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

ST. OLAF COLLEGE

Upward Boul

August-September 2024

wp.stolaf.edu/upward/

<u>UB Summer 2024 Recap</u>

By: Zookong Lee

The St. Olaf TRIO Upward Bound (UB) program was welcomed back on The Hill for the 2024 UB Summer Residential Program! During the six-week program, we hosted 120 students on campus. These students consisted of rising sophomores, juniors, seniors, and 19 rising first-year college students. Below are a few highlights from the summer program:

Over the course of the six-week program, UB underclassmen were offered various college preparatory and elective classes. These classes included STEM Academy, Journalism 101, Pixel Art, Careers, and History through Social Movements. In addition, students participated in fun and engaging clubs every Friday morning. The clubs included Self-Care, Comedy, Game & Trivia, Fitness Fridays, and Anime.



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Our rising seniors began college research through our Post-Secondary Exploration (PSE) course. During these six weeks, they attended eleven college visits, including St. Olaf, Carleton, and the University of Minnesota Twin Cities. In addition, the rising seniors began writing their college essays and putting together their resumes. With their work this summer, the rising seniors will be ahead of their peers as they start classes this fall.

Nineteen students from the Class of 2024 participated in the Summer Bridge Program. They were enrolled in the writing course, Science in World and Word, taught by Professor Forstner. Additionally, the Bridge students participated in a week-long internship on or off campus to explore different career fields. To conclude the internship, the Bridge students held a poster presentation to share their experience with the St. Olaf community. We are incredibly proud of all their hard work this summer!

As part of the residential summer experience, students attended and enjoyed various evening activities, including the Walker Art Center, Boat Ride on the Mississippi, Grand Slam, Skateville, and Valleyfair. The Walker Art Center was a big hit over the summer as we visited it for the first time since the start of the pandemic. The students went around in groups, enjoying the displayed art and exhibits offered. When current UB student, Sir Nakhai, was asked about his favorite evening activity, he said, "My favorite evening activity was the boat ride because it was a fun atmosphere on a boat riding down the Mississippi, and the cheesecake was also fire."

To conclude the 2024 Summer Residential Program, 76 students attended our overnight trip to Duluth, MN. To start the trip, the students visited the University of Minnesota Duluth (UMD), where they got a campus tour, ate lunch in the cafeteria, and learned about UMD and the admissions process from an admission counselor. After the college tour, students visited the Lake Superior Zoo, where they explored and visited the different animal exhibits. For the rest of the day, the students spent time exploring Canal Park, visiting Lake Superior, and swimming at the waterpark where we stayed overnight before returning to the cities the next day.

UB staff would like to thank all the students, summer staff, and leadership team for a fantastic summer. We look forward to the summer program next year!

<u>UB Summer Mentor Event: Skateville</u>

By: Aye Bra Tha

This year, we wrapped up the 2023-2024 mentoring program on Thursday, July 11, 2024, with a trip to Skateville in Burnsville, Minnesota. UB staff arrived at Skateville to set up and welcomed mentors as they arrived. Mentors checked in and excitedly waited for their mentee(s) to arrive.

Once the students arrived, we made sure mentors and mentees were paired up before starting the event. Students and mentors were excited to see each other again as they had not seen each other since the spring mentor event back in May. Then we kicked off the evening with a quick overview of the agenda before having a light dinner together. Afterward, mentors and students spent the rest of the mentor event roller skating, playing board games, and catching up.

Our graduated senior students spent their last mentor event sharing their plans for the fall, and expressed their gratitude for the guidance and support their mentors have provided them over the last two years. Half of our rising juniors met their UB mentor for the first time and they spent time getting to know each other.

Despite the heat and humidity inside Skateville, it didn't stop our students and mentors from having a memorable night! We would like to thank our mentors and students for making the event successful! The next mentor event will be held on Saturday, November 16, 2024.

Please mark your calendars and look out for more information from Aye Bra!





Natali and Camila taking a break with their mentor, Frida!

UB students and mentors enjoying their time skating!



Student Leadership Council Update

By: Tzolquin Pinedo

The Student Leadership Council (SLC) had another fantastic UB Summer Residential Program this year! SLC members arrived on the St. Olaf campus a day earlier than their upperclassmen peers to lead a series of small and large group activities for UB's newest students. It can be difficult for students to navigate the UB Summer Program for the first time, but SLC members did an amazing job at welcoming the UB Class of 2027. Throughout the summer, SLC members met biweekly to complete check-ins, vote on the Bridge Class of 2024 Scholarship recipients, and prepare for the end-ofsummer Banquet.

