



Director's Welcome

Contents

- Director's Welcome
- Meet the Staff
- St. Gabriel's Seniors Day
- Civic Breakfast 2016
- Internship in Review
- Overnight College Tour
- Dear Future Self
- Fall 2016 Events
- Summer Sixteen Recap

"The meeting of two eternities, the past and future...is precisely the present moment." – Henry David Thoreau

August 31, 2016 marked another entry into the history book of the Brooklyn College Educational Talent Search (BCETSP). Since 1980, Brooklyn College has competed to attain federal funding that will bring academic, career, and college attainment advisement services to the youth of Brooklyn. We have strived to support young minds in their quest to figure out where a college degree fits into their future. Today this goal remains unchanged.

On September 1, 2016 a new chapter in the BCETSP story book has begun. We were awarded the opportunity for five more years to share the journey of many young people with the potential to complete a post secondary degree. This is the future that awaits us.

I welcome Brooklyn Collegiate: A College Board School and Brooklyn Generation School as the two new partners with BCETSP! An agenda of services have already been designed for roll out at their respective campuses. Services will include Regents Preparation workshops, social groups, and various college readiness presentations.



Seniors, we want to help you navigate the college application process. Our Pre College Counselors will make weekly visits to your school and want to help you. I encourage you to take the initiative to schedule a meeting as soon as possible.

As the year progresses, I encourage you to learn about the program, meet the staff, meet your peers from other schools, meet our partners, and most importantly, get ready to experience the moment when your past and future collide. Enjoy your present!

Hopefully,
Mr. Clarke

Meet the Staff

Ms. J. Webster, Pre-College Counselor (ACE, Brooklyn Collegiate, SHR, Westinghouse)

Educational Talent Search at Brooklyn College is blessed to have within their staff Ms. Webster. She comes to us by way of Guyana where she learned at an early age that education is a privilege worth investing in. She has served Brooklyn College Educational Talent Search members for eight years now.

Aside from her wit and clever sense of humor she brings to the table a level of professionalism rarely seen to-day. Should you need college counseling or academic guidance I would strongly urge that you knock on her door. Which is always open to students and colleagues alike.

Mr. A. Valiant, Assistant Director/Academic Coordinator, Pre-College Counselor (BCA, Midwood, STAR)

Greetings! I am honored to serve as your Assistant Director at the Brooklyn College Educational Talent Search Program. I'm from the great state of Texas. I attended and graduated from the University of Texas at El Paso. Go Miners!!! I also earned a Bachelor's Degree in Political Science and later earned another Bachelor's in History. To me, promoting higher education within the underrepresented communities of our great country is a privilege I take pride in doing. I look forward to seeing you reach for and attain your college goals.

Mr. M. Kaba, Pre-College Counselor (College Prep, BGS, Edward R. Murrow H.S.)

Peace. My name is Mohamed Kaba and I am thankful for this opportunity to serve as a Pre-College Counselor. I graduated from Brooklyn College in May 2015 with my B.A. in Sociology and am currently enrolled in the M.A. program in Sociology. Education is important to me, because I believe in its blossoming potential. Hence, serving as a Pre-College Counselor affords me the opportunity to serve my community in a capacity that is beneficial to the collective progress towards liberty. To the future leaders of the morrow: "Dream and cultivate those dreams until they manifest into reality." Peace.

Ms. C. Simeon, Pre-College Counselor (Brooklyn Collegiate, Kurt Hahn, CAAS, YCD, ITAVA)

Hi, my name is Carly Simeon. I graduated from SUNY Old Westbury with a Bachelor's in Criminology/Sociology. I've worked and continue to work with students academically, socially, and emotionally providing a safe outreach for youth to develop and prosper as young adults. As the latest edition to the Brooklyn College TRIO program, one of my goals is to make sure all of my students have a smooth transition into their next stage of life; hopefully all of my students can become mini college experts. As a proud Brooklynite I've always wanted to come back to my community and mentor young adults as they mature and become great adults.

Meet the Staff (cont'd from page 2)

Ms. M. Gordon, Office Assistant

Hi. My name is Michelle Gordon and I am the Office Assistant at the Brooklyn College Educational Talent Search Program. I graduated from Brooklyn College with my Master's in English studies. Being a part of the TRiO Program has pushed me into exploring my goal of becoming a teacher. Knowing that your students learn so many things from you, and you from them, it's important to leave a positive and lasting impression. I want them to question everything, even things I tell them. Never let that sense of wonderment fade.

St. Gabriel's Senior Day Center

By: Jennifer Webster and Esther Glasgow

As a member of the Talent Search Program, it is important to participate in community service. In late April, three students, along with the Pre-College Counselors, attended the day program at St. Gabriel's.

The seniors there warmly welcomed us and invited us to join them in leisurely activities such as playing board games, making craft and light conversations. When it was time for lunch, we assisted with setting the tables and bringing out the food. After serving the meals, we sat at different tables and engaged in great conversations with them.

As a counselor, I observed the seniors' appreciation towards us. Some shared this verbally. I believe this highlights the fact that acts of community service are important, and that everyone benefits. This trip taught students that seniors have much to share about themselves and their life experiences. Volunteers have the chance to make a difference by offering their time to members of the community, and learning about people from different cultures and backgrounds.

