

# UPWARD BOUND NEWSLETTER

## WINTER 2016

### STAFF

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### TUTORIAL STAFF

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MATH: Matt Steele  
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ENGLISH: Lisa Sellers

**Upward Bound tutorials  
take place on Tuesdays,  
Wednesdays, and  
Thursdays from  
2:30 - 4:30 pm in  
room A-111**

#### **Airport High School**

MATH: Marcee Nye  
and Matt Pinter  
SCIENCE: TBA  
ENGLISH: Cy Maughmer  
and Brooklyn Wright

**Upward bound tutorials  
take place on Mondays &  
Wednesdays from  
2:30 - 4:30 pm, and  
Tuesdays 3:00 - 4:30 pm  
in room 59**

### Congratulations Mr. President!



**Jonathon Brown**  
2015 MHS Graduate

Jonathon Brown a 2015 Monroe High School (MHS) Graduate and Upward Bound Program participant has been elected president of his 1,100 member Class of 2019 at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). While attending MHS, Mr. Brown held a number of leadership roles, but this was the first time he has been elected class president. While in high school, he was a member of student council, National Honor Society President, Upward Bound Student of the Year and captain of the MHS Wrestling Team. Jonathon was a senior scholar and graduated Summa Cum Laude. He had offers from eight major universities and was one of the most sought-after MHS graduate in the history of the school.

He will serve as president during his freshman year. Jonathon is studying mathematics and astrophysics while at MIT. We wish him continued success in his future endeavors.

### Mr. Friedline Graduates!

On Nov. 17, Airport High School Academic Skills Coordinator, Charles Friedline, graduated from the 2015 Emerging Leaders Institute (ELI).

Graduates of the ELI Program are expected to take on leadership roles in their state chapters and in EOA. Charles is currently serving as the chairperson of the Legal Concerns and Constitutional Issues Committee, and as co-chair of the Legislation and Education Committee of the EOA state chapter, Michigan College Access Programs & Personnel (MI-CAPP).

The purpose of EOA is to provide professional development opportunities for college access professionals so they can better serve their students and programs, to be a voice and an advocate for college access programs such as Upward Bound, and to provide scholarships for the students who participate in those programs.



(L to R): Charles Friedline; MI-CAPP President, Dr. Darryl Taylor; Amanda Horter, 2015 ELI graduate from Michigan.

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# FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK:



Dr. Anthony Quinn

## FAFSA!

January 1, 2016 marks the day that college-bound students and their families can begin filling out the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) for the upcoming school year.

**As you begin this critical task, please take these helpful hints into consideration:**

1. All students, regardless of financial status or college preference, should fill out the FAFSA. Students wishing to continue receiving financial aid in subsequent years must RENEW their FAFSA application each year.
2. File early and pay attention to the deadlines! There are federal and state deadlines, and your colleges may also have a deadline. The State of Michigan deadline for the 2016-17 school year is March 1, 2016. Start early so that any questions or concerns you have can be taken care of without affecting your ability to meet the deadline!
3. For federal aid purposes, the listing order of the schools does not matter. HOWEVER, placing a school that participates in Michigan's student grant programs at the top of the list may help you obtain state aid. List your top in-state choices FIRST!
4. If a field doesn't apply to you, enter a "0" (zero) in the appropriate field. DO NOT leave the section blank unless you are instructed to skip the field entirely based on your answer to a previous question.
5. BE THOROUGH AND CHECK YOUR WORK! Mistakes will cause delays and may result in exclusion from consideration for specific aid programs.

## Ten Common FAFSA Errors Parents Make

(By: Todd M. Kelly, [www.collegeview.com](http://www.collegeview.com))

### 1. Failing to Submit Because of Income (High or Low)

Many times families will not complete or submit the FAFSA, believing that they make too much money to qualify, or they make less and think they will get everything covered because of income. Income is one of seven factors used to determine aid eligibility; always complete the FAFSA regardless of income.

### 2. Waiting Too Long to Submit

A mistake many make is to wait until they have all of their financial documents in place, and taxes done, before submitting their FAFSA. Since some money is on a first-come, first-served basis, it is imperative to submit as early in January as possible with estimates of your finances (which the Department of Education fully expects).

