The turkeys are amongst us, which means it must be time for Thanksgiving! I'm excited to see my family and enjoy a very well-prepared, home-cooked meal. I’m also looking forward to reflecting on the past year and being thankful for all of the wonderful things and people I have come in contact with.

I take Thanksgiving as a day of personal thanks, to think about how great each day can be without me even realizing it. I can't make all of you do the same thing, but I encourage you to take a little bit of time to truly think about what you're thankful for. There are some pretty obvious answers that shouldn't be ignored, like your parents and your friends and your family and Upward Bound. Think about more personal things, like that time that a teacher helped you out or when maybe a sales clerk asked how your day was going and genuinely seemed to care. Think about the little things you might miss in the grand scheme of a day, week, or year.

As you’re just over the half-way point of the semester, I hope you're all striving to achieve the best you can in your academics and other school-life aspects, whatever they may be for each of you!

UB Work Study Student
Kris Kelley

Happy Birthday to you…!
Michalya Holt (11/1)
Phillip Collins (11/4)
Zakkary Bates-Moody (11/16)
Desiree Packard (11/25)
Katelin Carey (11/29)
Hi, my name is Brittany Iafrate; I am an Upward Bound Alumni and a current junior at Allegheny College. I was a part of the Upward Bound program about three years ago, and it is still strange to think it was so long ago. During my final summer with UB I realized I was the only student going out of state in my bridge class, and that is when I started to get nervous and a bit worried. I realized that I was going to a school thirteen hours away and I had never even driven more than four hours by myself. I never went on a tour of campus, I never even spoke to a student or alumni, and the only things I knew were from browsing the website. I wasn’t even going to apply to Allegheny, but they kept harassing me until I filled out whatever a leader application was, and somehow I had come to the decision to go to this school.

I was worried about where I would get the money to go to this school, how I would like my new roommate, and how I could handle being thirteen hours from home. The first time I went to my college, my family had a three-car road trip to drop me off, and as soon as they left it sort of sunk in that I was on my own. After a few initial moments of panic about what I had gotten myself into, I threw myself into life at school. I wandered around my historical campus (founded in 1815!) until I could find my way around, I got to know and love my roommate, and I was inspired by my classes. My first semester was when I took my first two environmental studies courses and when I realized I had chosen the right college and I was excited for all it had to offer.

Driving all the way out here is hard and boring, but a good playlist can make all of the difference! Having home too far away is hard sometimes, but cell phones do exist for a reason and I know my mom appreciates infrequent calls! Paying for school is not easy, I have scholarships from the school as well as outside scholarships and there is no way I would be at my school without them. I also work quite a bit so I can save up even more money. I work in the community involvement office at my school and it’s my job to compile all of the volunteering opportunities for the week into a weekly newsletter. I also work at a bingo place, I know it sounds a bit funny and yes I do call the numbers sometimes, but any job necessary for me to afford school. These jobs also keep me directly connected to the community and that is something I have grown to cherish as I spend more time here.

I love it here at Allegheny College and I cannot imagine being happier any other place. I have some advice for you though, follow your heart. If you truly want to go somewhere to school and you put all of your effort into making it happen, things will work out. Don’t do what I did though, research your school, it will make your heart happier initially. Research your school and be open to what it offers, and don’t just stand on the sidelines of activities get connected and jump right into clubs and events, I am sure you won’t regret it!
AnnMarie Hannon made High Honors and will be getting a Gold Renaissance Card! Also, for fun she is teaching herself American Sign Language, and is learning Payphone by Maroon5! Her family also got 2 pet pigs!

Michael Hilton got his license!

Patrick Toribio was named Senior of the Month this month!

Kelli Welsh is in the Franklin Journal for the Biotechnology program that she’s in.

Danika Morin was nominated to attend CheerHawaii2013, was accepted into NHS, will be to Boston with the International Club, and is helping serve meals to the community at a community Thanksgiving Dinner!

Kobe Cancel was in Carrabec’s performance of “Working”!

Abysnee worked the campaign trail for President Obama before the election!

Becca will be playing Charlie Brown in the Lawrence High School musical!

Macy Li is quite a leader at Skowhegan, she has started a study group, a musical group, “Gleep”, and is attending her first Above the Influence meeting, AND she is starting indoor track, as well. Awesome, Macy!

Jasen Dickey is doing indoor track!

Monique is on the bowling team!

Congratulations to Travis & the Mt. Blue Cougars for winning States in Football!

Katelyn and Kathleen were accepted into National Honor Society!

Michalya Holt entered in the International Who’s Who in Poetry in 2012 and she is going to be published! She also has a chance to win $10,000. (See Below!) Congratulations to those who were on the Wait List that have been accepted: Allison Bernier, Alexia Krupp, Desiree Packard, Cole Williams & M’Cayla St. Laurent!

**Last Picked**

By Michalya Holt

A beautiful white flower sway and bend in the wind.

The gray clouds swim around in a dark rolling sky over a valley.

The wind catches the last delicate petal, plucked.

Yanked from the ground, like the cut like a baby’s umbilical cord.

The stem gripped in the girl’s hand as she pushes through trees,

The little white delicate petal hangs deathly ill on its stem.

As she comes to the clearing, she sees the cliff.

drops to her knees,

Asking and pleading with God, “why, why me?”.

Blood drips from every square inch of her body.

