

CHECK OUT THE FALL ANNOUNCEMENTS AND **REMINDERS ON PAGES 5**



READ ABOUT THE SUMMER MENTORING PROGRAM **EVENT ON PAGE 2!**

ST. OLAF COLLEGE

TRIO Upward Bound Pessenger

August-September 2023

wp.stolaf.edu/upward/

UB Summer 2023 Recap

By: Tzolquin Pinedo

St. Olaf TRIO Upward Bound (UB) was back on the Hill for the 2023 UB Summer Residential Program. During the six-week-long program, UB hosted 106 rising sophomore, junior, and senior students as well as 19 rising first-year college students on the St. Olaf campus. Below are a few highlights from the summer program:

UB underclassmen were offered various new college preparatory and elective classes like Public Speaking, Plant Biology, Video Production, Logic Puzzle, and Creative Writing. Additionally, there were two new Friday Fun Clubs offered; Anime Club and Comedy Club.



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Our rising seniors began their college research in the Post-Secondary Exploration (PSE) course, attending nine college visits, a college fair, and beginning their resume and college essay. UB students also had the opportunity to showcase their artwork and present their research experiments to the entire program, which was an amazing experience!

Nineteen students from the Class of 2023 participated in the Summer Bridge program where they were enrolled in either International Relations taught by Professor Lot, or a writing course taught by Professor Forstner. Bridge students also participated in a week-long paid internship on the St. Olaf campus or in the Northfield area, allowing them to explore different career fields. After the conclusion of their internship, Bridge students held a Poster Session to share their internship experience with the Olaf community. We are so proud of all their hard work this summer!

As part of the summer residential experience, students attended and enjoyed various evening activities such as Skateville, Northfield Aquatic Center, movies at Cannon Valley Theater, and a Minnesota Lynx basketball game! For many students and staff, this was their first experience at the Target Center. UB student Mila wrote an article titled UB Students Go To The Lynx Game! In the article she wrote, "Students enjoyed watching the fastpaced game, getting concessions from the stands, and cheering on the Minnesota Lynx." It was certainly a game to remember since the Minnesota Lynx defeated the Indiana Fever 90-83!

We concluded the 2023 Summer Residential Program by taking 80 students to the Wisconsin Dells. During the trip, students were able to participate in a zipline excursion, cool themselves off at the waterpark, get drinks from Starbucks, and play arcade games at Pesos O'Plenty Arcade. Students departed the Dells to participate in a college tour at the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, where they engaged in a presentation by TRIO SSS, got a campus tour, and ate lunch in the cafeteria before returning to the cities.

UB staff would like to thank all of our students, summer staff, and leadership team for such a successful summer. We look forward to next year's summer program!

<u>UB Summer Mentor Bonfire</u>

By: Nou Yang

This year. UB wrapped up the 2022-2023 mentoring program by hosting our summer event on Monday, July 10, on campus during our annual UB summer bonfire. Despite the heat wave and bad weather we stayed positive and had a wonderful time.

Mentors arrived at 5 pm at Stay Hall and enjoyed a nice dinner with their mentees, whom they had not seen since the spring mentor event in May. For our graduated senior students, this was their final opportunity to connect with their mentors, share their plans for the fall, and express gratitude for their guidance and support over the last two years. Half of our rising seniors met their UB mentor for the first time and spent time getting to know each other. After dinner, everyone headed to Thorson Hall for our bonfire.

At the bonfire, mentors and mentees caught up, played volleyball, frisbee, and various outdoor sports. UB also provided materials to make beaded bracelets, which was a total hit. Lastly, we enjoyed s'mores, a must have for any bonfire! Despite the sun beating down on us, it didn't stop students and mentors from making and enjoying s'mores before the anticipated downpour.

UB enjoyed hosting our mentors at St. Olaf, as many of them are alum and some had not visited campus since graduating. We would like to thank our mentors for making the event successful! The next mentor event will be held on Saturday, November 11, 2023. Please mark your calendars and look out for more information from Aye Bra, our new mentor program coordinator!



Mentors and UB students taking a guick break from bracelet making with a photo op



Mentor, Miesha and mentee, Carley-Janae taking their first mentor-mentee picture together.

