Leadership Conference—from an essay by Salisha Hill

I left Indiana with a sort of narrow-mindedness. I looked at things the way I wanted to look at things. I saw Indiana as my only place for learning. I saw Indiana as my only future, the only place for me to grow.

Then, we headed on our long journey to St. Charles, Illinois, where I grew more in three days than I have in the last decade. I met new people and opened myself up to new opportunities.

The first thing we (MAEOPP Participants) did was go to a room to listen to Ryan (Superman) Moran. He associated the whole room as a single unity. I, on the other hand, looked at IPFW UB as a single unit and the rest of the room

as a bunch of strangers I had never met before. By the end of the conference, I felt a thousand times more connected than before.

That night, as I laid in bed, I thought about a kid I used to baby-sit. He was two years old. I thought about how life was two years ago, when I didn’t go to North Side, when I didn’t know anyone at North Side, or even about life beyond New Haven city limits. Two years ago the kid I babysat for wasn’t even born yet. Two years, ago my other little sister, wasn’t even in school yet. Two years ago, things were different.

Then I thought about what life will be like in two years from now. I will be in college. I will probably have my own jeep and my sister will be a sophomore in high school. I will be volunteering at the hospital, and I will have different friends. In two years, everything can change and it will. If I learned one thing, it is that things change and they don’t wait for you to catch up. I thought of that all in one night.

I loved every minute of being there and I wouldn’t have missed this opportunity for the world. I plan on fully utilizing everything I learned at the conference in my life and helping others through their tough times.
UPCOMING CULTURAL TRIPS

There are still several upcoming winter cultural events available to Upward Bound students. Spaces for these events are very limited, so if you are interested in attending, please notify Ms. Yecenia or Ms. Lydia immediately.

**Tuesday, January 5** - CATS @ Embassy Theater 7:00pm

**Thursday, March 11** - Joseph & the Amazing Technicolor Dream Coat @ Civic Theater 7:30pm

IMPORTANT REMINDER ABOUT CULTURAL TRIPS:

All students who sign up for a cultural trip are expected to be in attendance. Students who fail to attend a trip they are scheduled for risk losing stipend money and the ability to attend future events. If there is an emergency and you cannot attend an event you have signed up for, you must notify the UB office 24 hours in advance, so your ticket can be offered to another student on the event’s waiting list.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**ORLANDO, FLORIDA**

The 2010-11 Senior Merit Trip this year will be to Orlando, Florida. Tentative dates for this trip are July 23-26, 2010. Students are encouraged now to maintain good ATS and SAT Prep attendance, be in good GPA standing, and make plans to attend Summer Academy 2010 in order to be eligible for this trip in the summer. Students will also each be responsible for fundraising $100 toward the cost of their plane tickets. Fundraising opportunities will be announced shortly. For more information, please attend an upcoming Parent Council Meeting.

**NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE**

The 2010-11 Sophomore/Junior Merit Trip this year will be to Nashville, Tennessee. Tentative dates for this trip are July 19-21, 2010. Students are encouraged now to maintain good ATS and UB tutoring attendance, be in good GPA standing, and make plans to attend Summer Academy 2010 in order to be eligible for this trip in the summer. Students will also each be responsible for fundraising $100 toward the cost of their transportation expenses. Fundraising opportunities will be announced shortly. For more information, please attend an upcoming Parent Council Meeting.

UB FAMILY PICNIC STUDENTS GET ‘SADDLE-BOUND’

The Upward Bound Parent Council hosted its first annual Family Picnic this fall. Upward Bound students and families were invited to McMillen Park for burgers and homemade food. Families got the chance to meet other families and mingle with UB staff. The event was a huge success enjoyed by all. The Parent Council anticipates making this event a yearly celebration of UB students, staff, and families.

In September, the Noble County Saddle Club hosted Upward Bound students giving them hands-on experience and knowledge regarding care and careers related to horses. Students were able to participate in interactive exhibits, visit with the animals, and watch a “mock horse show.” The students in attendance had a great time learning about equestrian life and the care of horses and can’t wait to return next year!
Upward Bound students who have maintained good participation throughout this fall will be receiving Upward Bound sweatshirts! All shirts are navy blue with white lettering. Shirts will be passed out to students at the upcoming Holiday celebration on Saturday, December 19, 2009. Make sure you are in attendance to receive your holiday gift from Upward Bound!

MEET YOUR UB MATH INSTRUCTORS

Mr. Tubbs has been working with the Upward Bound program since 2005. Over the years, Mr. Tubbs has been an ATS and Summer Academy instructor and a tutor for the program. He has been teaching Algebra at Paul Harding High School for 9 years, is married with two children, and spends his spare time writing help books for Algebra.

Mr. Johnson has been working with the Upward Bound program since 2007. Over the years, Mr. Johnson began tutoring for the program and now works as an instructor during ATS and Summer Academy. He graduated from both Heritage High School and Ball State University. He currently teaches various math classes at Paul Harding High School and in his spare time, he also coaches the school football team.

DECEMBER EVENTS

HOLIDAY ANNOUNCEMENT

Upward Bound Holiday Party
December 19, 2009
11 am - 1 pm
IPFW Walb Ballroom

Come celebrate the holiday with all your U.B. friends and family.

Food
(Potluck style lunch)

Fun

Gifts
(Anyone wanting to participate in the gift exchange, bring a $1 wrapped gift)

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Wed, December 2-SAT Prep @IPFW 4-6pm
Sat, December 5-ATS @ IPFW 9-1pm
Sat, December 5-Parent Council @ IPFW 12-1pm
Mon, December 7-UB Tutoring @ ACPL 4-6pm
Mon, December 7-BLUE Star Mtg @ ACPL 4:15-5:15pm
Wed, December 9-SAT Prep @ IPFW 4-6pm

ICE SKATING

Do you want to hang out with you UB friends during winter break? Well, if you have attended nine tutoring or SAT Prep sessions this fall and kept all your grades above a C-, you will be invited to go ice skating with Upward Bound on Tuesday, December 29! You will be notified in mid-December if you earned this trip. We are excited to offer you this fun trip as a reward for your dedication to your academics! If you did not earn the trip this time, remember to attend tutoring and SAT Prep regularly in the spring for the opportunity to earn the next trip.

If you have any questions or concerns please call 481-4188 or email Josephina Cervantes at ruesgacervantes@yahoo.com
December
Saw Day Wah, Esther Vel, Dominique Wilson, Kachell Smith, Tenecia Williams, & David Hayden

January
Lun Thang, Scottie Brittsan, Jer-Von Lindsey, Neela Aseel, Stephanie Loera, & Santana Garza

February
Stephanie Hobbs & Maggie Carroll

March
Brea Brown, Breanna Putt, Gladys Calderon, Gay Mee Sher, Sara Guardiola, Jessie Manu, & Adrian Hageman

The Upward Bound staff strongly believes that parental involvement has a positive influence on the social and academic development of a child. With this in mind, the Upward Bound staff strongly encourages parents to attend Parent Council Meetings and become actively involved in UB programming.

Holiday fundraising items should be available for pick up within the next 2 weeks. Students will be notified when their items have arrived. Thanks so much to all the students & parents who participated in this fundraiser!

Due to staffing issues, Parent Council Meetings scheduled for Mondays will be cancelled. Parent Council Meetings on Saturdays will still be held from 12-1pm at IPFW in Kettler Hall. For more information, check your calendar or contact the UB office.