### 3. Submitting Incorrect Info for Divorced Parents

In a divorce situation, whose financial information is used? It is the income and assets of the household (including step-parent info) in which the student spends the majority of their time and receives the majority of financial support.

### 4. Understating Income

If you contribute to a 401(k), 403(b), or any other pre-tax retirement account, you must add back any contributions in the previous year to your income for FAFSA purposes. This in effect produces a higher FAFSA income than what might be shown on your tax return.

### 5. Overstating Assets

Many families mistakenly include retirement assets as part of their investments or net worth, when in fact retirement assets should not be included here.

### 6. Misquoting Real Estate Assets

Another common error is that families overstate their assets by including the equity they have in their primary residence. For FAFSA purposes, primary residence home equity is not included. However, equity in rental property and vacation homes can be included.

### 7. Misplacing Information

Always remember the FAFSA is written from a student perspective as if they are the one completing it. When the FAFSA refers to "you" and "yours," it is in fact referring to the student.

## Ten Common FAFSA Errors Parents Make (cont.)

### 8. Choosing to File Paper vs. Electronic

Online submission provides built-in edits to help prevent errors, is more time-efficient, includes an online help feature, and offers a much simpler renewal process.

### 9. Failing to Consider Each Question Carefully

Give yourself time to think through the questions and what they are asking. Answering questions a certain way can preclude you from receiving aid or valuable information. The following two questions highlight this fact. When asked if you are interested in work-study, always answer yes. It does not mean you will get it, nor does it mean you have to take it. But what if the award is a great offer for the hours expected? When it asks for the student's email address, always put your email address. This ensures that all information communicated to you or your student comes to you for review.

### 10. Forgetting to Save as You Go

Every page or two, be sure to save your file as you go. You don't want to get halfway through just to find your computer or the government's server has locked up.

And last but not least, I want to include the one mistake you definitely do not want to make. Please be sure to complete the correct FAFSA application. Remember to complete the FAFSA for the year your student will be in college for the upcoming fall school year, NOT the school year they are currently in. This is a huge, but common mistake. Make this one and your student will receive no aid in the following fall



On Dec. 6, Airport High School Upward Bound students, along with chaperones, Matt Pinter and Charles Friedline, attended a sold-out performance of the classic holiday ballet, *The Nutcracker*. The ballet was performed by the River Raisin Ballet Company at the River Raisin Center for the Arts in Monroe.



Courtney Rae, Madyson Twork, and Kim Ellison, members of the Upward Bound Alumni Club at MCCC, held a bake sale outside of Admissions. This is the first year of the club here at MCCC. If you would like to become a member contact Mr. Friedline [friedline@airport.k12.mi.us](mailto:friedline@airport.k12.mi.us)



# ATTENTION STUDENTS...

**Students attending MCCC:** Any financial aid that you are granted is automatically applied to your tuition and fees. Any monies that are remaining after tuition and fees are paid will be sent to the MCCC bookstore approximately 10 days prior to the semester start date. Anything you purchase in the bookstore will automatically be deducted from your award amount.

**REMEMBER!** The U.S. Department of Education uses the FAFSA to determine your eligibility for federal student aid, including low-interest loans, grants, and work-study. The FAFSA can determine your eligibility for state and school aid as well!

**MCCC Financial Aid Department**



**YOU**  
**MAY BE REQUIRED**  
**TO RETURN ALL OR**  
**A PORTION OF YOUR**  
**FINANCIAL AID**  
**DISBURSEMENT**  
**IF**

- You ended the semester with **ALL** non-passing grades (any combination of F's, W's, and NP's).
- You dropped your classes.
- You were administratively excluded from your class.

## CULTURAL ENRICHMENT TRIP – SUMMER 2016

As part of the Summer Upward Bound Program, students have the opportunity to attend an all-expense paid cultural enrichment trip. A student must be in good standing within the summer session of the program.

**Students must meet all eligibility requirements listed below to attend the trip for Summer-2016**

- Participate in the summer program
- Meet attendance requirements
- Exhibit a good attitude and behavior
- Meet GPA requirement of 2.5
- Be attentive in the classroom and complete assignments
- Meet Community Service requirements (5 hours of Community Service)

Location and dates of the Summer-2016 trip will be announced at a later date.