Student Leadership Council Update

By: Tzolquin Pindeo

Our Student Leadership Council (SLC) had a successful summer back on the St. Olaf College campus for the 2023 UB Summer Program! Throughout the summer, SLC members met to discuss snack fundraising, vote on Bridge scholarships, and decorate for the end-of-summer Awards Banquet.

During the academic year and the summer program, SLC members raised \$1,000 to award in scholarships for Bridge students from the Class of 2023. The Bridge students awarded scholarships were Thomas from Open World Learning, Frida from Creative Arts Secondary School, and former SLC President Peter, from Central High School.



In July, SLC held elections for the incoming members from the Class of 2026 and two vacant positions on the council. Students wishing to be in SLC had the opportunity to speak to their peers before the election was held. UB is excited to announce that Julianne (Humboldt High School), Paula (Central High School), Yuri (Creative Arts Secondary), Sir Nakhai (Open World Learning), Nifemi (Highland Park), Michaela (Central High School), and Natali (Open World Learning) were elected as new SLC members!

We look forward to the amazing work to come from our SLC members. This September, SLC will participate in their annual Fall Retreat on September 23rd where they will work in teams at Mall of America's Urban Tactical Combat. SLC members will begin selling snacks at after-school tutoring sessions during the week of September 25th. Please check in with your SLC representatives with questions. All proceeds from the sales will go towards UB Bridge scholarships!

Student Leadership Council 2023 - 2024

Creative Arts	Central	Highland Park	Humboldt High School	Open World
Secondary School	Senior High	High School	School	Learning
Rory	Michaela	Noemi (President)	Twar(MAL)	Chanida (Secretary)
Carley-Janae (VP)	Camila (MAL)	Christina	Luis (Treasurer)	Natali
Yuri	Paula	Nifemi	Julianne	Sir Nakhai

^{*} MAL - Member-at-Large, VP - Vice President

SLC Meetings & Important Dates

The Student Leadership Council (SLC) members attend meetings monthly during their mandatory tutoring sessions. SLC meetings will be held on the following dates for this academic year 2023 - 2024.

> SLC Meeting Dates 2023 - 2024 October 2nd - 5th, 2023 November 7th - 9th, 2023 December 5th - 7th, 2023 January 9th - 11th, 2024 February 6th - 8th, 2024 March 5th - 7th, 2024 April 2nd - 4th, 2024

> > May 7th - 9th, 2024

Save the Date!

1

Our first fall retreat this year will be held on Saturday, September 23, 2023. During the retreat, all SLC members will prepare for the academic year and engage in team activities.

> Retreat Information Date: Saturday, September 23, 2023 Time: 8:45 a.m. - 2:50 p.m.

Upward Bound Calendar

September/October 2023								
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday			
18	19	20	21	22	23			
	Mandatory Tutoring: Creative Arts Optional Tutoring & Bridge Day: Central	Mandatory Tutoring: Highland/Humboldt/OWL	Mandatory Tutoring: Creative Arts Optional Tutoring & Bridge Day: Central		SLC Retreat			
25	26	27	28	29	30			
No School ACT Practice Test & ACT Refresher	Mandatory Tutoring: Creative Arts Optional Tutoring & Bridge Day: Central	Mandatory Tutoring: Highland/Humboldt/OWL	Mandatory Tutoring: Creative Arts Optional Tutoring & Bridge Day: Central					
October 2	3	4	5	6	7			
Bridge Day & Optional Tutoring: Highland/ Humboldt/OWL	Mandatory Tutoring: Creative Arts Optional Tutoring & Bridge Day: Central	Mandatory Tutoring: Highland/Humboldt/OWL	Mandatory Tutoring: Creative Arts Optional Tutoring & Bridge Day: Central		MNTRIO 5K			
9	10	11	12	13	14			
Bridge Day & Optional Tutoring: Highland/ Humboldt/OWL	Mandatory Tutoring: Creative Arts Optional Tutoring & Bridge Day: Central	Mandatory Tutoring: Highland/Humboldt/OWL	Mandatory Tutoring: Creative Arts Optional Tutoring & Bridge Day: Central					
16	17	18	19	20	21			
Bridge Day & Optional Tutoring: Highland/ Humboldt/OWL	Mandatory Tutoring: Creative Arts Optional Tutoring & Bridge Day: Central	Mandatory Tutoring: Highland/Humboldt/OWL	No School Bridge Day I	No School Bridge Day II				

Remind App

UB students and/or parent(s)/guardian(s), make sure you've subscribed to receive text messages from UB through the Remind App! UB will continue to use this service this year to send out important updates and reminders. Check in with your advisor if you would like your class code resent to you.



