

# CMU UPWARD BOUND

FIRST QUARTER UPDATES

OCTOBER 2024



Left: Josue at GJHS Back to School Night; Center: Kat, Rebecca, and Delaynie at the Western Slope College Fair; Right: Katelynn and Anaya at CHS tutoring.

## WELCOMING NEW FRIENDS TO THE UPWARD BOUND FAMILY!

It's hard to believe that we are beginning our third year of Upward Bound at Central and Grand Junction High School! With the new school year comes new faces, both on our staff team as well as students.

In the first quarter, Upward Bound welcomed Josue Acevedo as the Grand Junction High School Upward Bound Advisor. Josue has worked with Upward Bound during the 2023 and 2024 Summer Academy and is rocking it at GJHS.

Our tutor team is (almost) entirely new at both GJHS and CHS but includes CMU students from all different majors, walks of life, and parts of the world. We are so fortunate to welcome Katelynn and Jacob to the CHS tutor team and Tayden, Ella, Madison, and Joel to the GJHS tutor team!

Finally, we have 23 brand new Upward Bound students who have joined the program since the start of the school year. As we head into a fresh quarter next week, I am excited to see the amazing things our Upward Bound family accomplishes!



## UPCOMING PROGRAM DATES

Tuesday, October 22  
College & Money Night  
6:00 - 8:00 PM  
CMU Meyer Ballroom  
*\*This will replace the October Saturday session!\**

Friday, November 8  
National First-Gen  
Celebration  
12:00 - 3:00 PM  
Colorado Mesa University

Saturday, November 16  
Studying & Organizational  
Skills Workshop  
10 AM - 12 PM  
Colorado Mesa University

Saturday, December 14  
Upward Bound Holiday  
Party  
6:00 - 8:00 PM  
Colorado Mesa University

## UB QUESTIONS?

Contact Shelby Pryzgoda,  
Director, Upward Bound  
sburroughspry@coloradomesa.edu  
Shelby.Burroughs@d51schools.org

The United States Department of Education funds Colorado Mesa University's (CMU) TRIO Upward Bound at 92%, \$1,344,158. Non-federal funding from CMU at 8%, \$93,526.

# RECOGNIZING Academic Excellence



Grand Junction HS students Johnathon and Donavin after receiving their academic letters!

Central HS 2024 grad, Aileen and her mom after being recognized for her 4.0+ GPA.



Academic success is critical to the mission of Upward Bound! Through our after-school tutoring program, students can work directly with CMU tutors and Upward Bound advisors to not only improve grades but excel in their classes!

In the 2023-2024 school year, **44% of Upward Bound students earned a GPA of 3.0 or above. 20% of Upward Bound students had a GPA of 3.5 or better with 7% students earning a GPA above 4.0.**

Donavin, a sophomore at Grand Junction High School, was recognized for his top GPA of 4.4. This year, Donavin plans to continue taking rigorous AP courses and participate in additional extracurricular clubs like Academic Team.

Terrence, a junior at Grand Junction High School, maintained his impressive 4.28 GPA while balancing his involvement in AP courses, Academic Team, and FBLA.

This year, we are excited to continue working with all our Upward Bound students to help them meet their academic and college goals! You can set yourself up for academic success by ensuring you attend **after-school tutoring Monday-Thursday from 3-5 PM at GJHS and CHS.**



Central HS student, Angelina and the President of the Council for Opportunity in Education, Kim Jones. Angelina was one of 170 students selected from across the US to attend the National Student Leadership Congress.

9 seniors in the class of 2025 have earned GPAs of 3.85+ and are preparing applications for selective scholarship programs and institutions across the nation!

Grand Junction High School student, Delaynie, was selected for a semester-long internship with the Outdoor Wilderness Lab (OWL) where she will explore her passion for outdoor recreation and advocacy.

# LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

Upward Bound took students to **two separate college fairs** during the first quarter of the school year. During these college fairs, students asked questions to college recruiters, learned about new universities, and envisioned themselves as future college students.

18 seniors participated in a **scholarship writing workshop** in September at CMU. This workshop helped them outline their ideas and develop strong essays that they will submit for consideration in the coming weeks!

Juniors & seniors are now preparing for the SAT! The SAT is incredibly important in helping students earn additional scholarship opportunities and place into college-level math and science courses. Both GJHS and CHS programs offer SAT prep opportunities, so contact Lissie (CHS) or Josue (GJHS) for more information about the next workshop!



# Summer Academy Review



# SECOND QUARTER CHECKLISTS

*Your Guide to Staying on Track for College!*

## SENIORS

- Read the monthly Class of 2025 newsletter! It is emailed to you the first Friday of the month!
- Take or retake the SAT exam to establish or improve your test score
- Submit all college admission applications by the end of the quarter.
- Start the scholarship applications for the institutions you are accepted into! These applications will close in early 2025!
- Attend College & Money Night on October 22 at CMU
- Attend the November Saturday session on organization, Saturday, November 16 at CMU
- Attend the Upward Bound Holiday Party on December 14!

## SOPHOMORES

- Attend two SAT workshops at GJHS or CHS.
- Attend the November Saturday session on organization, Saturday, November 16 at CMU
- Attend the Upward Bound Holiday Party on December 14!

## JUNIORS

- Attend two SAT workshops at GJHS or CHS.
- Run for a leadership position within a club you are in.
- Take a practice SAT test and review your scores with your UB advisor.
- Start your college list by exploring colleges that have the major you're interested in studying.
- Attend the November Saturday session on organization, Saturday, November 16 at CMU
- Attend the Upward Bound Holiday Party on December 14!

## FRESHMEN

- Attend after school daily to stay on top of your grades! Freshman year grades are very important!
- Attend the November Saturday session on organization, Saturday, November 16 at CMU
- Attend the Upward Bound Holiday Party on December 14!