
Upward Bound Update

The Official Tigard-Tualatin Upward Bound Program Newsletter

TTSD Upward Bound – Helping Students Make College Dreams a Reality

Upward Bound is a federally funded grant program designed to help low-income, first generation college students graduate from high school, gain entrance to and successfully graduate from college. The program has funding to serve 62 TTSD high school students. It assists eligible participants in developing the skills and motivation necessary for success in education beyond high school.

The school-year features weekly tutoring sessions, college campus visits, standardized test preparation, college counseling (including help completing the FAFSA, submitting applications and financial aid, etc.) and exposure to other educational and cultural opportunities. Additionally, students spend six-weeks attending an intensive summer program, which includes college-prep classes for high school credit, unique field trips, an overnight college stay and a multitude of other opportunities to increase self-esteem, build leadership skills, expand social skills, and improve college readiness.



TTSD UB Graduates Make Fall College Plans

We are thrilled by the number of our graduates heading off to college this year! The 2019 UB Senior Class included 11 students and of that number 10 will enroll in college this fall.

Abril Angel-Alvarez (THS) – Western Illinois University

Makayla Bell (THS) – Oregon State University

Shaman Charriere (TuHS) – Portland Community College

Lysandra Chun-Sajqui (THS) – Portland Community College

Emraleen Gilpeebay (THS) – Portland Community College

Ruben Pascual-Gomez (TuHS) – University of Rochester

Erandy Pena-Contreras (TuHS) – Portland Community College
Abril Perez-Ruiz (TuHS) – Portland Community College
Arodi Serrano Jorge (TuHS) – Western Oregon University
Kimberly Siguaque-Blanco (THS) – Linfield College

TTSD UB Enjoys Successful Summer Program

While most students and staff were enjoying some time off from school, TTSD Upward Bound's six-week Summer Program was full-speed ahead from June 14-July 26. Students spent mornings participating in challenging college-prep classes, earning .25 credits for each course they successfully completed. Forty-eight students – representing both THS and TuHS – participated during the program, with most earning 1.0 elective credits for their efforts. Outside of the classroom, UB students took part in team-building activities, presentations by speakers, college planning, community service and went on weekly field trips.



UB Summer Offers Unique and Varied Academic Course Offerings

Students were able to choose from a wide-array of course offerings from across the academic spectrum. Classes were taught by some of TTSD's finest educators, with diverse educational backgrounds and specialties. The teachers went all-in on creativity and the students responded positively.

Derek Bailey – Math (THS): Geometry

Julio Bautista – College Prep (TuHS): Senior Bridge Class, Freshmen Success Class

Andrew Bonica – Psychology (TuHS): Food for Thought, Feminism in Pop Culture, Psychology of Happiness

Amanda Cordes – Science (Hazelbrook): Science Sampler, Natural History of Oregon

Catherine Cox – Spanish (Metzger): Advanced Spanish, Intermediate Spanish, Beginner Spanish

Emily Gitt & Jennifer Pavelich – Language Arts (Metzger): Book Club: “On the Come Up,” Podcast: “Serial,” Appy Hour

Justin Humble – Math (TuHS): Math Applications, Foundations of Algebra, Get Ready for Algebra II

TTSD UB Heads to Linfield College for Overnight Stay

Every summer, TTSD Upward Bound students participate in a two night stay at a college or university. The goal of the trip is to expose students to all aspects of college life – navigating across a large campus, eating in the dining hall, sleeping in a residence hall, sharing a bathroom with many other people, etc.

This year, the trip was to Linfield College in McMinnville, OR. In addition, to the above experiences, UB students heard presentations from multiple key departments on Linfield’s campus: Admissions, Financial Aid, Learning and Support Services, Career Development, Study Abroad and Student Life. UB students also enjoyed getting to know each other better during staff-led activities such as a “Minute to Win It” game show, a movie night, and a dance.



Summer Field Trips Open New Horizons for TTSD UB Students

TTSD always strives to expose our students to opportunities that they might not otherwise have. Visiting unique locations and educational destinations is always the goal and we definitely had some great trips this summer.

Molalla Retreat Center, Molalla, OR – The first event of the summer, students and staff headed out into the wilds to this rustic camp located on the banks of the Molalla River. Everyone was able to enjoy nature, get to know each other, do some team building and swat at mosquitoes.

OMSI, Portland, OR – Students were able to learn about all of the technology and creativity that goes into making a Pixar film. They also took in a unique presentation in the planetarium that explained all of the celestial bodies visible in the summer night sky.