Fall Reminders and Announcements

Director's Notes: Mari Avaloz

UB is pleased to be back in the schools four days a week to offer support and assistance. Please see below when and where you can catch UB staff in action.

Humboldt

UB will be at Humboldt on Mondays and Wednesdays from 9:00 am - 5:00 pm. Optional tutoring is offered every Monday from 3:00 - 5:00 pm in our office space, room 3608. Mandatory tutoring is offered on Wednesdays, also from 3:00 - 5:00 pm, in rooms 3201 and 3202. Both tutoring sessions are for Humboldt and OWL students. Important note for all Humboldt and OWL seniors: You are required to attend both Monday and Wednesday tutorial sessions.

Central

UB will be at Central on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:00 am - 5:00 pm. Optional tutoring will be held in the UB office, room 4215, from 3:00 - 5:00 pm on Tuesdays. Mandatory tutoring will be in the library on Thursdays from 3:00 - 5:00 pm. Important note for seniors: You are required to attend both Tuesday and Thursday tutorial sessions.

Creative Arts

UB will be at Creative Arts on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:00 am - 5:00 pm. Our office is located on the eighth floor, room 8114. UB will hold mandatory tutoring in the library on Tuesdays from 3:00 - 5:00 pm. Optional tutoring will be held in the same location on Thursdays, also from 3:00 - 5:00 pm. Important note for seniors: You are required to attend both Tuesday and Thursday tutorial sessions.

Open World Learning (OWL)

UB will be at OWL on Mondays and Wednesdays from 9:00 am - 3:00 pm. Our office is located on the first floor, room 1116. OWL students are invited to participate in optional tutoring held on Mondays at Humboldt (report to room 3608) from 3:00 - 5:00 pm. All OWL students are required to attend mandatory tutoring on Wednesdays at Humboldt (report to rooms 3201 and 3202) from 3:00 - 5:00 pm. Important note for seniors: You are required to attend both Monday and Wednesday tutorial sessions.

Highland Park

UB will be at Highland Park on Mondays and Wednesdays from 9:00 am - 5:00 pm and can be found in the CCRC space both days. Optional tutoring will be held on Mondays in the CCRC from 3:00 - 5:00pm. Mandatory tutoring will be held Wednesdays from 3:00 - 5:00 pm in the library. Important note for seniors: You are required to attend both Monday and Wednesday tutorial sessions.

Seniors

It is mandatory you attend optional tutoring days, as they are considered your official "Bridge Day" for the year. During Bridge Days, you are required to attend for a minimum of one hour to work on resumes, essays, and college applications! Humboldt, OWL, and Highland's Bridge Day is set for Mondays, Central's Bridge Day is Tuesday, and Creative Arts will hold their Bridge Day on Thursdays.

Phone Calls

Remember, you can call UB staff if you have any questions or concerns. You can also feel free to call us at 1-877-827-8658.

Advising

Students must meet with a UB advisor each month to go over grades and review progress! Each student is assigned to one UB Advisor for the year. Each school is assigned a primary Advisor: Nou at Humboldt, Aye Bra at Creative Arts and OWL, Tendor at Highland Park, and Tzolquin will be at Central.

Mentoring

Similar to last year, mentoring will be a huge focus for our program! UB is excited to continue to set deadlines for letter writing and expects each of you to attend ALL mentoring events this year! Remember, you will not earn your monthly stipend unless you write your mentor each month! Our first mentor event will be held on Saturday, November 11th, so mark this date in your planners!

Extracurricular Activities

If you are involved in extracurricular activities, we still need to see you ONCE a week! If you cannot come to an hour of tutorial sessions, you must make sure to pick up an extracurricular form for your coach/advisor to sign and complete.

All Students

Remember, you are required to attend tutoring for at least one hour on your mandatory tutoring day. Students are also encouraged to attend optional tutoring and use our virtual services (tutor.com service for students to access homework help on-demand and virtual study hall sessions via Zoom on Wednesdays from 6:00-8:00 pm). Stay tuned for more information regarding our virtual options.

