Dear Upward Bound Students, Families and Friends:

Welcome to the Spring 2013 Semester. We have quite a few activities planned, both during the after-school tutoring and the various Saturday Academies. Parents, please remember that attendance in the after-school tutoring sessions is mandatory for your student. However, if your child is participating in a school sport or group that also meets after-school, please call the Upward Bound office 24 hours in advance to let us know. Passes are required to be excused.

After-school tutoring is held in Room 308 on Wednesdays and Thursdays from 3:15-4:15pm. For our sophomores and juniors, Upward Bound will continue to host Saturday Academies to help our students best excel in their SAT and ACT exams. In addition, ongoing Parent Academies will be formed, which are designed to involve our parents in supporting their Upward Bound student as well as better prepare for college admissions. Parental involvement in a child’s future is crucial for their success.

We appreciate the level of commitment shown by so many of our parents and guardians, and we rely heavily on the support of parents. We look forward to your continued support, not only of our program, but of your child’s future. We couldn’t do this without you.

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New Upward Bound Staff

Anthony Morris is completing his Master’s degree in Counseling, currently works at Golden Valley High School, and is also serving as our new Project Assistant. He is a graduate student at University of La Verne. He received his B.A. from the University of California, Riverside. He used to be a middle school Theater Arts Drama Teacher and a former radio personality.

Summer Academy 2013

- Dates June 17-July 26, 2013
- All 6 weeks to be conducted at College of the Canyons
- Hours: 9am-3pm
- Breakfast & Lunch Provided
- Math, English, Spanish, as well as Biological Sciences Laboratory
- Earn High School Credit
- Friday field trips
Information for the Class of 2013

Staving off Senioritis

A good prevention method is to learn how your actions this spring can affect the plans you have for your future. For example: A lot of post-secondary schools want your grades from the first and second half of senior year.

This could make or break your acceptance into college. NOTE: colleges can revoke their offer of admission, and your college performance can be affected. Remember, just a few more months until you graduate, and then you are off to college!

What is FAFSA?

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is the financial application completed annually by the student and the student’s parents. The FAFSA collects household and financial information to determine financial need. Apply for the FAFSA annually after January 1 of any year. Before starting the FAFSA, students and parents should go to PIN.ed.gov to receive an assigned PIN or to choose their own. The best time to apply for a PIN is shortly before completing the FAFSA online.

At the April 17 meeting, we will be offering a help session for families that need to work on FAFSA.

How to apply: FAFSA-on-the-web is the preferred method to submit an application. These applications are processed more quickly and with fewer mistakes.

Defining Your College Priorities (Source: www.cappex.com)

Regardless of how prestigious a college is or how much it costs, college success is all about finding the right college fit. For some, it will be College of the Canyons, because it is affordable. For others, they may want to go out-of-state.

Here are the ‘fit factors’. Select the four that are the most important to you. What do you need most to be comfortable and succeed? Then select the five that are the least important to you. Prioritizing what matters to you will help you add or eliminate potential schools from your college search.

*Location: distance from home; weather; off-campus setting, geography (beach, mountains, city, rural)
*Campus: size, atmosphere, dorms, diversity, cost (tuition, room and board, fees) and financial aid
*Academics: major offered; academic reputation; teaching style and class size; classes outside of your major
*Social Life: Clubs, sports & recreational opportunities; Art Scene; Cultural Scene/Night Life; going to college with friends from high school.

UB Tutoring & Activities

Upward Bound works to provide its students with numerous opportunities that contribute to their academic successes in order to prepare all participants for college. Every Wednesday and Thursday, College of the Canyons MESA students serve as Mentors & Tutors, working with UB students in math, sciences, and English. They review homework assignments, discuss literature, and practice study skills. Tutoring is offered from February until early May.

Upward Bound activities include the Family Workshop on April 27, 2013 at COC. On May 18, 2013, orientation for all Summer Academy participants will occur at COC. Also stay tuned for the 1st Career Site Fieldtrip to Boston Scientific, here in Santa Clarita. Students will get to see a possible career path in Biomedical Manufacturing. Did you know that According to the US Administration on Aging, the number of Americans ages 65 or older will more than double by the year 2030. The fastest growing occupation is in health care related positions.