Every summer, UB holds SLC elections for the new cohort that would like to serve on the council. We had many UB students create signs and slogans, and give speeches to their peers, to be voted to serve as their class representative on the Student Leadership Council. We are excited to introduce



the newest members of the 2024-2025 Student Leadership Council: Liya (Highland Park), Victor (Central), Malt (Humboldt), Montse (Highland Park), Carlos (Open World Learning), and Evie (CASS)!

Now that school is back in session, SLC members look forward to another amazing year filled with retreats, leadership development, and after-school snack fundraising. SLC members will begin selling snacks at their afterschool tutoring sessions in October. All proceeds of the sales will go to the Bridge Scholarship of Class 2025. If you have any questions, please contact an SLC representative at your school.

SLC members will have their annual Fall Retreat on September 28, 2024, where they will debrief about the summer program and prepare for the 2024-2025 academic year. Look out for the amazing things SLC will do this year!

Student Leadership Council 2024 - 2025

Creative Arts	Central Senior	Highland Park	Humboldt	Open World
Secondary School	High School	High School	High School	Learning
Thomas	Camila (President)	Liya	Luis (Treasurer)	Natali (MAL)
Yuri (MAL)	Paula (Secretary)	Nifemi (MAL)	Julianne (VP)	Sir Nakhai
Evie	Victor	Montse	Malt	Carlos

^{*} 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 2024 - 2025.

SLC Meeting Dates 2024 -2025

October 1st - 3rd, 2024 November 5th -7th, 2024 December 3rd - 5th, 2024 January 7th- 9th, 2025 February 4th - 6th, 2025 March 4th - 6th, 2025 April 8th - 10th, 2025 May 6th - 8th, 2025

Save the Date!

Our first fall retreat this year will be held on Saturday, September 28, 2024. During the retreat, all SLC members will prepare for the academic year and engage in team activities.

Retreat Information

Date: Saturday, September 28, 2024 Time: 8:45 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Location: Central High School

Upward Bound Calendar

September/October 2024								
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday			
September 16	17	18	19	20	21			
	Mandatory Tutoring: Creative Arts & Highland Park	Mandatory Tutoring: Humboldt & OWL	Mandatory Tutoring: Central					
23	24	25	26	27	28			
Optional Tutoring: Central & Humboldt/OWL	Mandatory Tutoring: Creative Arts & Highland Park	Mandatory Tutoring: Humboldt & OWL	Mandatory Tutoring: Central		SLC Retreat			
30	October 1	2	3	4	5			
Optional Tutoring: Central & Humboldt/OWL	Mandatory Tutoring: Creative Arts & Highland Park	Mandatory Tutoring: Humboldt & OWL	NO SCHOOL ACT Practice Test & ACT Refresher					
7	8	9	10	11	12			
Optional Tutoring: Central & Humboldt/OWL	Mandatory Tutoring: Creative Arts & Highland Park	Mandatory Tutoring: Humboldt & OWL	Mandatory Tutoring: Central					
14	15	16	17	18	19			
Optional Tutoring: Central & Humboldt/OWL	Mandatory Tutoring: Creative Arts & Highland Park	Mandatory Tutoring: Humboldt & OWL	NO SCHOOL Bridge Day I	NO SCHOOL Bridge Day II				
21	22	23	24	25	26			
Optional Tutoring: Central & Humboldt/OWL	Mandatory Tutoring: Creative Arts & Highland Park	Mandatory Tutoring: Humboldt & OWL	Mandatory Tutoring: Central		National ACT Test			
28	29	30	31	1	2			
Optional Tutoring: Central & Humboldt/OWL	Mandatory Tutoring: Creative Arts & Highland Park	Mandatory Tutoring: Humboldt & OWL	Mandatory Tutoring: Central					

Fall Reminders and Announcements

Interim Director's Notes: Nou Yang

We are excited to share that Mari, the director of UB was awarded the Bush Fellowship this past spring and is currently out on sabbatical until November. We are continuing all regular programming and services in our schools and look forward to another great academic year with our students, families, and school partners.

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 room 3202. 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 seniors: You are required to attend tutorial sessions for two hours throughout the week, either on Monday or Wednesdav.

Central

UB will be at Central on Mondays 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 Mondays. Mandatory tutoring will be in the library on Thursdays from 3:00 - 5:00 pm. Important note for Central seniors: You are required to attend tutorial sessions for two hours throughout the week, either on Monday or Thursday.