Mandatory Days for ALL UB Students

Tuesday Wednesday **Thursday Creative Arts** Humboldt Central

OWL Highland

We look forward to another terrific year! Make sure to make school a priority; it will pay off once you start looking for colleges.

Mentor Spotlight: Naw Yin

By: Aye Bra Tha

This month, we are thrilled to introduce Naw Yin for our first mentor spotlight of this academic year. This is Naw's second year mentoring for UB and her mentee is a Central senior, Nay Say.

Naw was born and raised in Thailand at a refugee camp before coming to the U.S. Currently, she lives in St. Paul where she attended Hmong College Prep Academy High School. During high school, Naw joined Mock Trial, Yale Summer Institute, Girls Getting Ahead in Leadership, National Honor Society, and Student Ambassadors.

After high school, Naw went to St. Catherine University where she majored in Public Health: Health Promotion and Education. Naw is the first in her family to graduate with a four-year college degree. In college, she was picked to be on the Public Health Advisory Board and Minnesota Public Health Association by the public health department. As a public health student, she volunteered at Mano a Mano and Catholic Charities Family Service Center.



Currently, Naw is working at Head Start as a Health Educator. In this role, she has the opportunity to create a Health Calendar for the school year, facilitate events such as cooking classes with families, create enrichment activities, and promote how to live a healthy lifestyle.

In a few years, Naw's goal is to go back to school to earn her master's in Public Health: Global Health. Naw hopes to get her doctorate in a field related to health. When asked why she wants to be in Public Health, Naw said, "I am obsessed and interested in Health-related topics."

Naw decided to become a mentor for UB because as a first-generation college student herself it was hard to find a role model, and she didn't have anyone she could ask for advice during high school. Naw mentioned, "It was hard preparing myself for college and life after college when you don't have anyone you can go to." Moreover, Naw enjoys and wants to connect with students who are first-generation college students like herself.

One piece of advice Naw has for UB students is "to explore your options, take your time, really learn about yourself and who you are, and give yourself permission to grow." Lastly, one interesting fact about Naw is English is her fifth language.



Life After UB By: JonJeng Thao

I joined TRIO Upward Bound (UB) during the fall of 2019. Ever since that day UB has been a crucial part of my life, and they have stuck with me through the entirety of high school. During my time in the program, I met a lot of amazing people and I am still in contact with a lot of them today. I graduated from Central Senior High School but most of my UB friends were from the other high schools, such as Humboldt or Highland. Most of the time I would only see my UB friends during the summer program at St.Olaf College. As an underclassman in high school I managed to get really close with a lot of the upperclassmen over the short summers at UB. After they graduated, I thought I would never see them again. However, when I came to St. Olaf I was reunited with some of my old friends from UB who decided to attend St. Olaf as well.

I benefited a lot from UB. The program has prepared me well to be a successful college student. My current St. Olaf roommate was also a UB alumnus in the same class year. In addition, my dorm neighbors are my UB friends who graduated a few years ahead of me. We spend a lot of time together, including when we go to lunch and dinner, and even when we play volleyball after classes almost every day. I would have never expected to be so involved in the community and with my friends.

At St. Olaf College, TRIO SSS has also been a big part of my life. It's also something that I wouldn't have been able to do if not for UB. The program put in a good word for me and actually managed to convince the director of TRIO SSS to let me join their program. TRIO SSS is a program similar to UB. However, the only difference is that they help college students instead of high school students. In TRIO SSS, we are given an advisor who helps us during our full four years of college. They also provide a great workspace for students who need a place to study. Last year, I frequently studied in the office. This year, I have actually had the opportunity to join their Board of Leaders. As the Board of Leaders, we help the incoming first-year students settle in. We plan amazing events and showcase students every week for their hard work.

Apart from being on the TRIO SSS Board of Leaders, I am also a board member of the Hmong Oles Student Association (HOSA) at St. Olaf. Once a week, we meet to discuss what it means to be a Hmong person at St. Olaf. The club has the word Hmong in the title but it is not limited to only Hmong people. We have a couple people of different ethnicities who join us every week for our meeting.

Overall, my experience after UB has been great. College is more fun than I had originally expected it to be. With the help of UB, I learned a lot of valuable life skills that would help me throughout my years in college. Something that I would recommend is going to a school with your friends. It can get lonely and you may be homesick. However, remember that no matter where you go you will make a lot of friends in college, friends that will stick with you throughout your entire life.



