

TRiO Newsletter



Talent Search Hosts Summer Enrichment

July 2019

School is officially out and summer is here! TRiO Educational Talent Search held its annual Summer Enrichment program during the last two weeks of June. Eighty-seven middle school and high school students from Abbeville, Barbour County, and Eufaula public schools had a fun-filled learning experience during their two week engagement.

Opening session for middle school students began with an icebreaker for teambuilding. Students participated in an upbeat game called *Lollipop* in which the students interacted with their peers while establishing new relationships. Ms. Catherine Pierce led a session called *Your Financial Future* and shared helpful tips on budgeting. Ms. Priscilla Smith briefly touched on Financial Aid and steps to begin preparing for college while in middle school. Ms. Karla Miller conducted an informative lesson on how to write a successful business plan. Students brainstormed together to organize and implement new businesses that are needed in the Barbour County area.

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Mr. Wes Hall gave the group an unforgettable presentation. He is a radio personality, a motivational speaker, and the author of *You Are The Money*. He made his presence known when he began giving out money. From then on, the students were hanging on his every word and not missing a beat. Mr. Hall educated the students on how to secure the bag (get a job) through preparation, information, and self-development so they can begin building their own empire. His presentation was definitely an eye opener for many of the students.

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Community service is a very important part of the summer program. Ms. Tameka Owolabi, Director of Talent Search, is a big advocate for giving back to the community. This year students brought items such as toiletries, books, blankets, cross word puzzles, coloring books, and crayons to give to the residents at the Henry County Health and Rehabilitation Center in Abbeville, Alabama. The students decorated the boxes used to deliver the items. The students found that helping others gave them a sense of satisfaction that they had done something good for mankind.



To end the week, the students were able to unwind at the McWane Science Center in Birmingham, Alabama. The center offers hands-on science exhibits, an aquarium, and the IMAX Dome theater. The students excitedly explored the three-level facility from floor to floor. The aquarium had a small pool with fish and a sting ray, which they were able to touch. The students also watched a short movie at the Dome theater. It was great to have a little fun while learning at the same time.



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The high school students were eager to attend the summer enrichment program this year. The session began with learning to write a business plan with Mrs. Karla Miller followed by Financial Literacy and Career Exploration. Some of the instructors at Wallace Community College gave brief previews of their programs to help students decide in which program of study they might be interested. Ms. Jennifer Matheny stopped by to discuss the benefits of dual enrollment. She explained the process and encouraged participants to attend Wallace.

The students also focused on the importance of volunteering in the community. They collected items for the Henry County Rehabilitation Center and presented the items to the residents there.



The high school participants enjoyed a two-day educational experience in Tennessee. They toured the beautiful grounds of Middle Tennessee State University in Murfreesboro, Tennessee. MTSU has so much to offer including its state-of-the-art \$147-million Science Building with more than 250,000 thousand square feet of teaching space. Students also had the opportunity to visit the impressive Vanderbilt University in Nashville where student loans are not necessary once admitted because of the large amount of scholarship offers.

Nashville is known for its country music and line dancing. Students received line dancing lessons at the Wild Horse Saloon in downtown Nashville. It was only right to stop by the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum. The museum was definitely a must see and an unforgettable experience. TRIO Talent Search Summer Enrichment 2019 was a total success!



—Priscilla Smith



TRiO on the Wallace Community College Sparks and Dothan Campuses is made up of three programs: Student Support Services, Upward Bound and Talent Search.

They are federally funded programs by the U. S. Department of Education that provide support and opportunity for eligible students-middle school through college. To reach any person on this list, call 983-3521 or 687-3543 and then the extension below:

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*“Laugh when you can,
apologize when you should, and
let go of what you can’t change.”*

Scholarships and Financial Aid Information

Alabama Community College System Public Relations Association Scholarships. The Alabama Community College System Public Relations Association is pleased to announce a new scholarship program for 2019. ACCSPRA is offering two full student scholarships to attend the 2019 annual conference meeting in Orange Beach, Alabama. These scholarships include complete conference registration and two nights’ accommodations at the conference hotel. **Application deadline is August 1, 2019.**

American Welding Society Foundation Scholarships.

THE E.L. GIBSON FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS. ESCC acts as a clearinghouse for scholarship information and applications to the E.L. Gibson Foundation. The main purpose of this foundation is to promote better health of the residents in specific Wiregrass areas. One of the major ways of accomplishing this goal is to provide scholarships to assist persons seeking a degree in the health care field, especially nursing (LPN and RN), radiology technicians, laboratory technicians, respiratory therapy technicians, physical therapists, occupational therapists, and medical doctors. The Applications must be submitted by the following deadlines to be considered for the next award cycle. **Deadlines: August 31 and November 30.** Applicants must be permanent residents of Coffee County or the immediate surrounding areas of Geneva, Dale, or Covington County as far west as Opp. New applicants should download the application, complete it, and send it along with all other requested items to the address on the application. **NOTE: This application form is used only for this scholarship.**

For more information and copies of application packets, go to: www.wallace.edu/scholarships.

End of Summer Semester
July 31

Fall Semester Begins
August 19

