Greetings! This will be a short newsletter so we can get the word out about our gala event on Nov. 3rd. There will be much more news to come in our next edition. Special thanks to our new AmeriCorps member, Laura Traceski, for all of her help on the newsletter.

In May we found out that we have been funded again for the next five years. (June 1, 2012 - May 31, 2017) We will serve 87 students a year, up from 66 in our past grant. We feel very fortunate as nearly 200 Upward Bound programs across the country lost funding, including two programs in Western Mass. We are beginning to serve some of the students from programs in Springfield and Holyoke that have closed. New funding is at a much lower rate per student so we are all being challenged to provide quality services with fewer resources. We will continue to expand our many partnerships, seek additional funding and look at all the ways we can be more efficient and effective. We have also received grants from the Community Foundation of Western Mass and the Edwin S. Webster Foundation. Our team is newly energized and finding ways to continue to improve our program.

In August we concluded a very successful Summer Academy. Students explored water justice issues, read more books than we can count, explored many new math and science concepts, wrote beautiful essays and delivered impressive Honors presentations. We went to Maine, visited UNH and spent the morning with researchers from UNE marine science program. The students were fascinated by the hands-on demonstrations with sharks, stingrays, seals, and other ocean life. We enjoyed a production of Chess at the historic Biddeford City Theatre and ended our trip with rides, swimming and seafood at Old Orchard Beach.

A very strong team of college interns from across the country provided tremendous energy and great service in their roles as tutor counselors and teaching assistants. Special thanks to everyone who worked so hard to make our summer successful.

Rising 9th graders joined us for a special overnight, a new and very successful effort to engage students earlier in the process. Two of our ninth graders, Angel Ortiz and Askalae Jacobs, have started their freshman year at NMH. It’s a real joy to see them taking advantage of the amazing academic and cultural opportunities here. Seven students participated in a life changing program at the Anytown social justice camp.

Back at our target schools, seniors are busy with college applications while staff are planning some wonderful trips and senior days on campus as well as our upcoming gala celebration. We hope many of you will join us to celebrate the 45 years of our Upward Bound Program. The event is open to the public (18 and older) and will feature lots of alumni stories, great food, a silent auction and dancing. See details on how to RSVP on page 2. Please do come! Gisele
You are invited to the...

NMH Upward Bound
45th Anniversary Gala Celebration!
Please join us for a wonderful evening to celebrate 45 years of excellence in providing educational opportunity services.
Hors d’oeuvres, desserts, silent auction, special speakers, and dancing!
Saturday, November 3, 2012
7-11 p.m.
Waterfront Tavern
920 Main Street
Holyoke, MA
Please RSVP by October 27th:
Go to this website: http://www.nmhschool.org/upward-bound-program-alumni
Call 413-498-3521
Suggested donation
$25 Community Member
$50 Silver Supporter
$100 Gold Supporter
$5 Recent UB Graduate (2008–2012)
$15 All other UB Graduates
$15 All UB family members
This event is for ages 18 and older
Any donation is greatly appreciated ~ 100% of proceeds benefit the Upward Bound students.
If you are not able to attend, you may still donate to ensure the continued success of the program.
Mail donations to: NMH Upward Bound
One Lamplighter Way
Mount Hermon, MA 01354
Or visit the website above
Where are UB seniors applying this year?

American International College
Assumption College
Bard College
Bates College
Bay Path College
Beloit College
Bennington College
Boston College
Boston University
Bowdoin College
Brandeis University
Bridgewater State College
Chatham University
Clark University
Clarkson University
Colby College
Colgate University
College of the Holy Cross
Connecticut College
Denison University
DePauw University
Fairfield University
Elms College
Fairfield University
Greenfield Community College
Guilford College
Hampshire College
Holyoke Community College
Ithaca College
Lafayette
Hampshire College
Hobart and William Smith
Lasell College
MassArt
Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts
Loyola University-Maryland
Middlebury College
Mount Holyoke College
Northeastern University
Providence College
Rochester Institute of Technology
Roger Williams University
Sarah Lawrence College
Skidmore College
Springfield College
Salem State University
Simmons College
Smith College
Springfield Technical Community College
Stonehill College
Swarthmore College
Temple University
Tufts University
UMASS Amherst
UMASS Dartmouth
UMASS Lowell
Union College
University of Connecticut
University of New Hampshire
University of North Carolina
University of Rochester
University of Rhode Island
University of Vermont
Washington University
Westfield State University
Western New England University
Wheaton College
Wheelock College
Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Worcester State College

Senior Spotlight: Highlighting Outstanding UB Seniors

Tyree Dennis
Hometown: Holyoke, MA
Applying to: “A bunch.”
Salve Regina University, Westfield State University, Worcester State University, UMass Dartmouth, University of New Hampshire

Holyoke High School

Potential Major or course of study? Sports medicine or Athletic Training

What is your favorite part of the college application process? I’d say the personal essay because I was able to express myself in a different way than the test and GPA scores.

What have you found most challenging applying to colleges? The most challenging part was the essays for the common app (same as my favorite part).

What about Upward Bound has been most helpful for you?? UB has been a great help to me. I have learned many things that can help me get into college, and they have always been there for me since day one.

Do you have any advice for next year’s seniors? Don’t stop working hard and have fun your senior year.
Brianna Matos-Akey  
**Hometown:** Turners Falls, MA  
**Applying to:** University of Massachusetts Dartmouth, Westfield State University, Fitchburg State University, Worcester State University, MCLA, Framingham State University

Potential Major: Child Psychology

What is your favorite part of the college application process? Visiting colleges and finding schools that I can see myself at.

What have you found most challenging applying to colleges? I have found writing my resume takes a lot more work than I originally thought.

What about Upward Bound has been most helpful for you? I love how everyone is so helpful, so I am not afraid to ask for help, especially during the Summer Academy.

Do you have any advice for next years' seniors? Take advantage of all the time they give you for doing college essays and your resume. Also, if you feel overwhelmed, know there is always someone in the program to talk to. Don’t feel alone because chances are someone else is feeling the same way.

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Alexis Rodriguez  
**Hometown:** Springfield, MA  
**Applying to:** Westfield State University, Fitchburg State University, UMass Dartmouth, Elms College, University of New Haven, Salem State University

Potential Major: Criminal Justice

What is your favorite part of the college application process? Visiting colleges and getting college essays done over the summer.

What have you found most challenging applying to colleges? I found completing the tedious online applications most challenging because I have to make sure I find time to for it.

What about Upward Bound has been most helpful for you? Everything. The Summer Academy is really helpful in getting us ahead of the game in school and for college

Enrichment and afterschool tutoring are great, and having afterschool time to get work done instead of needing to find time at home.

Do you have any advice for next years' seniors? Take advantage of the afterschool tutoring and enrichment. Even at Summer Academy when you are homesick, take advantage of the academy because it helps a lot.
Upward Bound Summer Academy 2012
THE UPWARD BOUND PROGRAM at NMH is a federally funded (Department of Education) initiative designed to provide low-income students with the skills and motivation needed to succeed in college. The students are usually the first in their family to go to college. UB scholars receive tutoring, advising, enrichment, a rigorous, six-week summer program and intensive assistance with the college and financial aid application process.

Additional funding for the program is provided by the Community Foundation of Western Massachusetts and the Edwin S. Webster Foundation.

Striving for the future, each and every day!