NYC 2014

## MCCC UPWARD BOUND BRIDGE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Seniors who graduate in good standing with the Upward Bound program are eligible to compete for the Bridge scholarship for the summer semester at MCCC. Students may take up to six credit hours during the summer semester at MCCC. These credits are transferrable to other institutions of higher learning.

This scholarship includes:

- A. Tuition at MCCC for up to six credit hours of approved courses (e.g., college math and English)
- B. Books and supplies not to exceed \$100
- C. Tutoring and progress monitoring by Upward Bound staff

**DEADLINE FOR APPLICATION SUBMISSION IS APRIL 15 2016!**

Call Ms. Lambert or Mr. Friedline with any questions regarding this scholarship and/or the eligibility requirements.

**Parents:** Please encourage your student to apply to any and all scholarships available to him/her.

## UPCOMING EVENT!

Award & Recognition Reception: May 26 2016

To honor your students hard work and dedication to education.

Details to follow... Mark your Calendar!

# Coordinator's Corner

From Dannielle Lambert, Academic Skills Coordinator Monroe High School

## What's new with the 2016-2017 FAFSA?

Beginning May 10, 2015, the PIN (Personal Identification Number) was replaced with the FSA ID (Federal Student Aid Identification). To increase security, the U.S. Department of Education is now requiring students, parents, and borrowers to use the FSA ID to sign their FAFSA and to access certain ED websites. The FSA ID is a username and password that identifies you as the person having the proper access to your information such as your FAFSA.

## How Do I Get a FSA ID?

Go to [www.fsaaid.ed.gov](http://www.fsaaid.ed.gov) to create your FSA ID. The FSA ID process consists of three main steps:

1. Enter your log-in information.
  - Provide your e-mail address, a unique username, and password, and verify that you are at least 13 years old.
2. Enter your personal information.
  - Provide your Social Security number, name, and date of birth.
  - Include your mailing address, e-mail address, telephone number, and language preference.
  - For security purposes, provide answers to five challenge questions.
3. Submit your FSA ID information.
4. Agree to the terms and conditions.
5. Verify your e-mail address. (This is optional, but helpful. By verifying your e-mail address, you can use your e-mail address as your username when logging into certain ED websites. This verification also allows you to retrieve your username or reset your password without answering challenge questions.)  
(Source: <http://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/fafsa/filling-out/fsaid>)

For further assistance, MHS Seniors please see me at MHS in room A-115, or go to the FAFSA website at <https://fafsa.ed.gov/help.htm>.

## From Charles Friedline, Academic Skills Coordinator Airport High School

Why does Upward Bound require its students to do community service? The short answer is because it will strengthen their college applications and improve their chances of landing scholarships. This will give them a better shot of getting into the college they most want to go to, rather than the one they have to settle for. Colleges that are selective use community service and extra-curricular activities as another tool to distinguish from each other the many similar students who have applied.

If you are a college admissions officer, and you have two students with high GPAs, high ACT/SAT scores, and great recommendations from their teachers—and you only have one spot left—who do you pick? Well, the first thing you may want to look at is what else they have done beyond studying hard and getting good grades. If one student has been active in their school Interact Club throughout high school, helping out with food drives and clothing drives and races to cure diseases, and the other student worked at the Humane Society for two hours once in their sophomore year, which one do you think is going to be chosen—all else being equal?

So, we require them to do community service. We would prefer that they pick one thing that they like, that they are passionate about, or that will give them some hands-on experience in a career field they are interested in. Regardless of what they choose, we require that they complete at least five hours of service each school year.

Some students already perform service in the community, which is great. All they have to do to get credit for it is to complete one of our community service forms (available in the Upward Bound office). For those who do not already perform community service, and may not know where to begin, we work very hard to make sure they have lots of opportunities.

For example, in just the first three months of this year, they have had the opportunity to join the AHS Interact Club, help out with a food drive at Busch's Super Market in Carleton, help with the food and toy distribution event at the Salvation Army in Monroe, and volunteer at the Promedica Monroe Regional Hospital. There will be more opportunities after the holiday break as well. Students may also come up with their own ideas, subject to approval.

