

## DIRECTOR'S CORNER

Happy 4th of July everyone! Independence Day has been a federal holiday since 1941. It is normally celebrated with picnics, parades, and fireworks. Due to COVID-19 we are in a very different time. In spite of that, we hope that you are able to spend some valuable time with family even if you have to do it virtually.

RISE staff remain excited about our summer program and the upcoming school year. We are planning some amazing activities for our scholars and we need your help. The Upward Bound Program at East River is now recruiting new students. We are asking all of our RISE Scholars, families, and East River staff & friends to refer all interested students to our website for more information at trio.sdes.ucf.edu/project-rise/. I can also be reached directly at coretta.cotton@ucf.edu.

I would like to take the time to acknowledge our RISE staff who have shown extreme compassion and dedication to our scholars. Their care and consistency help to make our program a success. Since we have been virtual, our staff has provided information to over 100 scholarships, engaged our scholars in a virtual summer program, and continued tutoring online. These are just a few of their accomplishments where I want to say thank you and keep up the good work!

We love working with our scholars. Thank you for accepting the recruitment challenge. We look forward to building our program together.

Falcons Soar! Coretta Cotton Program Manager

# JULY BIRTHDAYS

Aniya E. Tingle Kenneth A. Parsons Jr.

#### **Testimonials**

"Upward bound is one of the most unique programs because everything that the teachers do is for us. I have gained so much information and knowledge about colleges and how to apply. The program has helped me throughout the school year with free tutoring opportunities and access to programs that helped me pass my AP tests. The teachers are extremely helpful as well and always have your best interest at heart."

- Kiley-Grace Gonzalez

"Thank you for all the things you send out and for keeping me focused on what I'm supposed to be doing. Before Upward Bound I had no idea what I was supposed to be doing, but now I'm trying things like OnTrack that help me with staying organized, preparing a schedule for class, and getting in the right mindset for college. You guys are awesome!"- *Tahiri Abatso* 



### STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



Summer Academy Students

This month's student of the month goes to all of our summer students! This includes those in our summer program – Asia Lowe, Autumn Kissinger, Kenneth Parson, Kiley-Grace Gonzalez, Courtney Braxton, Alonzo Ferguson, and Chelsea Ferguson for all the hard work and dedication you've put towards your future! It's an honor to help you and see your growth each week. I also want to give a shoutout to those doing regular, edgenuity, and dual enrollment summer classes - Avah Dotson and Layla Kusimo (those are the two I know of, please let me know if you are also a part of these students) your investment will pay off and we're here to support you in your progress! Want to be Project RISE's student of the month? Reach out to let us know how you are and what you've been up to!

# STAY CONNECTED

Sign up for our REMIND service Student Remind:

rmd.at/ucfub or text @ucfub to 81010 Parent Chat:

rmd.at/2644kg or text @2644kg to 81010

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