



2021 JOINT ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT

SUPPORTING UA STUDENTS, FOR LIFE

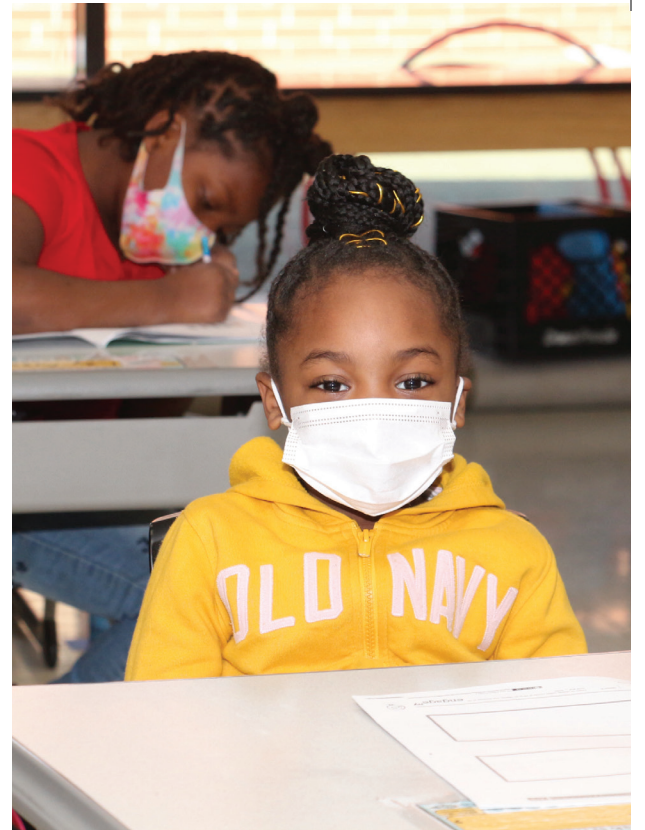


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Most of the photos found throughout this report are by Larry Eichner.

COVER PHOTOS: UA alumni at a UA Foundation 2021 Summer Internship Program event at Swope Health Services. Kindergarten student at play outdoors. UA graduate and parents.



SINCE 2004, 100% OF UA GRADUATES HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED TO COLLEGE.

UA originally opened in 2000 on the corner of 55th and Troost, serving grades 7-9. In 2005, the school was moved to its current campus at 6801 Holmes Road and began serving grades K-12. The first graduating class was the Class of 2004.

No school is perfect, but over the years, UA has been fortunate to earn many accolades.

WE ARE PROUD OF OUR PAST, BUT FOCUSED ON OUR FUTURE AS WE LOOK TO CONTINUOUSLY IMPROVE.

We want to thank our founders for setting a vision and making UA become a reality. We also want to thank all the students, parents and staff members over the years who have built this legacy.





OUR MISSION Through high expectations, University Academy prepares students to succeed in institutions of higher education, and to serve as positive role models and valuable members of the community.

OUR VISION Our vision is to be the best college-preparatory charter public school in the country with an emphasis on college preparation, career development, community service and leadership.

UA BOARD MEMBERS*

Barnett C. Helzberg, Jr.
Bush Helzberg
Shirley Bush Helzberg
Nicole Jacobs Silvey
Laura Greenbaum
LeRay Warrior (Class of '04)
Katie Kwo Gerson, *Board Chair*
Tom Bloch, *President Emeritus*

* BOARD MEMBERS AS OF 12/20

DEAR UNIVERSITY ACADEMY COMMUNITY,

Despite the continuation of uncertainties around the pandemic in 2020-2021, the UA community once again rose to the challenge.

THROUGH HIGH EXPECTATIONS, UNIVERSITY ACADEMY PREPARES STUDENTS TO SUCCEED IN INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND TO SERVE AS POSITIVE ROLE MODELS AND VALUABLE MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY.

With that said, this letter is about the special power of strong leadership. The Helzberg family leadership commitment to excellence and opportunity in education never wavered as UA created a safe environment and as the community, city, region and nation grappled with rising Covid cases. The board supported the 100% virtual plan, masks, and the opportunity to get vaccinated in early 2021.