Creative Arts

UB will be at Creative Arts on Tuesdays 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. Important note for Creative Arts seniors: You are required to attend tutorial sessions for two hours on Tuesday.

Open World Learning (OWL)

UB will be at OWL on Wednesdays from 9:00 am - 3:00 pm. Our office is located in room 3205. OWL students are invited to participate in optional tutoring held on Mondays at Humboldt (report to room 3202) 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 all OWL seniors: You are required to attend tutorial sessions for two hours throughout the week, either on Monday or Wednesday.

Highland Park

UB will be at Highland Park on Tuesdays from 9:00 am - 5:00 pm and can be found in the CCRC. Mandatory tutoring will be held on Tuesdays from 3:00 - 5:00 pm in the library. Important note for Highland Park seniors: You are required to attend tutorial sessions for two hours on Tuesday.

Seniors

It is mandatory that you attend UB tutoring for two hours each week. We do not have "Bridge Day" this year so students can have the flexibility of choosing which day they want to complete their tutoring hours. During tutoring, you will dedicate one hour to work on resumes, essays, and college applications! The other hour can be focused on academic school work or you can continue working on your college materials. Seniors are more than welcome to join our optional tutoring sessions at Humboldt and Central on Mondays and attend other tutoring days, but they must coordinate with their Bridge advisor.

Phone Calls

Remember, you can call your UB advisor if you have any questions or concerns. You can also feel free to call Nou at 507-786-3707.

Advising

Students must meet with their 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. Zookong will advise a few students from both Humboldt and Central.

Fall Events and Announcements Continued on Next Page...



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 16th, 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 required tutoring day. Students are also encouraged to attend optional tutoring and use our virtual study hall sessions via Zoom on Mondays. Tuesdays. and Wednesdays from 6:00-8:00 pm. Stay tuned for more information regarding our virtual options.

Mandatory Days for ALL UB Students

Tuesday Wednesday Creative Arts Humboldt Central Highland OWL

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: Evelyn Aguilar-Her

By: Aye Bra Tha

As we begin this new academic year, we would like to introduce Evelyn Aguilar-Her for our September mentor spotlight. This is Evelyn's first year mentoring for UB, and we are thrilled to have her join the mentor program.

Evelyn is Mexican-American and married into a Hmong family; her last name means a lot to her because she loves to honor both cultures. Like other mentors and current UB students, she is the first in her family to graduate from college! When she went to college, Evelyn was scared of being away from her family and unsure of what she wanted to study. However, thanks to the TRIO Student Support Services program at St. Olaf, she found people and places in Minnesota that made her feel at home. Evelyn graduated in 2020 with a degree in Social Work and a concentration in Race and Ethnic Studies.

Here are some fun facts about Evelyn: she is from Chicago, IL, and she has been in two countries at once. She stated, "I technically have been in two countries at once. One of my favorite hikes had a plaque on the ground that showed Minnesota was on one side and Canada on the other!" Evelyn is also an extrovert through and through; she loves being around her friends and family. Whether it's going out to eat, watching a sports game (even if she doesn't understand the rules), or doing arts and crafts, everything is fun as long as she is with someone.



Currently, Evelyn is working for a TRIO Upward Bound program in Minneapolis! She works as the program's Student Support Specialist and advises 30 students throughout the academic year. When asked why she wanted to be a mentor, she replied, "I worked for the St. Olaf UB program as a dorm staff for a total of four summers, and I loved every second of it. Despite working in a different UB program full-time now, I can never pass up an opportunity to come back to this group of amazing students and staff! It's because of my time here that I realized I loved the energy of high school students!"

Mentor Spotlight Continued on Next Page...



Evelyn's future goal is to become a professor in the field of social work because she loves people. Despite the barriers that life throws, she hopes to teach aspiring social workers that building other's confidence by empowering them is the key to fields that are people-centered. When asked if she had any advice for the current UB student, she responded "This UB program you are a part of is truly one like no other! Love and live in the moment with this amazing team of advisors and peers you have on your side!"

We want to thank Evelyn for taking the time to share her story and being a UB mentor!

<u>My First UB Summer</u>

By: Bu Soe



My first summer with UB must've been my best summer break yet. I experienced many new things, met so many new people, and overall had so much fun. My favorite parts of UB would be the Sunday night competitions, the afternoon activities, and the overnight trip.