Overall, it was a very pleasant day. Everyone expressed how happy they were to have us join them, and have invited us back! To our Talent Search Participants: If you haven't done community service, or if you've thought about doing so, our Talent Search Staff will be happy to get you started and we'll serve together!

Cheers to our community service team who participated at St. Gabriel's Senior "Day Center!" We all had a really good time.



Civic Breakfast

by Jennifer Webster

This year the Civic Breakfast was held on Friday, April 22nd in the Student Center (SUBO), Gold Room. The number of attendees was awesome! There were students and staff from several schools including, CAAS, SHR, College Prep, and ACPCE. Brooklyn College students and staff from the Division of Student Affairs also participated. Of course the entire staff from Talent Search was there!

After signing in, students enjoyed a hot breakfast with many favorite foods. Brooklyn College student Devon Webster serenaded the audience with one of his original compositions on the violin.

Present for the day's event were three guest speakers, the first being Mr. Wilbur Charles from NYC VOTES. In keeping with the theme of "Owning One's Voice" Mr. Charles challenged the audience, but especially the students, to use their power to impact positive change in their communities whether that community is regarded as school or neighborhood. Mr. Perri Litton, a graduate of Brooklyn College, who is currently Community Liaison, NYC Council, took the conversation further. He informed us about our governmental representatives and highlighted the importance of knowing who they are and what they do. He told students how they could gain access to their representatives and funding for projects.



Mr. Cory Provost, District Leader, 5th Assembly District shared specifics about public policy and the reality that students/young adults are welcome to participate in the political process. Students were then encouraged to do an activity. Each table had to come up with a community service project and ideas for implementation. Many creative ideas came out of their time of sharing.

A few students from each table did a presentation to the larger group. Mr. Clarke, Director of Talent Search informed us that one (or more) of the presentations would be selected for a community service activity. Everyone would be invited and/or involved. Overall, the day was a fun filled and productive breakfast. We look forward to what our students' efforts will bring.

Internship in Review

by Cameron Pickens

It was an honor to work as an intern for the Brooklyn College Educational Talent Search Program. The few months that I worked here has made me see what it feels like to be a college student. I went to a job fair at Brooklyn College for the very first time, which showed me the wide array of job offers that are available to me. This being my first position in an office atmosphere, I didn't know exactly what to expect. Even though the environment here is relaxed, it taught me how to quickly adapt in the workplace. Simply working in the office and getting used to everything here has definitely prepared me for what ever my next position may be. Just observing day to day events has taught me more about team work and how people can come together to get things done. I have adapted to working in the Talent Search Program very well. This has truly has been a great experience !

Overnight College Tour

by Esther Glasgow

On April 27th and April 28th, The staff of the Educational Talent Search Program and the students attended the Overnight College Tour. The schools that we visited were Schenectady County Community College, Union College and Syracuse University. Not only was this trip educational, but it helped us form friendships and taught us how to improve our social skills. Although Union College is a small campus, their high spirits and welcoming atmosphere made all of us feel more engaged.

After the exciting tour at Union College, we toured Schenectady County Community College, where we met the college's president Dr. Steady Moono. Dr. Moono gave us a few insights into everyday life on campus and gave us words of encouragement to keep in mind, for when we apply for college.

The next day, we visited Syracuse University, which was definitely the main attraction. It is a big school with many strongly built buildings. Syracuse University reminded me of an old house filled with antiques. The college tour guide helped us to see and experience more of the goodness of Syracuse's campus. He invited students from the school to speak to us more about a particular field. There was also a wide variety of food at the cafeteria.

I believe that the Overnight Tour helped the students and I create more positive expectations of attending college. This trip reminded us of the many academic and career opportunities that exist, and how they help us grow personally.



Dear Future Self

by Lashay Boucher

I'm writing this letter to tell you that I'm proud of you. You've made it, even though life seem hard. You passed all your regents with a high score and I'm very proud of you. After putting your hard work to great use and remembering to stand up for yourself, you are going to the college of your dreams. You've make your mom proud. You are studying for nursing, cosmetology and veterinarian. Never forget to stick up for yourself, so that others will respect you. Also, don't afraid to express what you're thinking.



Yours truly,

Fall 2016 Events

SAT Preparation Workshop

October 18—November 4; Tuesdays to Thursdays, 4PM-6PM

After School Tutorials

October 21—December 9; Fridays from 4PM-6PM

College Essay Workshop

November 7, 14, 21, 28; 4:30PM-6PM

To sign up for these activities, email us: educationalts@brooklyn.cuny.edu or call: (718)-951-5593. Provide us your name, school, phone number and the name of the activity.



Summer Sixteen Recap

by Arthur Valiant

Greetings Talent Search! Welcome to fall! Are you looking forward to the new school year? Seniors! It's nearly time to begin submitting your college applications. Talent Search is looking forward to a host of activities this semester. But first, let's take a moment to look back at what a fun and productive summer we had.

For starters, we collaborated with the Black and Latino Male Initiative for what turned into one of our most popular summer programs yet! Students studied Global History, College Readiness, Social Justice and dance! We capped off the Summer Program with a campus trip to Hofstra University where students met with esteemed professors, admissions counselors and students.

This summer was our inaugural summer SAT preparation program. Students averaged an 80 POINT INCREASE in both the Math and Reading/Writing sections. We are pleased with our SAT Prep students' promising start and await their results!

Seniors wanting to prepare for the upcoming November SAT can now register for the Educational Talent Search SAT preparation class in October. Sign up now!