The board continued to meet virtually and reviewed the new 5-year Strategic Plan and, again, the board was pleased to receive the Audit report in November 2020, which resulted in a “clean opinion”, meaning best practices are being followed on stable financial footing.

We said a fond farewell to Nicole Jacobs-Silvey, UA Board Vice Chair, after serving 5+ years on the Board. She added value to ensure we were being strategic with the broader community. In May, Nicole graced us with wisdom as keynote speaker at the in-person socially distanced graduation where the board conferred diplomas to 37 seniors.

We also welcomed Jeron Ravin, CEO of Swope Health, to the board, who has been an invaluable voice of guidance at the table.

A special thanks to the Missouri Public Charter School Commission and the Missouri Charter Public School Association for the extra guidance, as interpreters of legislative and governance policies to help all Charter Schools in the state, UA included.

It was Tony Kline’s final year as UA Superintendent and Executive Director of the University Academy Foundation. His 8 years were a period of incredible growth for the school, academically and operationally. The board is very grateful for his tenure and leadership, and for the leadership transition plan he curated including Rebecca Gudde, Stacy Graff, and Sonja Shaffer.

Even though we could not have done all of the above without you- families, students, donors, volunteers, and partners, I have the greatest respect and gratitude for UA leaders, administrators and the incredible faculty, who gave their absolute best to ensure our students had every opportunity to safely prepare for what the future holds.



A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Katie Kwo Gerson".

KATIE KWO GERSON
UNIVERSITY ACADEMY
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

UA FRIENDS AND FAMILIES,

The 2020-21 school year proved to be one of the most challenging years in American public education. Across the country, we endured the stresses of the pandemic, social injustices, and uncertainties of basic expectations. UA was in the middle of it. KCMO public schools started the 2020-21 school year virtually and remained so until the spring of 2021. Students, parents and educators were forced into a less-than-ideal virtual education mode, causing disruptions to learning, parents' jobs, student mental health, and teacher burnout. There were many tears of frustration shed by people during the last school year, myself included.

ALL THE WHILE WE MARCHED FORWARD, NEVER WAVERING FROM OUR GOAL TO MAKE SURE STUDENTS WERE PREPARED FOR EVENTUAL COLLEGE ADMISSION.

UA acquired resources and purchased more than 500 new laptops ensuring every student had a device and internet connectivity. We were fortunate to receive one-time federal funding that allowed us to make renovations to our campus as we prepared to welcome students back in the spring of 2021. We provided in-person services for students with disabilities and English Language Learners. Our Children's Mercy Clinic and School Nurses' office remained open for appointments, and our Food Services department continued to distribute thousands of meals per week. We were able to continue athletics, giving students some semblance of normalcy. I want to thank students

and parents for being patient and understanding during that extended virtual environment. I also want to thank and recognize the efforts of our faculty and staff. They had to change how we provided education for a full year, and it was an extremely difficult task.

As we ended the 2020-21 school year, we began preparing for all students to come back in the fall. We spent a great deal of time and focus on beautifying the campus by fixing our parking lots, adding two playgrounds, making upgrades to our air-conditioning system, making another investment in classroom technology capabilities, and completing a new baseball field project in partnership with the city. I thank the board and our facilities team for moving quickly and making UA, once again, the envy of other schools.

Finally, as the 2020-21 school year came to a close, I also came to the realization that my time as superintendent of UA would soon be coming to an end. I led UA for 8 years, starting in the spring of 2013. It was the honor of a lifetime to help UA advance its mission. I thank you for all your support, kind words and lasting memories, and I will cherish those forever.



A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tony Kline".

TONY KLINE

SUPERINTENDENT AND
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (2013-2021)

UNIVERSITY ACADEMY FRIENDS AND FAMILIES,

With the departure of Mr. Tony Kline, Superintendent of University Academy for the past eight years, the board afforded the opportunity for me to step in as Interim Superintendent. I gladly accepted this honor and have worked to continue the tradition of excellence, that is, University Academy. As a nation, we have continued to face obstacles and challenges related to Covid-19; as the University Academy family, we have persevered.

“THE WORK UNIVERSITY ACADEMY HAS DONE SURROUNDING DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION CONTINUES TO PUSH US FORWARD.”

