

# UPWARD BOUND BULLETIN

ISSUE NO 3 | Spring - 2021 |  
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A snapshot of what is happening in the CCCC TRiO Upward Bound Programs



## BEEP BEEP BOOP BOOP

"The Nucleus Robotics program is an immersive, hands-on learning experience designed exclusively for educational institutions with STEM programs for students of any grade level from middle school to college. In our courses, students learn about the cutting edge industry of robotics and get exposure to the foundational principles of computer programming. The curriculum is designed to be fun and engaging, with a singular mission of inspiring students to pursue further education and potential career opportunities in STEM related fields.

Nucleus Robotics was created by a team with a strong background in science, software development, technology entrepreneurship, and education. We've custom-tailored all aspects of our robotics courses to help students prepare for careers in the 21st century.

Students will learn about robots, build foundational skills of computer programming, and develop critical skills necessary for career opportunities in STEM related industries." -Nucleus Robotics

## BEEP BEEP BOOP BOOP

We are very excited to share this new robotics course with our students to inspire them to pursue STEM careers.

## VIRTUAL TOUR

At a recent Cyber Café our students had an awesome opportunity to take a "tour" of the International Civil Rights Center & Museum!

## TEAM TALK

In this issue meet team member – Amanda Alston!



Recently our students had the opportunity "to take a comprehensive journey through the spaces of the International Civil Rights Center & Museum where their encounter was brought to life and they were engaged in America's best story. The experience was tailored to help students and educators examine the threads of creative and strategic struggle that define the Civil Rights Movement in the United States and abroad. The civil learning program helped participants use the knowledge of this informed and consequential history to help chart a more constructive and inclusive future, while critically examining historic and contemporary social movements that use direct action, non-violent protesting as a mechanism for change." -International Civil Rights Center & Museum

STAFF SPOTLIGHT

Ms. Amanda has been accepted into a 12 Month Advances Standing Masters of Social Work Program at UNC Chapel Hill! She will be specializing in Community, Management, and Policy Practice (CMPP). The programs prepares students for leadership careers in community organizing, human services administration, policy development, or advocacy.

Mr. Trevor has been accepted into a Masters of College Counseling and Student Development in the Department of Education at NC State University. It is a 3-year, part-time online program where he will be able to further develop his skills in the college advising realm, while also expanding the breadth of his knowledge in the mental health field as well. Upon completion, Trevor can become a Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC), which will be an added bonus toward his professional development.

DIRECTOR'S DESK

As the world attempts to return to some sense of normalcy, the Upward Bound programs are constantly adapting to support our student's needs. As we enter the summer, we celebrate the departure of one of our amazing staff members, Amanda Alston. Amanda played a key role in helping the Upward Bound programs remain successful through her time as Program Coordinator. From her inviting personality, infectious energy, and innovative style, Amanda contributed a spirit to the programs which we will miss. We wish her the best in all of her future endeavors. We are also looking forward to celebrating our graduating class of seniors as we enter a post-pandemic summer. What a ride!

TEAM TALK – AMANDA ALSTON

Ms. Amanda is the Program Coordinator and the UB/UBMS Counselor for Harnett Central and Overhills students. She also serves alongside the NC TRIO Executive Board as the Membership Committee Chair.

After graduating from Overhills High School, Ms. Amanda pursued a Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) degree at Elizabeth City State University (Viking Pride). She was recently accepted into the 12 Month Advanced Standing Masters of Social Work program at UNC Chapel Hill.

When asked about her position she says, "I think everyone knows that my absolute favorite part of my role is working with and getting to know our students. Upward Bound and Upward Bound Math & Science students are definitely the cream of the crop and leaders amongst their peers. It brings my heart so much joy to have the opportunity to see them grow personally and academically. As a staff member, I don't think any of us take it lightly the amount of trust and respect that we've earned from the students. It really is an honor to be a part of their village. I am so thankful for this community and for our families allowing us to be a part of their journeys.