During the first week of the UB summer program, I was excited to meet my Sunday night group members. It wasn't until the following Sunday that I met my team. On the first Sunday we came back, I think most people wanted to chill but we were told to come outside as soon as we unpacked. We continued this for the rest of the time at UB. I don't know about others, but I looked forward to the Sunday night activities. I'm pretty competitive, so when my group won the entire competition at the end of the summer, I was very happy.

After classes, we participated in afternoon activities and then went on field trips in the evening. I looked forward to the afternoon activities as well because I wouldn't have to just sit in my room playing Brawl Stars. The planned activities got me to go and hang out with my friends.

The end of the summer overnight trip was fun and something that I looked forward to in UB. This summer, we went to Duluth for the overnight trip. It took a couple of hours to get there, but I enjoyed it. Whether it was because the person seated next to me made the trip entertaining or my restful nap. Once we got to Duluth, we went to the zoo, toured the University of Minnesota-Duluth, and visited Lake Superior. The hotel that we stayed at was lovely. It had an indoor waterpark, arcade, and more. The rooms were decently sized and had multiple beds. Overall I would rate my first summer experience at UB a 9 out of 10!



Bu's Sunday night group competing in tug-of-war.



Group picture of Bu's Walker Art Center group.

Bridge 101: Do Not Give In To Senioritis

By: Tendor Norbu

UB Class of 2025, graduation will be here in no time. Let's make sure to stay on top of your school work and college applications. You all got an early start on your college application process because you learned about multiple colleges as you participated in 11 campus visits and had a great start with your college essays and resumes during the summer. You will continue to check in with your bridge team captain to enhance your essays and resumes. This year, we will host Bridge Days I and II on October 17th and 18th. During these two days, we will work to finalize your college essays and resumes and begin submitting your college applications.



As you start off your senior year, we don't want you to give in to senioritis. Senioritis, senior slump, or senior slide is when high school seniors lose their motivation to do their school work, as they tend to spend more time on their social life or other distractions. In some cases, it could get out of control to the point where the students' grades drop. Make sure to maintain or raise your grades, because your college admission and scholarships can depend on them. For example, your admission to a college could be denied, or you could lose scholarships due to a drop in your grades for your classes.

The following are a few ways to help you to stay healthy and avoid senioritis:

Maintain your Health and Wellbeing Take care of your health and get your flu shots soon. Remember to take timed breaks to stand, walk, workout, or dance during the day. Also, try out a 5-minute meditation session on YouTube to reduce your stress, or take a walk at a park nearby or around a lake near your home.

Set Goals

Keep in mind that there are about eight months of school left before your high school graduation, which is still a lot of time. Senior year is a marathon, not a sprint. Set small goals for yourself every few weeks. They can be as simple as turning in homework on time, to finishing your essay early, to completing a college application weeks before the deadline. These small goals will help you pace yourself with your workload throughout your senior year.



The UB Class of 2025 during the 2024 UB summer banquet.

Be Proactive

Utilize your resources by attending the virtual study hall on Zoom and reaching out to tutors during tutoring sessions. Find or set up a conducive learning area in your home. Know when your tests, quizzes, projects, or presentations are due for your classes, and begin to prepare for them early. The earlier you start preparing, the more time you have to study and work on your projects or presentations. This will allow you to finish your last year of high school strong!

UB Events for 2024 - 2025 by Grade

Please mark your calendars for UB events happening this year. Just a friendly reminder that all UB events are mandatory!

Mandatory UB Events for Sophomores

- * Friday, November 8th Sophomore Insight Day I
- * Saturday, January 11th UB Holiday Party
- * Monday, January 27th Study Skills Seminar
- * Saturday, February, 8th Sophomore Insight Day II
- * Friday, March 7th Career Day

Wednesday, June 18th - Friday July 25th **UB Summer Program 2025**

Mandatory UB Events for Juniors

- * Thursday, October 3rd ACT Pre-Test
- * Saturday, November 16th Fall Mentor Event
- * Saturday, January 11th UB Holiday Party
- * Saturday, February 22nd ACT Prep
- * Friday, March 7th Career Day
- * Saturday, May 17th Spring Mentor Event

Wednesday, June 18th - Friday, July 25th **UB Summer Program 2025**

Mandatory UB Events for SLC

- * Saturday, September 28th SLC Retreat
- * Saturday, January 11th UB Holiday Party
- * Monday, January 20th MLK Jr. Day of Service
- * Saturday, April 12th SLC Leadership Day