Our students continue to excel academically both in person as well as those who selected our virtual model. We embraced the needs of our students and have increased the amount of time and effort in assisting students with their social and emotional well-being. We also made an emphasis on cultural competencies a board goal, so the work University Academy has done surrounding diversity, equity and inclusion continues to push us forward. As a continued charter leader in Kansas City, we look forward to breaking new records in college acceptances, scholarship amounts, and our newest endeavor as a Real World Learning institution. Our students in the middle and upper schools are embracing more advanced courses in business, coding, robotics, health and science,

as well as emerging entrepreneurs. We added Spanish in the Lower School and continue to find ways to bring partnerships from this amazing city to our students.

The efforts of our staff are to be commended, especially in a world where so many are leaving the teaching profession and so few are joining. University Academy teachers are committed to excellence and will stop at nothing to provide the students with their very best. Our students continue to be our top priority, and we take pride in their safety. This is truly a time to educate the whole child - ensuring strong mental health, creating a safe and secure environment with strong academics. Thank you for the opportunity to lead and work as a partner in our students' education.



A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Rebecca A. Gudde".

REBECCA A. GUDDE
INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT



ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

MALON LEE

UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI-
KANSAS CITY

AREA OF STUDY

- **Degree:** BA in Psychology and a BA in Liberal Studies with a minor in Spanish

CURRENT OCCUPATION

- Assistant Track and Field Coach at University Academy



HOW IS YOUR EXPERIENCE AT UA IMPACTING YOU NOW?

My experience at UA has led me to be independent and outgoing. I used to be a homebody but going to Argentina to study abroad helped me branch out.

HOW HAS UA FOUNDATION (FORMERLY FRIENDS OF UA) IMPACTED YOU AND/OR WHERE YOU ARE TODAY?

UA Foundation has given me the ability to attend college without paying for anything out of pocket. My senior year of high school, I learned a lot about college such as how to apply, how to apply for scholarships, and even the different types of colleges and universities there are out there. I have received some amazing scholarships because of UA Foundation and I also have had the opportunity to complete some amazing internships at organizations such as Children's Mercy and Mpac Physical Therapy.

ACHIEVEMENTS

2020 - 2021



US News and World
Report Recognition
(2012-2021)



100% college
acceptance rate
for Class of 2021



Class of 2021
earned \$5.7 million
in scholarship offers



Named "Exceptional
Charter School
for Special Education"
(5th consecutive year)



NFL/Kansas City
Chiefs Coach
of the Week



Implemented a K-12 social emotional
learning program to help identify students
needing additional support in the areas
of relationships, self-awareness and
decision-making



2 All State Players, 18 All District,
24 All Conference. Player named to
the Simone awards list and was a finalist
for the Taylor Award for area's best receiver.
1 player named to All-Metro.



Football #1 district seed and host
of the district championship;
Girls basketball tournament
championship; Volleyball third place



Initiated a 1:1 device
program starting
with Middle School
students: 5-12 starting
in August 2022



Provided a new
turf playground
and renovated play
equipment for Lower
School students



Upgraded major
mechanical systems
and paving on campus
totaling more than
1.6 million



Implemented Real
World Learning with
a grant from the
Kauffman Foundation



Created and launched
a virtual school
platform for 165
students in grades K-12



UNIVERSITY ACADEMY FINANCIAL REPORT

REVENUES

Local	\$2,380,286
State	\$10,737,107
Federal	\$1,394,058

Total	\$14,511,451
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EXPENDITURES PER STUDENT (ADA)

University Academy	\$14,211.51
KCPS	\$21,948.56
Missouri	\$17,341.16

EXPENDITURES

Instruction	\$6,428,973
Student Services	\$843,490
Instructional Staff Support	\$207,198
Building Level Admin	\$1,002,856
Central Services	\$2,569,265
Operations of Plant	\$2,541,608
Transportation	\$305,406
Food Services	\$349,453
Community Services	\$84,182
Debt Service	\$15,955