Oregon Coast Aquarium, Newport, OR – Students were able to see all of the amazing sea life up close – from seals to jellyfish to sharks. It was a great opportunity to enjoy learning about cool aquatic life at a location most students had not been before.

Oregon Food Bank, Beaverton, OR – Students and staff enjoyed volunteering at the food bank. It was a great day of giving back to the community. The students and staff worked hard, and during our 3 hours at the OFB, our group sorted and bagged roughly 7000 pounds of radishes!

North Clackamas Aquatic Center, Clackamas, OR – After a morning elbow-deep in radishes, the students enjoyed an afternoon of being up to their necks in water. The wave pool, diving board and multiple water slides, provided a fun afternoon escape from the summer heat.

Neskowin Beach, Neskowin, OR – Students and staff played volleyball on the beach, explored the rocks and built sand castles along a beautiful stretch of Oregon coastline.

Oaks Park, Portland, OR – As has been the UB tradition, the students and staff enjoyed their final day together at Oaks Park. Students and staff made the most of their last time to hang out with UB friends, went on crazy rides and tried roller skating for the first time... which served as a great opportunity for the program director to show off his impressive skills honed by hours at *Skate World* in the 80s.



Summer Program Features Special Speakers and One of a Kind Presentations

Another way UB exposes participants to unique opportunities is by inviting presenters to share their knowledge and skills with students. We had an amazing line-up of speakers this summer.

Grammy Award Winning Portland-based producer and musician Andre Anjos (aka RAC) talked about turning passions into a career.

THS business teacher Sue Suttich taught an intensive financial literacy seminar, covering everything from debt to saving to investing – and made the students promise never to date anyone with a low credit score.

Through her hula demonstration **native Hawaiian Ashley Howell** taught students about islander traditions and explained the importance of maintaining your culture.

THS business teacher and TuHS cross country coach Chris McIsaac spent an afternoon explaining the importance of setting ambitious, but attainable goals.

TuHS foreign language teacher and avid thespian Diane Leebrick taught a high energy, two-day musical theater seminar that educated students about the arts and got them out of their comfort

zones. And also made them sweat a lot.

TuHS Multi-Cultural Director Martin Alvarez Ruberte explained his path to TuHS and encouraged students to get connected in high school.

New THS Multi-Cultural Director Giselle Escobar introduced herself to students and explained her role at THS. She also brought donuts. She quickly became very popular with the students.

Prior to the end of summer awards and formal dinner, **TTSD UB Director Greg Mitchell** gave a presentation on etiquette – covering everything from which utensil is used for what to proper attire for interviews.



Summer Staff Members Come Full-Circle

Each summer, TTSD UB hires 6-8 college-age tutor-counselors who plan and lead afternoon enrichment activities, chaperone field trips, serve as academic tutors and act as positive role-models throughout the program. This summer, six of our seven tutor-counselors as well as the program assistant were graduates of the TTSD Upward Bound program.

Kayla Barrera (TuHS class of 2017) – Lewis & Clark College

Sheyla Dorantes (THS class of 2018) – Lewis & Clark College

Vicki Fuentes (TuHS class of 2017) – George Fox University

Miguel Polanco (TuHS class of 2017) – Portland Community College

Jazmine Rios (THS class of 2018) – Western Oregon University

Genara Solis (THS class of 2015) – Portland State University (graduate)

Alfredo Texta (TuHS class of 2015) – Portland State University

Special Thanks to the Team Who Made UB Summer 2019 Happen

The summer program is hosted by Tualatin High School and we couldn't have done it without all of the help provided by school staff. From room reservations to tech support to event set up, TuHS staff went above and beyond this summer helping us enjoy a successful summer program amidst the chaos of construction. In particular, we want to thank **Michael Dellerba, Marji Ruzicka, Marie Shockloss, Kristie Bullock, Debra Olson, Bradley Baker, Thor Kuhn and Africa Ramirez Lopez.**

Also, there are many individuals at the District Office who work behind the scenes to keep the UB ship afloat, but **Susan Salkield** and **Ray Grosenbach** in particular need to be singled out for their tireless efforts.

For more information about Tigard Tualatin Upward Bound, check out our [website](#) and follow us on Instagram @ttsdubfam

TTSD Upward Bound Staff

Greg Mitchell, Director

Genara Solis, Program Coordinator



*Upward Bound is one of eight programs that fall under the TRIO umbrella of the US Department of Education. TTSD Upward Bound costs are 100% financed by federal money. Annually the funding amount differs but year specific data is available to the public upon request. For 2018-19 the project received \$275,155 in federal funds.