

Breaking Boundaries

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SUMMER RECOGNITION

We actually had a residential summer component after participants completed independent study papers and a week of online courses! The Summer Program Awards and Recognition Banquet was held July 16 in the Student Union Board Governance Room. It was an evening filled with emotion and appreciation.

The faculty presented their awards to Diamonique Barnett (Outstanding in Math, Science, Spanish, and the Best Writer), Alyssa Harper (Most Improved in Math, Science, and English Literature), Diana Barbosa (Outstanding in English Literature), Teyanna Roark (Most Improved in Spanish), and Morgan Lewis (Best Researcher).

The judges decided to recognize three Symposium presentations. They were: Diamonique Barnett for "Trigonometry and Forensics," Teyanna Roark for "Psychology Behind Prejudice and How to Change Human Behavior," and Aubany Robertson for "Small Children Will Eat Anything." Trinity Richards was recognized for The Best Attitude Award for her 'never give up' spirit.

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Diamonique Barnett



Alyssa Harper



Morgan Lewis



Left: Diana Barbosa

Right: Teyanna Roark



SYMPOSIUM WINNERS

The Symposium winners for the 2021 Summer Component are pictured below.



Diamonique Barnett for “Trigonometry & Forensics”

Tieyanna Roark for “Psychology Behind Prejudice & How to Change Human Behavior”

Aubany Robertson for “Small Children Will Eat Anything”

SENIORS MEET FOR DINNER & SHARE ADVICE

A number of our senior participants gathered for dinner at Brio Tuscan Grille at Newport on the Levee in early May. Most are planning to attend college in the fall, while one is looking forward to boot camp as a Marine. Their favorite memories of being in Upward Bound in high school revolved around the summer component of 2019. The most helpful Upward Bound experience for them included: ‘Learning about college life,’ ‘Spanish class—summer session,’ ‘Really helped me with thinking about college, made me take it seriously,’ ‘The support and friendships made,’ ‘Summer English class helped improve my writing. Also the symposium, helps with the senior exit project,’ ‘Finding scholarships.’

The seniors shared their most important takeaways from their summer component: ‘That you make friends with people you wouldn’t expect,’ ‘That teachers are willing to help you with proper communication,’ ‘It’s like diet—college to prepare you,’ ‘The dorm experience. I loved living on campus,’ ‘Enjoy life,’ ‘You get a taste of the real world. What college and life will be like after high school.’

These are the words of wisdom they have for younger students:

Darianna Mayes: “We can’t back down, not right now” - Demi Lovato. Never give up on yourself.

Brianna Aguilar: Follow your own path.

Kali Lanter: Be prepared to have things take longer/shorter than expected.

Brooklyn Rice: Don’t drop out of the program—it’s worth it.

Mariah Maloney: Don’t have your phone out in the Spanish class and have fun!! Enjoy it all you can.

Josh Brummett: Don’t cheat and don’t get caught.

LOOKING FORWARD TO MEETINGS

We got through the summer program without students getting sick, but to beat COVID and its variants, people need to get vaccinated. That's how school, jobs, and life will return to normal.

We plan to meet with students in schools from mid to late August. We are also planning to continue in person Saturday meetings at NKU this fall. The dates we're looking at are:

September 11

October 2 (Seniors will complete the FAFSA with a parent, Juniors and Sophomores will have lunch and meet in the afternoon)

November 13

December 11

We hope to offer an overnight trip to visit colleges and some cultural sites for students who are vaccinated October 24–25.



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[inside.nku.edu/
upwardbound.html](https://inside.nku.edu/upwardbound.html)



2021 SUMMER PARTICIPANTS

Our students who participated in the summer program, had an educational, cultural, and fun experience.