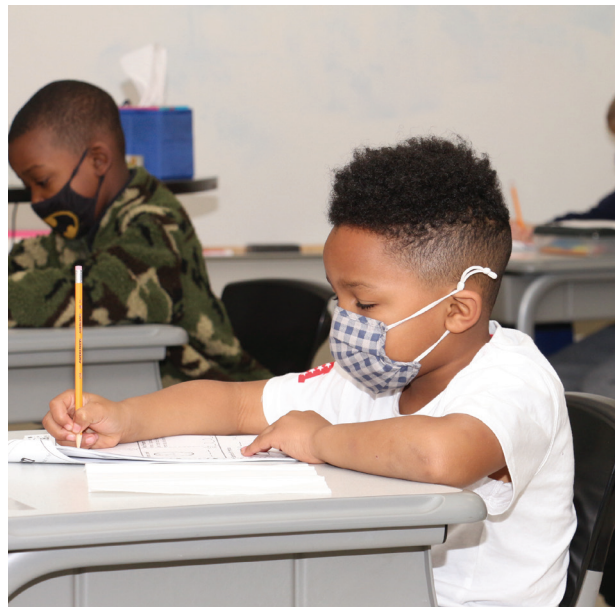
Total	\$14,348,386
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CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLASS OF 2021

Skye Bergerson, Emerson College
Eejan Clarkson, Wichita State University
Mikilah Davis, University of Central Missouri
Lydie Djiba, University of Missouri-Kansas City
Chadsity Durr, Sweet Briar College
Jessiyah Ewing, University of Southern California
Sylvia Halliburton, Metropolitan Community College
Payton Hill, Washburn University
Devin Hinson, Metropolitan Community College
Exavier Howard, Pittsburgh State University
Meya Jackson, Johnson County Community College
Jamil Johnson, Wichita State University
Jordan Johnson, Missouri Western State University
Mia Jordan, Donnelly College
Jayon Kimbrel, Lincoln University
Tyler Lindsey, Wichita State University
Joardy Looney III, Metropolitan Community College
Devawna McDonald, University of Tampa
Ella Miller, University of New England

Skylar Oates, Metropolitan Community College
Kitwan Pointer, Missouri Western State University
Mauriana Redmon-Talley, Metropolitan Community College
Nicholas Shields, Metropolitan Community College
Shamaree Sowell, Army Reserve
Olamide Sowemimo, Wichita State University
Maxwell Stoecklein, University of Missouri-Columbia
Quran Taylor, National Guard
Christian Terrell, Wichita State University
Aida Tesfay, University of Missouri-Kansas City
Shyionna Thatcher, University of Nebraska-Lincoln
Rowan Veenstra, Metropolitan Community College
Christopher Velasquez, University of Missouri-Kansas City
Azhaunay Verrelli, Wichita State University
Trevon West, Iowa Wesleyan University
Talea Wilson, Johnson County Community College
Imani Wyatt, Butler Community College
Leigha Zweifel, Albany State University



PHOTOS FROM THE PAST YEAR

TOP ROW: UA football players during a game. Lower school student in class. Debate team with awards.

BOTTOM ROW: UA football team. UA wrestlers and coach.

CHEERS TO VOLUNTEERS!

THE FOLLOWING VOLUNTEERS SPENT COUNTLESS HOURS HELPING UNIVERSITY ACADEMY STUDENTS AND ALUMNI IN A VARIETY OF WAYS. WE COULDN'T DO IT WITHOUT YOU!

- ▶ Diane Arnell
- ▶ Andrew Bash
- ▶ Luke Beckett (UA '11)
- ▶ Danielle Blackstock
- ▶ Diana Brady
- ▶ Myra Brown
- ▶ Josh Burdette
- ▶ Marilyn Cohen
- ▶ Leo Dickson
- ▶ Erika and David Dickey
- ▶ Alan Edelman
- ▶ Osasere Eke (UA '13)
- ▶ Marion Epps
- ▶ Nola Faulkner
- ▶ Debra Foster
- ▶ Chelsea Hagan
- ▶ Laura Johnson
- ▶ Suzi Kilbride
- ▶ Ashley Knapp
- ▶ Ed Lapin
- ▶ Kristin Letourneau
- ▶ Brittany Lewis (UA '09)
- ▶ Tamea Livingston (UA '20)
- ▶ Mariah McDaniel (UA '18)
- ▶ Myron Oates (UA '06)
- ▶ Bonnie Pearson
- ▶ Will Powell (UA '17)
- ▶ Matt Prusa
- ▶ Christina Robson
- ▶ Melynn Sight
- ▶ Tekia Thompson
- ▶ Dwight Tiller (UA '11)
- ▶ Mae Turner (UA '12)
- ▶ Darrenn White (UA '10)
- ▶ Jim Wirtz