**So, students: get engaged!** Parents and guardians: encourage your student to get engaged—to pick a service opportunity and get going. There are so many options, and it could make the difference between getting into the college of their choice and not getting in.

# SENIOR HIGHLIGHTS

## Airport High School

AIRPORT  
HIGH SCHOOL



Eryn Brooks

Evan Kominek-Sobczak

Sierra Langton

Lauren Rae

Arron Robinson

Samantha Stanchik

Devin Stults

Jordan Stumpmier

Javonn White

## Live Life in Happiness

by Eryn Brooks

**What college/university do you plan to attend?**

MCCC and then transfer to the University of Toledo.

**What degree do you plan to pursue?**

Pharmacy

**Where do you see yourself in 5 years?**

In college and happy.

**What is your most memorable high school experience?**

Junior Year Prom

**What have you learned about yourself in the past 4 years?**

That I am a kind, loving and funny person

**The person I admire is?**

Grandpa. He has given me courage and happiness and taught me a lot.

**What has been your favorite part of Upward Bound?**

Summer program bus rides with Sierra and Lauren.

**Words of Wisdom –**

*Don't give up, time flies by and stay happy.*

## The Legend of Devin

by Devin Stults

**What college/university do you plan to attend?**

Henry Ford Community College.

**What degree do you plan to pursue?**

Computer Applications and Engineering

**Where do you see yourself in 5 years?**

Studying in college to achieve my goals and dreams.

**What is your most memorable high school experience?**

Senior year homecoming when I asked my best friend to be my girlfriend.

**What have you learned about yourself in the past 4 years?**

That I am a very kind and resilient person with a strong heart and a lot of empathy towards people.

**What has been your favorite part of Upward Bound?**

Hanging out with my best friends.

**Words of Wisdom –**

*Don't give up, enjoy your high school years because they will be done in a flash.*

# Success is the Key to Life

by Avery Haynes

**What college/university do you plan to attend?**

MCCC

**What degree do you plan to pursue?**

Computer Science

**Where do you see yourself in 5 years?**

Graduating from college and getting a job.

**What is your most memorable high school experience?**

Playing soccer all four years and being on the Homecoming Court.

**What have you learned about yourself in the past 4 years?**

I am not as shy as I was when I started high school.

**The person I admire is:**

Mom. She is always there for me.

**What has been your favorite part of Upward Bound?**

Going to New York City.

**Words of Wisdom –**

*No matter what happens in your life, you can succeed in whatever you like. Just put your mind to it.*



# SENIOR HIGHLIGHTS

Monroe High School



Noor Awad

Jsalissa Bridges

Dedra Brown

Samuel Green

Avery Haynes

Dawson Kopp

Jazmine Morrison

Samantha Peters

Alana Shannon

Xavier Turnage

Nicah Whitfield

Aurea Williams

Mathew Wills

Caitlin Young

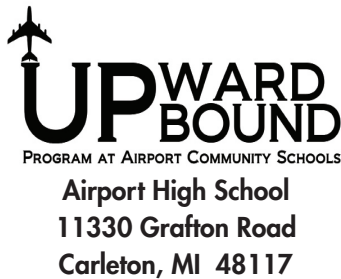


**Gandhi**

Monroe County Community College  
1555 S. Raisinville Road  
Monroe, MI 48161



Monroe County Community College  
1555 S. Raisinville Road  
Monroe, MI 48161



Monroe High School  
901 Herr Road  
Monroe, MI 48161



### What is Upward Bound?

Upward Bound is a program funded by the U.S. Department of Education that prepares high school students for post-secondary education. Established in 2007, Monroe County Community College Upward Bound serves 110 students, grades 9-12. Students are enrolled from our target high school, Monroe High School, located in Monroe, Michigan and Airport High School located in Carleton, Michigan. Upward Bound is a challenging, preparatory program for students who demonstrate the ability or desire to attend college. All program services are free for participants.

### Mission

The mission of the Monroe County Community College Upward Bound program is to assist students in grades nine through twelve in the successful completion of high school and to prepare them for post-secondary education by providing academic support, college preparation, social, cultural and career exploration.