

#### THIS ISSUE PRESENTS

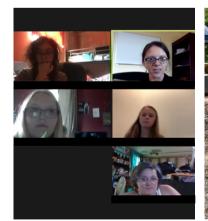
Rising Senior Academy | 3-Week Summer Experience | In-Person Activities | College Exploration Week | Summer Bridge

#### RISING SENIOR ACADEMY

The incoming senior class spent two weeks in our college prep boot camp, Rising Senior Academy, to kickstart our summer program. Students researched admissions requirements, developed a 5year plan, learned the basics of financial aid, wrote personal narrative essays for college admissions and scholarships, made goals for the upcoming year, and created unforgettable memories with their Upward Bound friends.















#### RISING SENIOR ACADEMY





















#### State Financial Aid

Could Receive Up to \$4,750 Annually for Tuition/Fees WV Residents Attending

WV Institutions Must Fill out FAFSA & PROMISE Applications

#### Eligibility

3.0 High SchoolCumulative GPA3.0 High School CoreGPA

 https://content.xap.co m/media/13018/promi se core course list cla ss of 2021.pdf Meet Required ACT or SAT Test Scores

#### S.M.A.R.T. Goals

Specific • What Exactly Am I Doing? Measurable • How Will I Know I Succeeded? Attainable • What Are the 3+ Steps to Get there Relevant • How Important Is It? Time-Bound • When Will I Finish?



The theme for this year's Rising Senior Academy was Adventure. Students created avatars, leveled up their characters through their active participation, and worked as a team to defeat a dragon, score loot, and save a bakery. While inperson, students faced other challenges as a group with Adventure West Virginia.



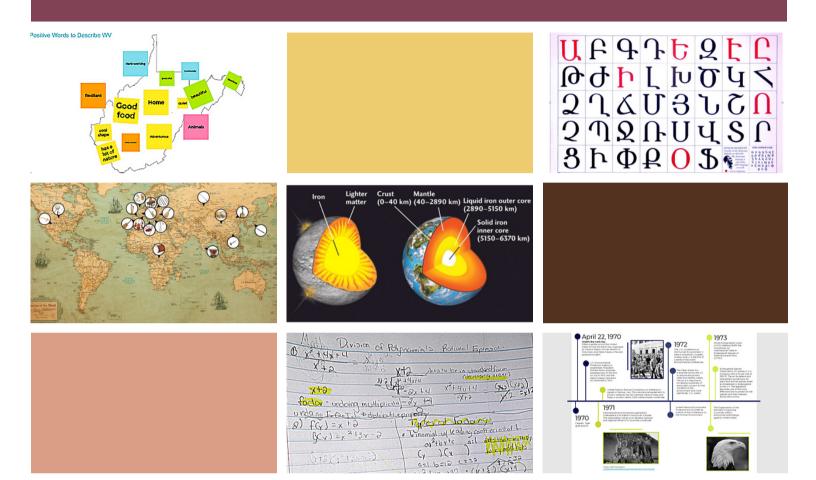
## 3-Week Summer Experience



The 3-Week Summer Experience was the next component of our program. Participants met virtually for four days each week to study the core curriculum and SAT mastery test prep. On the fifth day, they did in-person activities with their "pod" group and Adventure West Virginia.