She prays with the petal in her hands and her hands touch her brow.

A gust of wind sprinkles the pieces of a once beautiful white petal.

Once attached to its own mother, into the sky: gone.
Syrena Clark summarized the 2012 Leadership Conference (Fairlee, VT October 19-21) for us:

“The van was like a spaceship and the view was glorious all the way to Vermont. When we all (all being Krysta, Montai, Patrick, Syrena, and Dean) climbed out of the van and stretched it was raining. Not hard though and it was gone by morning. That night we were assigned to Watch Groups and met all sorts of new people. At dinner we all spread out at ate with new people. The food was excellent. The next morning some of us had the opportunity of Reorganizing the Federal Budget. Which was committed in a surprising civil manner and, you’ll all be pleased to hear, every group put extra money into the educational system. The rest of had the experience of a ropes course, high ropes mind you, and others learned to be leaders in a Leadership activity that stressed communication. Then we all switched off. The ropes course had a daunting zip-line, daunting in its height but well worth the trying completion. Along with a zip-line there were three levels of ropes and climbing activities. While all of that was going on a leadership activity was also taking place in which we outlined the qualities of a good leader and then participated in a series of activities where we communicated the major issues within our school systems and how to change them. That night we danced. But I would love to highlight that while we danced Montai really danced. And in sudden danced battle he threw down, but no winners were declared. We all staggered back to our cabins thoroughly exhausted. The next morning we enjoyed another good breakfast and were presented certificates of completion. On the way back the view was just as glorious as on the way there. I will not mention the large nutcracker or the sleigh, nor will I bring up the corn chowder.”

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<th>1st Quarter Honor Roll</th>
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<tr>
<td>Kobe Cancel</td>
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<td>Glenn Lambert</td>
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<td>Cellya Cooley</td>
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<td>Ashley Avery</td>
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<td>Michael Hilton</td>
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<td>Desiree Packard</td>
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“On Saturday the tenth, at 6 am, a group of nine girls (and Lynn and Elyse) set out to Massachusetts in search of the five college consortium. After a six hour drive, they arrived at Mount Holyoke. Mount Holyoke, which is an all-girls school, did not appeal largely to any of the young ladies, save maybe the beautiful cathedral-like library. After lunch at the school café and a tour of the campus, they were on the road again, this time headed to Hampshire.

Many of the girls fell in love with Hampshire throughout the tour, due to the open curriculum offered, the swings hanging from various trees and the overall open mindedness that the college possessed. Hampshire, home to a brainwave scanner and distinct theater program, gave a feeling of comfort and seemed to broaden minds upon arrival. Many of the girls fell in love with Hampshire throughout the tour, due to the open curriculum offered, the swings hanging from various trees and the overall open mindedness that the college possessed. Hampshire, home to a brainwave scanner and distinct theater program, gave a feeling of comfort and seemed to broaden minds upon arrival.

The last day of the trip was spent at Smith College, where a fall premier was being held. The girls attended classes, ate lunch with professors and took specified tours of the beautiful campus. Everyone loved Smith, and it would not be surprising to see a mail truck full of Maine applications sent out to North Hampton, MA next year, because of the interactive classes, exciting programs and comfortable on campus living.

The weekend ended with a six hour drive home. The last of the girls were dropped off at nearly 10 pm on Monday night. Not a single one disappointed.”

On the second day of the adventure, not only were Amherst college and UMass Amherst visited, but also Emily Dickinson’s gravesite. Her head stone lay on the inner-side of the path near the back of the cemetery amongst her family and tributes from all of those whom she inspired with her elegant and morbid words. Her poem “Hope” was read aloud, and the rest of the older end of the cemetery explored, after which the van was reloaded and academic exploration was again the main focused.

Although none of the girls favored Amherst College, the lunch which included Napoleon Dynamite’s “tots,” was fantastic, and the on-campus museum which housed several prehistoric skeletons and a large collection of dinosaur footprints was marveled at. Preceding the discomfort of Amherst, UMass Amherst was said to be far too big for any of the girls to enjoy. Attendance by any of the nine was made nearly out of the question.

At the end of the second day of tours, the girls returned to their hotel for some much needed downtime, and then were up and out on the town. Everyone adored North Hampton, especially a little shop called Faces. Ensuing a small shopping adventure, Thai food was on the menu. Tempura, spring rolls and an assortment of other delicious delights were partaken in. Elyse, Lynn and all nine girls drove away from the restaurant full and happy to an evening at the hotel watching The Notebook.

On the next page, you can see some photos from the expedition. It appears that the girls certainly had a great time, which is no surprise! They visited some really good schools and they are a fantastic bunch!
At Emily Dickinson’s House

At Emily Dickinson’s Grave

This is Lynn, giving us a lesson in gravestones!

Mt. Holyoke

Amherst College

The very striking Robert Frost *sigh*
JOIN US FOR 2 PERFORMANCES!

DECEMBER 7, 2012

AT UMF

MUSIC
UMF CLEFNOTES
ACAPPELLA GROUP

DANCE
UMF BAM DANCERS
(FEATURING RHEANNA WOODFORD)

MEET AT THE LOOK HOUSE AT 5:30 FOR PIZZA
WE WILL BE DONE BY 8:45

RSVP BY DECEMBER 6
ELYSE.PRATT@MAINE.EDU OR 1-888-237-1667

HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!!