"Formal education will make you a living. Self education will make you a fortune."
- Jim Rohn

“The secret in education lies in respecting the student.”
- Ralph Waldo Emerson

“The key is not to prioritize what’s on your schedule, but to schedule your priorities.”
- Stephen Covey
What Can AP Courses Do For You?

Advanced Placement (AP) high school courses are becoming more popular in this tight economy, especially for those students looking to broaden their scholastic knowledge.

AP high school courses help prepare a student for the rigor of college coursework in a few key areas:

- AP classes generally have a higher reading level similar to the level of reading a college freshman would encounter.
- AP classes often require supplemental reading outside of class, another similarity to what a student can expect in college.
- AP classes may help a student save time and money in college by waiving courses and credits after taking an AP exam.
- Earning a 3, 4, 5 on a particular exam could give you credits toward graduation.
- Check with the college or university to see what their AP policies are before enrolling.
- AP classes can help boost your Grade Point Average (GPA).

What is a Rigorous Secondary Program of Study?

A program for a student who completes at least two AP courses with a score of three or higher on the College Board’s exams for those courses.

AND

A secondary school program in which a student completes, a minimum:

1. Four Years of English
2. Four Years of Math, including Algebra I and higher level classes such as Algebra II, Geometry.
3. Three years of science, including one year each of biology, chemistry and physics. More is better.
4. Three years of social studies/history.
5. One year (or more) of a foreign language.

Remember to create a schedule to keep track of your course of study, homework, and tests.
Always take challenging courses and set goals for college.

The Importance of Math for Students (Source: www.ehow.com)

Don’t feel like taking another math class in high school? Here are some reasons why you might want to consider:

- Math leads to career success. It is a gateway to financial comfort and good jobs in the twenty-first century.
- Higher math is a civil right. According to educator Robert P. Moses, author of *Radical Equations: Civil Rights from Mississippi to the Algebra Project*, “In the shift from an industrial economy to one focused on digital technologies, those who don’t know algebra won’t be able to participate as a citizen.”
- Math trains students for academic endurance. “Math is to learning what endurance and strength training is to sports: the basis that enables you to excel in the specialty of your choice”, writes Espen Anderson, editor of the international information technology website ubiquity.
- Math remediation increases colleges costs. The Seattle Post Intelligencer (PI) newspaper found, “Nearly half of the high school graduates who enrolled in a state community or technical college immediately after 12th grade had to take precollege courses such as pre-Algebra and Algebra I before they could enroll in classes needed to earn a degree.” In the long run, this will increase your time spent in lower division college classes and delay graduation.
- Because of college remediation issues, high schools are establishing stiffer math requirements for graduation.
A Newsletter for Students Enrolled in the TRiO Upward Bound Program and their Families

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We are on the WEB:
www.canyons.edu/upwardbound

Test Tips
- Always read the directions for each section of the test carefully
- Read each test question carefully
- Answer the easy questions first; go back and work on the harder ones later.
- On difficult ones, make an educated guess (assuming you are not penalized for incorrect responses).
- Mark your answers neatly, and erase completely if you need to change an answer.

Study Smart
- Have all the materials you need before you sit down and study.
- Set a time limit for each study session. This can help you focus.
- Take a practice test. This will help you pinpoint areas for improvement.

Maximizing Your Education

The Upward Bound Program offers many opportunities for our students. We offer help with your homework, personal counseling, and cultural enrichment opportunities. Many Upward Bound alumni credit the program with giving them the tools to be successful in life.

However, that success was due in large part to the efforts of the students. Had they not taken opportunities offered to them, they would not have reaped the rewards.

Our Upward Bound Program operates the same way. We offer you opportunities to enrich yourselves and expand your knowledge of the subjects you study in school. However, the decision to take advantage of those opportunities is up to you.

The more you seek out the resources of the program and use them to the best advantage, the more successful you will be. The Upward Bound Staff is here to help you succeed but needs your willing participation to make that happen.

So we would like to ask that you and your parents look at Upward Bound as an interactive program that will maximize your education if you are willing to participate throughout high school.

Upward Bound provides:
- Preparation for entry to college
- A six week Summer Institute Program featuring academic classes, fieldtrips and personal development workshops
- Tours of different colleges
- Academic, career and personal counseling and advising
- SAT/ACT preparation, registration assistance
- Scholarship searches; financial aid application assistance