

# TRiO Newsletter



## Former TRiO Student Support Services Participants Visit Sparks



J'Andrea Williams stopped by the Sparks Campus office of TRiO Student Support Services to say hello and announce that she will graduate from the University of Alabama Fall 2019 with a Bachelor's degree in Management Information Systems. While at UA, she is a TRiO SSS Advisory Board student member.

While at Wallace, J'Andrea participated in both the Upward Bound and Student Support Services programs. She was an All USA Academic Team Nominee, President's Award Nominee, and second Vice President of SGA. She is a 2017 graduate.

Kimberly Curry (on the right) received a degree in Elementary Education from Troy University Dothan. She is currently teaching first grade for Montgomery Public Schools. Kimberly is a 2012 graduate of Wallace Community College.



Sharanda Thomas is an Accounting graduate from Alabama A&M University. She lives in Chattanooga, Tennessee and is an accountant for the Tennessee Valley Authority. Sharanda is a 2012 graduate of Wallace Community College.

## TRiO Student Support Services Alum Opens Business



Sparks TRiO Student Support Services alum, Gloria Thomas, and her family opened their "Starz Gamez on Wheelz" mobile gaming business on Wednesday, June 12, 2019. The family business caters to community members who enjoy food, fun, and games. The "Gamez on Wheelz" vehicle holds up to 20 gamers and can travel to your destination or remain stationed at its primary location. You may

contact Ms. Thomas at (334) 232-4891 for more information.

### June 2019

#### Inside this Issue:

Abbeville High School Talent Search Students Visit AUM 2

TRiO First-Year College Experience Students Tour University of North Florida 2

TRiO First-Year College Experience Students Tour Jacksonville University 3

TRiO Student Support Services Students Visit Savannah, Georgia 4

TRiO Student Support Services Students Visit Savannah, Georgia 5

Scholarship and Financial Aid Information 5

TRiO Staff and Contact Information 5

## Abbeville High School Talent Search Students Visit AUM



Twenty-nine Abbeville High School ninth and tenth grade Talent Search students recently visited Auburn University in Montgomery. The students toured the beautiful grounds of AUM including the student dorms in order to experience college life as a freshman.

The main attraction was the Wellness



Center which included an indoor swimming pool, gymnasium, elevated running track, rock climbing wall, cardio and weight training spaces, and group fitness studios. They also viewed the classrooms where most freshman courses are taught as they learned about more than ninety undergraduate degree programs and certifications offered at AUM.



After the tour, the students enjoyed a satisfying meal at Golden Corral where, to end a perfect day in the student's eyes, they met a new, upcoming rapper named POSA.

—Priscilla Smith



## TRiO First-Year College Experience Students Tour University of North Florida



The 2019 TRiO First-Year College Experience Program students traveled to Jacksonville, Florida for their Leadership Retreat. The group started its adventure with a campus tour of the University of North Florida. Along with a first-hand look at the campus and receiving enrollment information, the students had a College Prep Session to gain some insight into their first year of college. The session also consisted of some fun ice breakers to help the students to learn about each other.

## TRiO First Year College Experience Students Tour Jacksonville University



Day two of the TRiO First-Year College Experience Leadership Retreat began with more College Prep Mini Sessions on different topics to encourage and promote a successful entry into college life. The sessions took place at Jacksonville University where the students also took a campus tour and gained a lot of important information about the university and the majors offered there. After a quick lunch break and some beachside activities at Jacksonville Beach on the Atlantic Coast, the group made its way back to the hotel to freshen up for an evening at Topgolf. The students and staff truly enjoyed this particular outing and the competition it sparked between the groups.

The trip was very eventful and definitely full of firsts for the First-Year College Experience students. They were able to start new friendships and step outside their comfort zones in preparation for their first-year of college at the Dothan and Sparks Campuses of Wallace Community College.

## TRiO Student Support Services Students Visit Savannah, Georgia



The TRiO Student Support Services students traveled to Savannah, Georgia to take a break from their studies and enjoy the summer sun. Upon their arrival, they were met by a city tour guide and made their way to the famous Pirates' House Restaurant for a delicious lunch. After lunch they did some sightseeing on River Street and throughout the city as they made their way to Savannah State University for a campus tour. The group ended the night with a walking ghost tour through downtown Savannah, which gave them the opportunity to see some amazing statues and historical buildings up close.

Day two began at the Ralph Mark Gilbert Civil Rights Museum of Georgia where the students learned about the Civil Rights Movement outside Alabama. Next was a hot climb to the top of the Tybee Island Lighthouse Station which has a total of one hundred seventy-eight steps and only six windows providing minimal breezes. They somehow made their way to the top with MUCH group encouragement. After viewing the Georgia coast from the lighthouse, there was a short break for the students to prepare for dinner at The Lady and Sons Restaurant owned by Paula Deen. The night ended with a few rounds of good old fashioned bowling at the local AMF Lanes where the students spent hours laughing, mingling, and of course competing for the title of best bowler in the group.

Continued page 5



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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*"We make a Living by what we get.  
We make a Life by what we give."*

**Scholarships and Financial Aid Information**

**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](http://www.wallace.edu/scholarships).**



**TRIO Student Support Services Students Visit Savannah, Georgia**



The final day in Savannah found the group at the Savannah History Museum and the Georgia State Railroad Museum. The history museum housed many artifacts and objects dating back to 1733 and featured the carriage owned by Juliette Gordon Low, founder of the Girls Scouts of America, and the famous bench from the film, *Forrest Gump*. The railroad station was great! The students were able to walk through the passenger coaches and see how the living quarters were set up along with the common areas, bathrooms, and kitchen. They also used a hand cart to ride up and down the tracks like miners or railroad workers. Savannah was a great experience enjoyed by all the students and staff. #TRiOWorks