ACT College Entrance Exam

On Saturday, October 29, 2008, seventeen senior students re-took the National ACT Test. We are impressed by their dedication and determination to enter college under the best possible terms. The ACT Parent Newsletter states the ACT college entrance exam is a curriculum-based test. This means it is made up of questions from courses students take in high school. The ACT can be taken as many times as you like and it is recommended that students take the test at least twice; in the spring of their junior year and again during their senior year. Upward Bound juniors will take the April national test (which will be paid for by Upward Bound), a WSU residual test during the summer, and possibly a second national test in the fall of 2009. Those tests results help determine college readiness and show areas that may need improvement allowing time to additional study.

Scholarships

They also assist students in obtaining scholarships and college class placement. Upward Bound students, receive practice ACT tests and test taking instruction during College Prep.

This is the time of year students need to be applying for scholarships. This is especially true of seniors. The majority of scholarships have deadlines before February. There will be others later, but the majority of scholarships need to be done within the next couple of months. Juniors need to be looking at senior scholarships in order to obtain the requirements necessary for next year’s applications. There are also many essay scholarships they can apply for currently.

Sophomores: Please apply for the Energy Solutions Scholarship at—
http://www.energsolutionsfoundation.org/

WSU Multicultural Day, Major Fest, Scholarship Day

November 5, 2008 Weber State University The Upward Bound Bridge Class attended the annual Multicultural Conference at WSU. Students learned about financial aid, student involvement, leadership, the Honors program, met a professor, and talked with many different academic departments about careers, majors, coursework and life at Weber. All Bridge have been accepted to Weber State University and were eligible for scholarships. Jose Cassilas received a High Honors at Entrance ($2000) and Lam Nguyen earned the Presidential (four year full tuition—$10,000) Congratulations to both students for such a great job!!!
Utah Children’s Dance Theater Scientia

Brilliant costumes, fascinating music, and incredible choreography combined to produce a lesson in science for all ages. On October 3, 2008, twenty Upward Bound students were dazzled by the beauty of ballet performed by children from the very young to their own ages.

Scientia, from the Latin word for knowledge, was an exuberant journey through the world of science fact and science fiction. Two characters—a elderly, somewhat eccentric, scientist and a teenager named Asha—traveled through time and space investigating the mysteries of the universe, from genes to galaxies, from the molten core of the Earth to the stunning biodiversity of the rainforest. Celebrating of the spirit of inquiry and sending a message to the power of each individual to change the course of the future, Upward Bound students learned to challenge what they see, hear, smell, taste, and feel through scientific enquiry.

When asked what they saw, and didn’t see, many were surprised to discover they could look deeper into the performance analyzing the settings, the costuming, the writing, the music, the choreographers and the instructors as well as many other careers associated with this single performance, including the bus driver who transported them to our campus.

Black Island Farms: “a Halloween treat”

Have you ever slide down a very tall haystack? Gotten lost in a corn maze? Upward Bound students did on October 25, as they enjoyed a day at Black Island Farms. They were also given the opportunity to watch pig races, enjoy a small-animal farm, meet Ronald McDonald and participate in many other attractions. Taken on a hayride, they were given an overview of farming in Syracuse. Growing carrots, onions, cabbage, corn, pumpkins, squash and gourds on approximately 400 acres, Black Island Farms has been in the same family for more than 45 years. Their goal is to provide entertainment to the general public, to promote awareness of agriculture, and to create an environment in which one can have fun while accepting the various challenges the maze has to offer. Upward Bound students were given the opportunity to walk through massive pumpkin fields and to choose a pumpkin they wanted to take home. The only rule was, “you have to carry it.”

Utah Jazz versus Phoenix Suns

All Upward Bound students were treated to a pre-season game between the Utah Jazz and the Phoenix Suns on October 9, 2008. Several students were lucky enough to win prizes tossed into the audience by the Jazz Bear. Always focused on education, Upward Bound took this opportunity to discuss differences in seating based on cost, education levels, angles of view, numbers of seats available in each area, dome construction and other like matters. For example: how many seats are there in the first row off the court as compared to the uppermost row? How does that compare to life? How many people are in the highest paying jobs and how did they get those jobs? Of course, the answer is by obtaining a college degree: the primary objective Upward Bound students have agreed to when they decide to join our program. They have not just committed to going to college, but have committed to graduation from college. Our trip to see the Jazz was great fun and also taught our bounders valuable life skills.
University of Utah Science Day

Upward Bound students were among hundreds of high school students to get an introduction to education and research opportunities at the University of Utah during the 20th annual Science Day at the U on Saturday, Nov. 8, hosted by the university's College of Science and College of Mines and Earth Sciences. Attending a full day of science-related workshops and academic advice, Science Day at the U began with a keynote talk by Kelly Sanders, chief operations officer at Kennecott Utah Copper. These interactive workshops presented by University of Utah professors give high school students a great look at laboratory research and career opportunities in science, math, and engineering. Some of the workshops attended by Upward Bound students included:

- Monitoring Earthquakes in Utah and Yellowstone
- Explosives and Explosions
- Making Waves
- Extreme Makeover: Human Body Engineering with Metals

BODYWORLDS 3: THE HEART

Science seems to be a theme for Upward Bound this year. On November 22, all Upward Bound students will be traveling to Salt Lake City to see BodyWorlds 3 & The Story of the Heart to learn about anatomy, physiology and health. Bodies preserved through plastination, invented by Dr. Gunther von Hagens in 1977, features whole body plastinates, organs, translucent body slices, and a special presentation on the heart. This exhibit is designed to stimulate curiosity and interest in science learning while visitors gain insights into the structure and function of healthy and unhealthy bodies.

Utah Symphony’s An Evening of Film Music

Gaining a rich cultural background is key ingredient to becoming college ready. Upward Bound exposes students to the arts through ballet, musical performances and exhibitions. On Thursday, November 13, students attended “An Evening of Film Music,” on the campus of Weber State University. Noteworthy music from the silver screen was performed by the Utah Symphony in an unforgettable performance.

Amnesty International Speaker

In preparation for the summer program and their attendance in college classes, Upward Bound Bridge (and several underclassmen) attended a lecture presented by Amnesty International on Tuesday, November 11, on the campus of Weber State University. This lecture was a supplement to the class Bridge students will take during the summer program and focusing on the death penalty. The speaker spent nearly 18 years on death row before being exonerated. He spoke of his experiences and gave his opinions on the justice system. Seniors will be writing a college-level response paper on their reaction to his experience and his presentation.
Tiffany had her Baby

UPWARD BOUND IS PROUD TO ANNOUNCE THE BIRTH OF KINLEY MAE GEARHART.

KINLEY WEIGHED IN AT 6 POUNDS 9 OUNCES ON OCTOBER 23, 2008 AND IS PERFECT IN ALL WAYS.

WHAT A WONDERFUL PUMPKIN.