MANY THANKS TO OUR 2021 GALA BENEFACTORS



UNIVERSITY ACADEMY FOUNDATION'S 2021

GALAFEST

GIFTS AS OF JUNE 30, 2021

UA CHAMPION

\$25,000+

Mr. and Mrs. Barnett C. Helzberg Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Bush Helzberg
The George E. and Annette C.
Murphy Charitable Trust

UA CRUSADER

\$10,000

Mr. and Mrs. John Sherman
Ms. Ann Baum
Robert N. Epstein
Mr. Ed Milbank
Mr. and Mrs. Tom Bloch
Ellen and Irv Robinson
Mr. and Mrs. Barnett C. Helzberg, III

UA BACKER

\$5,000

Frank and Sondra Friedman
Ms. Sandra Baer and
Mr. Charles Helzberg
Cindy and Bob Tucci
Bonnie and Herbert Buchbinder
Lois Lacy
James and Marilyn Hebenstreit
Ewing Kauffman Fund -
Cathy and Michael Schultz
Sunflower Foundation -
Alex and Susan Masson
Tom and Teresa Walsh
Virginia B. McCoy
Patterson Family Foundation

UA ADVOCATE

\$2,500

Tom and Starr Wagstaff
Maura and Brian Landers
Kendall and Pete Lacey
Mr. and Mrs. William Reisler
Mr. and Mrs. John Goodman
Julie and Michael Hirons
Mr. and Mrs. Peter Brown
Children's Mercy Hospital
and Clinics
Ellis Foundation
Commerce Bank - Ms. Jane Gard
Mr. and Mrs. Jeremy Goff

UA SUPPORTER

\$1,000+

Charles J. Hoffman
Mr. and Mrs. Mary Ann and
Nicholas Powell
Laura and James Threatt
Paul and Linda DeBruce -
The DeBruce Foundation
Gerson Family Foundation
Atterbury Family Foundation
Robert Lusardi
Todd and Emily Voth
Marlys and Michael Haverty
Barbara and Richard Atlas
Dashini Jeyathurai and
Byron White

Lynda and Robert Shapiro
 Lisa and Charles Schellhorn
 Mr. and Mrs. Thomas and
 Carol Barnett
 Lisa and Tony Kline
 Don and Kristen Trigg
 Bryan Kempf
 Dr. and Mrs. Daniel and Anne Durrie
 Mr. James Stowers III and
 Mrs. Michele Stowers
 Anne N. Hickok and Phillip Charlton
 Courtney and Andrew Bash
 Mr. and Mrs. Michael and
 Meg Grossman
 Steve Eklund
 Mr. and Mrs. William and
 Laura Frick
 Susan and Ernie Straub
 Julie and Michael Hiron

UA FRIEND \$500+

Anonymous
 Melinda Beal
 Robert E. Litan
 Jan-Marie and Brad Kroh
 Kit Smith and Michael Goss
 Tom Sight
 Claude and Tina Thau
 Suzi and Howard Kilbride
 KPM CPAs, PC
 Joyce and Mark Hrinia
 Betty Scott
 Jean and Bob Zeldin

Linda and Larry Johnson
 Shellie Guin
 Sonya Nutter
 Roger Offield
 Shelly and Stacy Graff
 Debbie Coe
 Bonnie and Douglas Pearson
 Mr. and Mrs. Jeff and Jamie Berg
 Gretchen Gearin
 Christina and Ron Robson
 Dr. and Dr. John and Gina Hendren
 Nicole and Patrick Silvey
 Melanie Fenske
 Dr. and Mrs. Diane and
 Ernest Neighbor
 Dr. Irene Bettinger

IN-KIND GIFTS

Helzberg Diamonds
 Mr. and Mrs. David Dickey
 Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Mos
 Price Chopper
 The Roasterie
 Larry Eichner





THE VISION of University Academy Foundation is to empower University Academy students and alumni to reach their academic and professional aspirations by providing extraordinary life-long support.