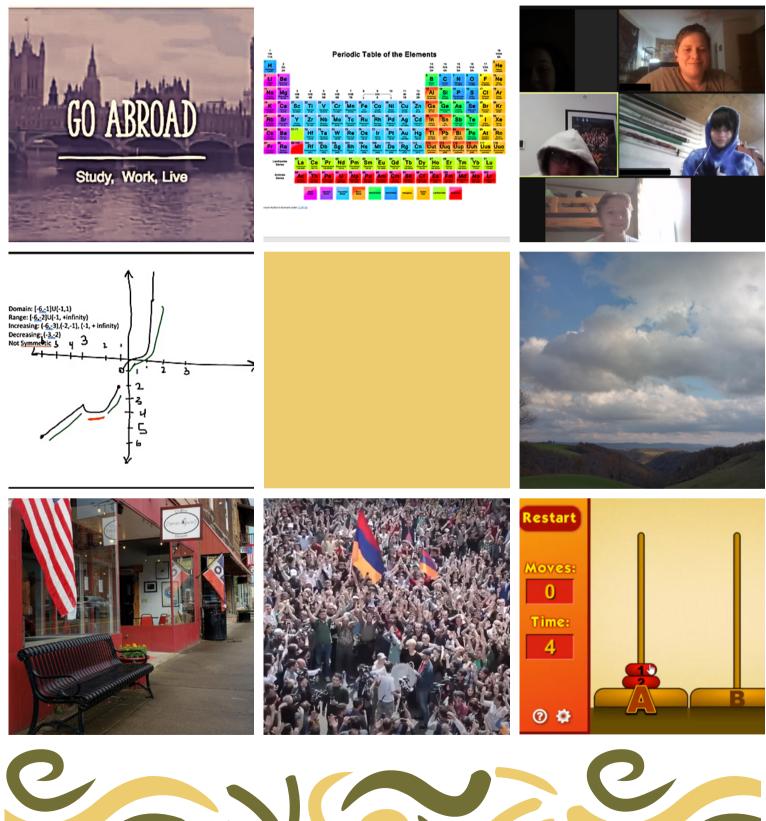
## CORE CURRICULUM



The UB summer core curriculum consisted of the following subjects: English, foreign language (Armenian and Yoruba cultures), math, and science. Students worked on their skills and competency in each area, measuring their progress in each class with pre- and postassessments. We have included some of the lesson content and student work, including an original poem about growing up in West Virginia, from the 3-Week Summer Experience on the next two pages.



### CORE CURRICULUM



## STUDENT SHOWCASE

#### "Reminisce" by Ariana, Rising Sophomore

I remember The Creek flowing freely behind our parents' rusted animal pens with the bright afternoon sun beating down on us.

The heat burning our heads, shoulders, and tips of our noses.

And us children running down a dirt road dragging frayed towels along,

Leaping over tadpole-filled mud puddles, kicking up dust, and scattering pebbles as we race along.

Slowing as we almost miss the narrow opening between the heavy foliage of vibrant green hues,

But we just laugh and yank each other by the back of our shirts and step down onto a large, platform-like rock sitting just above the gentle water.

Hurrying to slip off battered flip-flops before plopping down onto the edge of the rock, Swinging our feet as we watch white-and-pink Rhododendron blossoms and water bugs flow downstream,

Listening to the sounds of croaking frogs and roaring water.

My younger sister begins to smirk as she watches us dip our feet into the cool water, Before suddenly shoving my older sister, laughing as she tilts forward, arms pin-wheeling, Letting out a gasp of surprise before finding herself covered head-to-toe in the cold water, Shaking and shivering after accidentally inhaling a mouthful of the liquid.

Now, my little sister and I also get into The Creek before she trips over a slippery rock, yanking me underwater as we both struggle to stay afloat.

The grainy sand and muck rising to the surface as we thrash around. The previously clear water, now turning cloudy.

But- now thoroughly soaked, all three of us begin a game of chase,

Dunking each other whenever we get a chance, the echoes of laughter and splashing mingling with the heat of a summer afternoon.



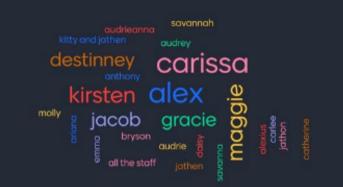
#### UB CRAFT

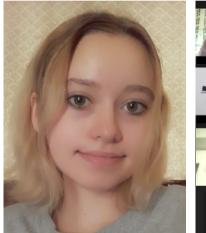




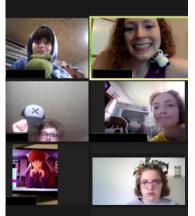
An important aspect of the summer program is connecting with peers. Students made new friends and began their college preparations during the morning ice breakers, social-cultural activities, and the counselor-led sessions. The theme? UB Craft!

Name a friend you gained this summer.















Give it up for our rising seniors! These group members supported each other and challenged themselves by hiking at Coopers Rock, completing a high ropes course, and zip lining. They also learned how to navigate using a topographical map and compass.

















Our other pods met during the 3-week program and did group team-building challenges, zip lining, and rock climbing.



