Tuesday, June 17th - Friday, July 25th **UB Summer Program 2025**

Mandatory UB Events for Seniors

- * Thursday, October 3rd ACT Refresher
- * Thursday, October 17th Bridge Day I
- * Friday, October 18th Bridge Day II
- * Saturday, November 16th Fall Mentor Event
- * Saturday, January 11th UB Holiday Party
- * Monday, January 13th Virtual FAFSA Night #1
- * Wednesday, January 15th Virtual FAFSA Night #2
- * Friday, January 31st Virtual FAFSA Afternoon #3
- * Saturday, May 17th Spring Mentor Event

Tuesday, June 17th - Tuesday, July 22nd **UB Summer Program 2025**

September & October Birthdays!

- Crystal September 2
- * Mohamed September 4
- * New Lay September 6
- * Alan September 6
- * Plae September 6
- * Evie September 14
- * Ciasiab- September 26
- * Sir Nakhai- September 28

- * Brandon October 1
- * Linda October 2
- * Jade October 14
- * Natali October 23
- * Malt October 26
- * Anthony October 26



UB Events for 2024-2025

Please see the complete list of events for the 2024-2025 academic year. All events or pick up locations will be held at either St. Paul Central or Humboldt High School.

September

st Saturday, September 28, 2024: SLC Fall Retreat, required for all SLC members

October

- * Thursday, October 3, 2024: ACT Pre-Test (UB juniors) and the ACT Refresher (UB seniors)
- * Thursday, October 17, 2024: Bridge Day I, 8:00 am 4:00 pm, required for all senior Bridge students
- * Friday, October 18, 2024: Bridge Day II, 8:00 am 1:30 pm, required for all senior Bridge students

November

- * Friday, November 8, 2024: Sophomore Insight Day #1, required for all UB sophomores
- * Saturday, November 16, 2024: Fall Mentor Event, required for all UB juniors and seniors

January

- \star Saturday, January 11, 2025: SLC Holiday Gathering, required fun for all UB students
- * Monday, January 13, 2025: Virtual FAFSA Event #1, 6:00 9:00 pm *
- * Wednesday, January 15, 2025: Virtual FAFSA Event #2, 6:00 9:00 pm *
- * Monday, January 20, 2025: SLC Community Service Day, required for all SLC students
- * Monday, January 27, 2025: Study Skills, time TBD, required for all new students and UB sophomores
- * Friday, January 31, 2025: Virtual FAFSA Event #3, 3:30 6:30 pm *

*FAFSA Night Requirement: UB senior students and their parent(s)/guardian(s) will have the opportunity to select from one of our 1.5 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.

February

- st Saturday, February 8, 2025: Sophomore Insight Day #2, required for all UB sophomores
- * Saturday, February 22, 2025: ACT Prep, required for all UB juniors

March

 \star Friday, March 7, 2025: Career Day, required for all UB sophomores and juniors

April

- Saturday, April 12, 2025: SLC Leadership Day, time and location TBD, required for all SLC students
- Saturday, April 26, 2025: New Student Orientation at St. Olaf College, required for all new students and parent(s)/guardian(s)

May

* Saturday, May 17, 2025: Spring Mentor Event, required for all UB juniors and seniors

June - July

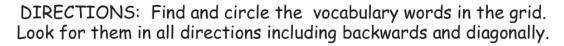
- * Tuesday, June 17, 2025: First day of the UB Summer Program, required start date for all new students, seniors, and SLC members
- * June 18, 2025: First day of the UB Summer Program for UB sophomores and juniors
- * July 22, 2025: Last day on campus for all UB students
- st July 24- 25, 2025: UB Bonus Trip for all UB underclass students with perfect attendance and good behavior







Happy Halloween!





AFTERLIFE AUTUMN BAT **BLACK BLOOD** BOO BROOMSTICK CACKLE CADAVER CANDY CASKET CAT CAULDRON

COBWEB COFFIN CREEPY DEMON EERIE GHOST GHOUL GRIM REAPER HAUNT HOWL MASK **MIDNIGHT** MOON

MUMMY **OCTOBER OGRE OWL PHANTOM** PRANK **SKELETON** SPIDER TOMBSTONE TRICK VAMPIRE WEREWOLF WITCH

ST. OLAF COLLEGE TRIO UPWARD BOUND MESSENGER

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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 College, 1520 St. Olaf Avenue, Northfield, MN 55057-1098.

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