THE MISSION of University Academy Foundation is to facilitate educational programs and opportunities that support college readiness, college completion, and career success for University Academy students and alumni.

UNIVERSITY ACADEMY FOUNDATION

BOARD MEMBERS*

Jeremy Goff

Laura Greenbaum

Sonya Nutter

Kit Smith

Byron White (Class of '04)

Bush Helzberg, *President*

Mary Bloch, *Lifetime Honorary Board Member*

Vicki Reisler, *Lifetime Honorary Board Member*

*** BOARD MEMBERS THROUGH 6/30/2021**



DEAR UNIVERSITY ACADEMY FOUNDATION STAKEHOLDERS,

All students deserve the opportunity to have an excellent education, be college-ready, and be prepared to pursue any career they choose. University Academy students get all of these things not only because of a rigorous academic program but also because of the special educational opportunities and support provided by University Academy Foundation. This is all possible because of your generous support.

Students living within the boundaries of the Kansas City Missouri School District have benefited from University Academy's college-preparatory education for over 20 years. And University Academy Foundation has been providing extraordinary support to UA students and alumni for over 10 years. Even over the past two challenging years, UA's high expectations and commitment to a rigorous academic program have never wavered.

As alumni navigated virtual classrooms and/or struggled to be away from home for the first time, University Academy Foundation was there to support our alumni with care packages, scholarships, financial support, internships, and guidance. You have made it possible for us to continue this important work despite the operational challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic.

**THE WORK UA FOUNDATION AND UNIVERSITY
ACADEMY ARE DOING IS INCREDIBLY IMPORTANT,
NOT JUST FOR OUR STUDENTS AND ALUMNI, BUT
ALSO FOR KANSAS CITY.**

Together we are proving what is possible and creating a competitive educational landscape in Kansas City where students and the community are winners.



A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bush Helzberg". The signature is fluid and cursive.

BUSH HELZBERG
UA FOUNDATION BOARD
PRESIDENT

UA FOUNDATION PROVIDES SPECIAL PROGRAMS AND OPPORTUNITIES

K-12 PROGRAMS AND OPPORTUNITIES

SUMMER EXPERIENCES

- ▶ Study Abroad
 - ▷ Experiment in International Living (EIL)
 - ▷ Student Diplomacy Corps (SDC)
 - ▷ National Outdoor Leadership School (NOLS)
- ▶ Summer College Campus Experiences
- ▶ Middle School Summer Camps
 - ▷ Sanborn Western Camps
 - ▷ Camp Birchwood/Birchwood Wilderness Camp
 - ▷ Camp Lincoln / Lake Hubert



UNIQUE STUDENT OPPORTUNITIES

- ▶ Missouri Assessment Program Incentives
- ▶ National Honor Society Trip
- ▶ Advanced Studies Program
- ▶ Kansas City Symphony Partnership
- ▶ Kansas City Young Audiences Partnership
- ▶ Entrepreneurship Course
- ▶ Civil Rights Trip
- ▶ Meaningful Field Trips



COLLEGE PREPARATION

- ▶ Dual Credit Courses
- ▶ ACT Prep Course
- ▶ Senior College Tours

SERVING THE WHOLE CHILD: UA WELLNESS CENTER - CHILDREN'S MERCY CLINIC & UMKC DENTAL CLINIC

Thanks to gifts from key donors, the UA Wellness Center is able to offer services to students free of charge:

- ▶ Immunizations
- ▶ Vaccinations
- ▶ Sports physicals
- ▶ Treatment of injuries and illnesses
- ▶ Mental health care
- ▶ Health education
- ▶ Dental screenings, cleanings, x-rays, and fillings

ALUMNI PROGRAMS AND OPPORTUNITIES

FINANCIAL RESOURCES

UAF provides unique funding opportunities for UA alumni in college based upon GPA benchmarks and financial need. Removing financial barriers allows for more focus on academic goals.

- ▶ College Incentive Program (CIP)
- ▶ Top 15 Scholarship
- ▶ Scholarships for Alumni Success
- ▶ Student Emergency Fund



CAREER ACCELERATION PROGRAM

UAF offers multiple opportunities for alumni to network, learn, explore, and hone their professional skills leading to career success.

