

Upward Bound Alumni Newsletter

Spring 2019

What is your Spark?

What motivates you everyday more than anything else? The theme this summer is “Ignite Your Spark,” so we have been brainstorming ways to help current UB students discover one or two things that motivate them more than anything else. In doing so, they may find what they want to be when they graduate high school or discover another reason to be excited about life.

When I think about what my spark is, I think about my faith and my family. What about you? What is your spark? Your spark may be related to a gift, talent, hobby, or job you may have. I know every UB student heard a staff member say at some point that they were in UB because they were capable of being successful. You DO have it in you to be successful, and thinking about your spark can really put things in perspective.

So, what is your spark? If you have a spark you would like to share with students, we are showcasing them on Tuesday, June 25. We would love to have you show off your spark! Contact the UB office if you are interested in volunteering.

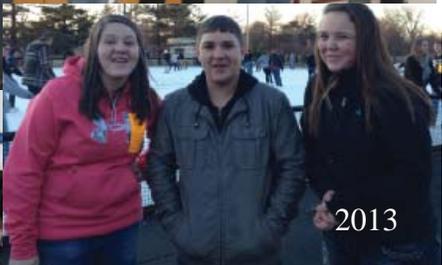
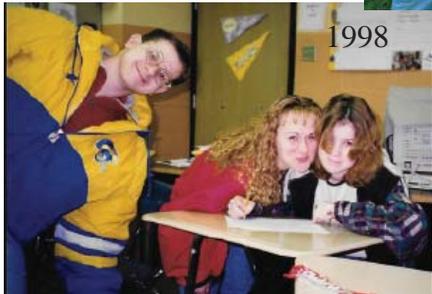
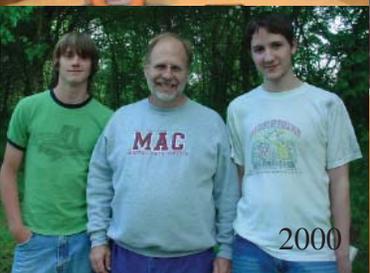
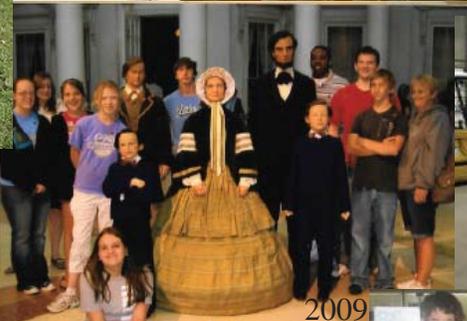
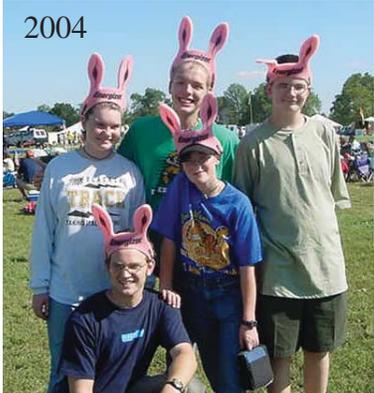
Take care!

Rebecca

Best wishes to
the UB Class of
2019!



Photos from the past



WANT TO GIVE BACK?

Be part of the UB Alumni Panel on July 2.
Tell the UB students what they REALLY
need to know before going off to college!

Thanks in advance! We need your help!

Contact the UB office or message
the Alumni Facebook page for more
information and to sign up!

Quote
"Don't let your God
given talents go to
waste. Live out your
purpose."
...Marcus Lamb

From the Archives

Who is in the box?

These UB students boxed more than groceries while volunteering at the St. Louis Area Food Bank! Blake, Austin, Caroline - help him out of there!



Darlene “retires” again...

Many of you may not realize that after Darlene retired in November 2011, she continued to work part-time for UB; filling many roles. She taught English and theme classes in the summer, served students in a summer advising role, was an advisor to me in my new role as director of UB, and was the advisor for Fredericktown for the past several years.

Her love for students over the years has inspired and motivated many UB students. She will be deeply missed as she, for the last time, retires from UB to spend more time with her grandsons. I know she will have a great time on her farm with her scotties and grandsons! In the meantime, UB remember... “23 AND A COLLEGE DEGREE!!!”



Darlene's retirement party in 2011



Darlene says good-bye to students after the D.C. trip of 2001



Darlene and Courtney at the formal dinner in 2017



Darlene checks students in at College Park in 2011



Darlene with students in New York in 2003

UB in the News...

Last fall we were notified that UB received a special STEM (science, technology, engineering, math) grant. The decision was made to focus on robotics so small robot kits were purchased and all of the students had the opportunity to



experiment with them. From that group, fifteen students decided to compete in March at the FIRST competition in St. Louis. After attending extra after school classes, the challenge was given and the students had to build a robot in six weeks!

Almost every Saturday during the six week period was devoted to working on the robot and the team won! Out of 47 teams, UB Ignite placed 11, earning them the Highest Rookie Seed Award. The team also won the Rookie All Star Award

which gave them the opportunity to compete at World's in Houston, Texas.

A quick trip was planned and in April students flew to Houston to compete with teams from all over the world. UB Ignite placed 25, the top half of the division; a great accomplishment for a rookie team.

Students had a great time and a once in a lifetime experience. You can see the team in action in Houston or St. Louis by going to <https://www.thebluealliance.com/team/7773> and clicking on "watch all matches."