Our former students Kyaw (left) and JonJeng (right) unite with their summer dorm staff, Michel (middle) on the St. Olaf campus



Alumni of our program who are current roommates at St. Olaf College

Don't Give in to Senioritis By: Aye Bra Tha

Class of 2024, you made it to your senior year! Your senior year is the most exciting time of your high school career and yet it can also be the most stressful. You will apply to the colleges and universities of your choice and attempt to balance work, school, and extra-curricular activities. As you start your senior year, remember one important thing; don't give in to senioritis! This is a big problem for a lot of seniors but we know you can work actively to avoid it.

What is Senioritis and why should you care?

Senioritis, senior slide, or senior slump is when seniors tend to get caught up in all the fun and excitement of senior year and then slowly forget about school work. The consequences of this are the negative effect on your grades. It is very important to maintain good grades because your college admissions and scholarships depend on it. Earning poor grades can result in colleges putting you on academic probation in your first semester of college. The worst-case scenario is that they may take away your admission and you could lose your scholarships due to a low GPA.

Here are a few practices to help you avoid Senioritis

Make smart choices

Don't wait until the last minute! Continuously turning in your work late will become severely harmful to your grades. Make sure to stay on top of your homework. That is the only way to avoid falling behind in all of your classes.

Make small goals

Set a small goal each week. For example, finish your essay early so you can submit your college and scholarship applications weeks before the deadline. Having a small goal for yourself will help you pace your workload throughout your senior year. Remember to set reminders of important dates such as due dates for papers/ projects, quizzes/test days, UB/school events, and college application/scholarship deadlines.

Set up good study habits

Applying good study habits for your senior year can go a long way. Make sure you know when you have tests and quizzes for your classes and begin to prepare for them early. Find yourself a quiet and peaceful place where you can study. If you want, you can also form study groups with students in your class.

Take care and treat yourself

Your senior year will be a rollercoaster ride. There will be times when you are exhausted from school, work or extra-circular activities. Don't forget to take breaks in between and take care of yourself. Go out to your favorite store and pick up your favorite food or drink. Go on a walk or run. Enjoy all the senior events like homecoming, prom, graduation, and the all-night graduation party. This may be the last time you'll spend with your friends and your senior class before you all go off on your separate ways. Make sure you enjoy every minute of it!

Finally, you have worked hard to get to this point and you are so close to crossing the finish line. Finish your last year of high school strong! Celebrate when you accomplish your goals, however big or small. Always remember, if you need any help along the way UB advisors are here to support you throughout your senior year.

UB Events for 2023 - 2024 by Grade

If you have not already, please mark your calendars for UB events happening this year. Remember, all UB events are mandatory!

Mandatory UB Events for Sophomores

- * Saturday, November 11th Sophomore Insight Day I
- * Saturday, January 13th UB Holiday Party
- * Friday, January 26th Study Skills Seminar
- * Monday, February 19th Sophomore Insight Day II
- * Friday, March 29th Career Day

Wednesday, June 19th - Friday, July 26th

UB Summer Program 2024

Mandatory UB Events for Juniors

- * Monday, September 25th ACT Pre-Test
- * Saturday, November 11th Fall Mentor Event
- * Saturday, January 13th UB Holiday Party
- * Saturday, February 24th ACT Prep
- * Friday, March 29th Career Day
- * Saturday, May 18th Spring Mentor Event

 Wednesday, June 19th Friday, July 26th

 UB Summer Program 2024

Mandatory UB Events for SLC

- * Saturday, September 23rd SLC Retreat
- * Saturday, January 13th UB Holiday Party
- * Monday, January 15th MLK Jr. Day of Service
- * Saturday, February 10th SLC Leadership Day

Tuesday, June 18th - Friday, July 26th

UB Summer Program 2024

Mandatory UB Events for Seniors

- * Monday, September 25th ACT Refresher
- * Thursday, October 19th Bridge Day I
- * Friday, October 20th Bridge Day II
- * Saturday, November 11th Fall Mentor Event
- * Monday, December 11th FAFSA Night #1
- * Tuesday, December 12th- FAFSA Night #2
- * Wednesday, December 13th FAFSA Night #3
- * Saturday, January 13th UB Holiday Party
- * Saturday, May 18th Spring Mentor Event

Tuesday, June 18th - Tuesday, July 23rd

UB Summer Program 2024

September & October Birthdays!