These live activities helped our students develop important skills like communication, grit, resilience, problem-solving, leadership, and teamwork. Plus, they made new friends!





Students also received a few academic lessons from Adventure West Virginia. They learned the science behind the sports, like how to calculate the speed of a zip-lining sock monkey. Science is twice as fun with live experiments!













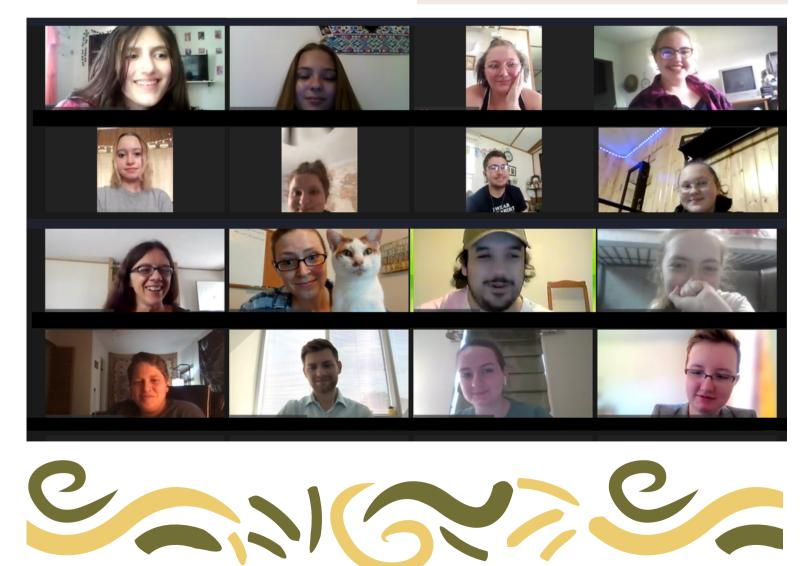
## COLLEGE EXPLORATION WEEK

#### The last add-on summer option for students was College Exploration Week.



We covered the following:

- Virtual College Visits
- Q&A with WVU S.U.R.E. College Student Panel
- Finding Your College Fit
- The Admissions Process
- How to Earn Scholarships
- Student Life
- Housing & Residence Life



# COLLEGE EXPLORATION WEEK









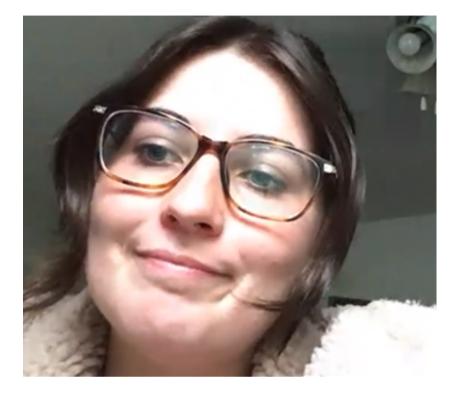


Throughout the week, students had the opportunity to virtually visit colleges and universities across the nation. In addition to the schools listed here, each student was asked to visit two other colleges of interest. Students met with admissions reps and assessed their fit with each school in a reflection assignment.

#### Davis<mark>&</mark>Elkins<mark>Colleg</mark>e

Bethar

#### SUMMER BRIDGE



For Summer Bridge, new graduates met with UB staff regularly to discuss final admissions tasks, make sure their financial aid was ready, and mentally prepare for the transition to college. We have listed the schools that these students will be attending this year. We want to recognize their hard work and wish them luck! You can do this!









Shepherd

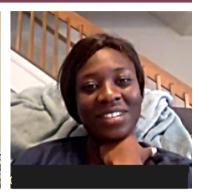
EKU

#### SUMMER STAFF

Summer is one of the busiest times of the year for the UB staff. Fortunately, we are able to get extra help from amazing seasonal hires! We would like to recognize all of our summer staff members, especially those who are only here for the season. We could not have created such a unique student experience without you. Thank you for working so hard and being part of the team!



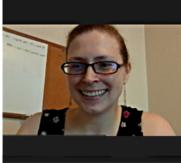












Name a staff member you really connected with this

moyo kimmy 🚊 becca

