



# NEWS

UNIVERSITY PREP SCHOOLS



## A Message From Our CEO

Dear U Prep Community:

It's still Open Enrollment Season at the U!  
We are currently accepting new families for the 2022-23 school year. Visit us at [UPrepSchools.com](https://UPrepSchools.com) to learn more about each U Prep campus, and apply for your family to join ours for the upcoming school year!

In this issue of News at the U!, we'd like to introduce alumni Desiree Marion, who will share how U Prep helped shape her entrepreneurial path and her plans for the future.



You'll also gain insight into how we plan to utilize our newly awarded grant funds to assist our continued efforts to provide academic excellence and hands-on experiences to every scholar. Finally, as we approach the fourth and final quarter of this school year, our counselors and scholars will outline the various scholarship opportunities offered to eligible U Prep scholars.

The highlight of this issue comes from our parent community. Hear firsthand how our academic community positively impacted their family through a continuum of unique pathways experiences from Kindergarten through 12th grade. Scroll down to view the video and much more in News at the U!

In Community and Partnership,

Danielle Jackson, CEO  
U Prep Schools

## Faces of the U!: Zaiya Rucker

Allow us to introduce Ms. Zaiya Rucker, a proud University Prep Art & Design Elementary School Parent. Hear more about Zaiya's U Prep experience by clicking through to her video on YouTube at the link below.



### Faces of the U!



## Scholarships at the U!

U Prep offers many unique scholarship opportunities at various universities in the country. We support our scholars in any way possible, and scholarships help alleviate the financial burden of going to college, making it more manageable for our families.

Hear from our Director of Post-Secondary and Alumni Affairs, John Johnson, on the impact of scholarships on our scholars and what is available at U Prep.

### Scholarship Opportunities

## UPSM High School Entrepreneurs Start In-School Business

Scholars in UPSM High School's Youth Entrepreneurship class used their business learnings to open up the Cobra Cave! The class developed this in-school business, which is currently selling snacks, school supplies, and refreshments.

Students will use all earnings to fund their



senior trips and events. Read below to learn more about the Cobra Cave.

### **The Cobra Cave**



## **UPSM High School Receives \$9,000 Grant for Ecology Pathway Research**

The Ecology Program at UPSM High School recently received a grant from the Toshiba Foundation that will help fund research for the program and help support class trips to research sites. More specifically, this grant will help support a 4-year research project where the students will gather samples of water, plants, and trees to measure the environmental impact over time.

### **Toshiba Grant Impact**

## **UPSM Elementary Receives \$10,000 Library Grant**

UPSM Elementary recently received a \$10,000 Grant from the [American Library Association](#). This is the first time our historic library has received a grant. This funding will help students gain new experiences and be exposed to more culturally responsive books.

Our students will also be able to work with library staff to help them choose the right book and check it out. Find out more about this impactful grant below.



### **American Library Association Grant**



Inspiring Change Within  
the Community



## U Prep Leaders Inspiring Change Within Our Community

Our School Directors play a pivotal role in their respective schools. Inspiring change in their community is what they strive to achieve every day.

Click below to watch our [YouTube video playlist](#) featuring Ms. Kyra White of UPA Elementary-Ellen Thompson Campus, Ms. Melissa Lloyd of UPA Middle School, and Mr. Derrick Kellam of UPA High School sharing how they inspire change in their work.

[Watch Here](#)



## Meet Desiree "Ashantae" Marion

**ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT:** Desiree "Ashantae" Marion, a member of the 2009 graduating class at UPA High School, earned her Bachelor of Arts in English at University of Michigan. She now works as an entrepreneur and a philanthropist in the community, giving to organizations that provide support to people suffering the effects of domestic violence, sexual assault, and human sex trafficking. Find out more about her journey at the link below.

[Meet  
Desiree](#)

## NEW Family Referral Program at U Prep

Each year, our campuses are filled with scholars and families who join our school community as direct referrals from you, the U Prep Community. Your

willingness to entrust us with the young scholars from your circle of family and friends is a great compliment and a privilege we don't take lightly. In appreciation, we are excited to introduce our NEW Parent Referral Program. Eligible participants will have the opportunity to receive a \$100 Amazon Gift Card for each referral. Stay tuned for the launch in Mid-May.



EXPERIENCE THE   
GET THE BEST OF DETROIT.

## Save The Date!

**SAVE THE DATE!** Join us on Saturday, May 21 from 9 am - 3 pm, for a network-wide U Prep Experience at all 10 campuses. This exclusive event will spotlight our three distinct Districts and attendees will share the day in the life of a scholar in grades K-12. Onsite interviews for educator and support positions, conditional employment offers, and full student enrollment will be part of this event. Watch for the details on our social pages!

## May Birthdays and Anniversaries

Help us celebrate! We have several birthdays and U Prep anniversaries in May. Click the links below to wish our Crew members a Happy Birthday or Happy Anniversary.

**Crew Birthdays**

**Crew Anniversaries**