- * Christina September 1
- Ricky September 4
- * Mohamed September 4
- * New Lay September 6
- * Taw September 14
- * Aubree September 18
- * Sora September 25
- * Azul- September 25
- * Mat-a Lay- September 29
- Brandon October 1

- Christina C. October 3
- * Nidesh October 9
- * Ti Reh October 10
- * Yahir October 20
- * Natali October 23



UB Events for 2023-2024

Please see the complete list of events for the 2023-2024 academic year. All events will be held at either St. Paul Central or Humboldt High School.

September

- Saturday, September 23, 2023: SLC Leadership Retreat, required for all SLC members
- Monday, September 25, 2023; ACT Pre-Test (UB juniors) and the ACT Refresher (UB seniors)

October

- Saturday, October 7, 2023: MN TRIO 5K @ Phalen Lake (available for the first 25 students to sign up)
- *Thursday, October 19, 2023: Bridge Day I, 8:00 am 4:00 pm, required for all senior Bridge students
- Friday, October 20, 2023: Bridge Day II, 8:00 am 2:00 pm, required for all senior Bridge students

November

- Saturday, November 11, 2023: Fall Mentor Event, required for all UB juniors and seniors
- Saturday, November 11, 2023: Sophomore Insight Day #1, required for all UB sophomores

December

- Monday, December 11, 2023: Virtual FAFSA Event #1, 3:30 6:30 pm *
- *Tuesday, December 12, 2023: Virtual FAFSA Event #2, 6:00 9:00 pm, *
- *Wednesday, December 13, 2023: Virtual FAFSA Event #3, 6:00 9:00 pm *

*FAFSA Night Requirement: UB senior students and their parent(s)/guardian(s) will have the opportunity to select from one of our one-hour time slots where they will meet with UB staff to complete the FAFSA. Time slot offerings and additional information will be provided as the date nears.

January

- Saturday, January 13, 2024: SLC Holiday Gathering, required fun for all UB students
- Monday, January 15, 2024: SLC Community Service Day, time and location TBD, required for all SLC students.
- Friday, January 26, 2024: Study Skills, time TBD, required for all new students and UB sophomores

February

- Saturday, February 10, 2024: SLC Leadership Day, time and location TBD, required for all SLC students
- Monday, February 19, 2024: Sophomore Insight Day #2, required for all UB sophomores
- Saturday, February 24, 2024: ACT Prep, required for all UB juniors

March

Friday, March 29, 2024: Career Day, required for all UB sophomores and juniors

April

Saturday, April 27, 2024: New Student Orientation at St. Olaf College, required for all new students and parent(s)/guardian(s)

May

Saturday, May 18, 2024: Spring Mentor Event, required for all UB juniors and seniors

June - July

- *Tuesday, June 18, 2024: First day of the UB Summer Program, required start date for all new students, seniors, and SLC members
- June 19, 2024: First day of the UB Summer Program for UB sophomores and juniors
- *July 23, 2024: Last day on campus for all UB students
- July 25- 26, 2024: UB Bonus Trip for all UB underclass students with perfect attendance and good behavior-



Word Search



APPLE

AUTUMN

CHESTNUTS

CHILLY

CIDER

COBWEB

FALL

FOOTBALL

GOURD

HALLOWEEN

HAY BALE

HAYRIDE

LEAVES

MAIZE

NOVEMBER

NUTS

OCTOBER

PUMPKIN

QUILT

RAKE

SEPTEMBER

SLEET

THANKSGIVING

DIRECTIONS:

Find and circle the vocabulary words in the grid. Look for them in all directions including backwards and diagonally.

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The St. Olaf College TRIO Upward Bound Messenger is published monthly September-May, except for combined editions in August/September, November/December, and April/May. Editors reserve the right to add, change or delete articles for spacing and clarity. All inquiries should be addressed to Mari Avaloz, Director of St. Olaf Upward Bound, St. Olaf Avalos. Ollege, 1520 St. Olaf Avenue, Northfield, MN Sollege, 1520 St. Olaf Avenue, Northfield, MN

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