to colleges and enjoying some of their last months as high school students. Several seniors have already been offered scholarships, and we'd like to share their wonderful news!

- **Destini Tompkins** (Riverview Gardens High School) was offered the Diversity Award from the University of Missouri-Columbia, valued at \$2,500/year! Destini was also offered the Missouri Leadership Award at Southeast Missouri State University, valued at \$500 for her first year.
- **Alton Armstrong** (Normandy High School) was offered a full tuition scholarship from Lincoln University!
- **Mark King** (Jennings High School) was offered a full tuition scholarship from Harris-Stowe State University!
- **Brianca Johnson** (Normandy High School) was offered a scholarship to Mississippi Valley State University covering tuition, room and board!

Need help searching for scholarships? Stop by the Upward Bound office to pick up a copy of the Scholarship Guide Workbook.

THE IMPORTANCE OF A DREAM

Special Feature by Jean Bowman

Have you ever had a dream? I hope you have because all great ideas and all great accomplishments start as dreams. If you have a dream, pursue it and believe that it can come true even if it seems far-fetched.

What happens when you pursue your dream? Sometimes that dream may not come true, but other doors will open and other opportunities will present themselves. On the other hand, if you don't pursue your dreams or worse, you let someone talk you out of your dreams, then doors won't open and those opportunities will be lost.

Starting today, no matter how far-fetched your dream might be, go after it and do something every single day to pursue your dream. Tell everybody you know about your dream, such as friends, parents, relatives, teachers and even new people you meet. If those you tell try to discourage you, then stop discussing it with them. Remember, the more people you tell, the more help you will get. On the other hand, if you don't tell anyone about your dream, you won't get any help! People can't help you if they don't know what your dreams are.

Go after your dream until it comes true, or at least until you are reasonably sure that it wasn't meant to be. If it doesn't come true, that still doesn't mean it was stupid or a waste of time.

You must remember that all great dreams haven't been dreamt and all great ideas have not been had. Also, great ideas are not restricted to one per person, as we see when we examine Thomas Edison's life. He not only invented the first record player, light bulb, and hearing aid, from which many new products have been expanded upon and perfected, but he also invented moving pictures. Keep in mind that Michael Jordan didn't make his high school basketball team!



From left: Brianca Johnson (12th – Normandy), Jordan Dickerson (12th – Cardinal Ritter) and Nefatterria Phillips (12th – Normandy)

UPCOMING EVENTS

January 1, 2011 — The FAFSA!

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) process opens for all students applying for federal aid for the 2011-2012 school year. Seniors, this means YOU! The deadline for Missouri state aid is April 1, 2011, but the priority deadline for your college of choice may be sooner!

February 12, 2011 — ACT Test Date

Note: The registration deadline is January 7, 2011. Visit the Upward Bound office for fee waivers, test tips and practice tests. All juniors should consider registering for a Spring 2011 ACT test (February, April or June).

February 13, 2011 — FAFSA Frenzy

Receive FREE professional help completing the FAFSA. Locations will be posted on the following website: www.dhe.mo.gov

February 26, 2011 – Infinite Scholars Scholarship Fair

9 a.m.-1 p.m.: St. Louis Airport Marriott Hotel
Colleges can give out scholarships on site! Come prepared with your transcript, ACT score report and at least one letter of recommendation. Be sure to register at: www.infinitescholar.com

March 17-19, 2011 — Junior/Senior College Trip

This is the tentative date for the annual spring break college trip for juniors and seniors. Students with good attendance (on Saturdays and at the in-school sessions) and good behavior may be eligible to attend. The destination will be announced after the holiday break.



Above: From left, Telicia McGee (12th – Sumner) and Destini Tompkins (12th – Riverview Gardens)

Below: From left, Ashley Holmes (10th – Jennings) and Kali Sims (10th – Jennings)



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