- ▶ Resume review
- ▶ Networking events
- ▶ Monthly newsletters
- ▶ Summer Internship Program
- ▶ Training workshops
- ▶ Career exploration events



DATA TRACKING - ENROLLMENT AND GRADUATION RATES

UA alumni are completing their Bachelor's degree at more than 3x the rate of students in the same income quartile, nationally. UAF continuously tracks the following:

- ▶ College attendance and contact information
- ▶ College persistence and graduation data
- ▶ Career information



SOCIAL CONNECTION AND LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

- ▶ Care packages
- ▶ Special alumni events and opportunities
- ▶ Campus visits
- ▶ Monthly alumni newsletter



ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

MYRON OATS

UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI-
KANSAS CITY + UNIVERSITY
OF MISSOURI-COLUMBIA

AREA OF STUDY

- ▶ **Degree:** BA in Liberal Arts, UMKC, 2012
- ▶ **Advanced Degree:** Working towards JD at University of Missouri-Columbia
- ▶ **Expected Graduation Date:** 2024

CURRENT OCCUPATION

- ▶ Law student
- ▶ Merchandiser at Major Brands through 2021



WHO OR WHAT AT UA HAD THE GREATEST IMPACT ON WHERE YOU ARE TODAY? WHY?

UA's focus on critical thinking and research which permeated the curriculum had a huge impact. Additionally, the willingness of several teachers to go in depth on Black history, correlating it with human history and current events, influenced how I saw myself in the world.

HOW HAVE YOU UTILIZED THE EDUCATION YOU RECEIVED (OR THE SKILLS YOU LEARNED) AT UA?

Graduating from UA was a very demanding task that required perseverance, time management, and discipline. Those traits translated well into life as I attended college, then later joined the full time work force, and now as I prepare to enter law school. I have been well equipped for the war of attrition that is life.

HOW IS YOUR EXPERIENCE AT UA IMPACTING YOU NOW?

My experience at UA has come full circle, as I am serving on the Alumni Council. Working as an ambassador for UA has allowed me to build and/or maintain relationships with various members of the greater UA community, and stay involved with future generations of alumni.

WHAT IF YOU CHOSE TO ATTEND A SCHOOL OTHER THAN UA? DO YOU THINK YOU WOULD BE IN THE SAME PLACE?

As one of the original students when UA opened its doors in 2000, I don't believe my experience at UA can be duplicated. Being a part of building something has created a bond with former classmates and staff that has endured through the years.

HOW HAS UA FOUNDATION (FORMERLY FRIENDS OF UA) IMPACTED YOU AND/OR WHERE YOU ARE TODAY?

Personally, UA Foundation has been an excellent support system post-graduation. From the CIP (College Incentive Program), to sitting with me and helping me refine my resume after college.

WHAT ARE YOUR GOALS FOR THE FUTURE AND WHO/WHAT HAS SHAPED THEM?

My short term goal is to earn my JD. My long term goal is to use my position to serve as both a motivation and resource to those around me. I have always been humbled by the many people who have created opportunities for me throughout life. I want to do my part in ensuring that the opportunities that I received come around for people more frequently.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING TO STAY CONNECTED TO UA AND YOUR FELLOW ALUMS?

I keep up with a lot of people from UA via social media, personal phone, and e-mail. I also enjoyed when the UA Foundation hosted Monday Mixers, and look forward to attending those once again.

WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO SAY TO THE DONORS WHO GIVE TO PROGRAMS LIKE STUDY ABROAD, CIP, DUAL CREDIT COURSES, ETC.?

While earning my undergraduate degree, the country fell into a recession and I lost my home. This reality, along with several other personal tragedies, discouraged me, and took my focus off of academics. The CIP program, and even the care packages around test time, were very helpful in providing some relief in a needed time.

ANYTHING ELSE YOU'D LIKE TO SHARE TO BE INCLUDED IN THE SPOTLIGHT?

I recently jumped out on a limb and decided to go back to school after nearly a decade. I received a wave of support from former classmates, our superintendent, UA Foundation, multiple board members, and many others with no questions asked. This community that we have built has had great impact in the lives of many of us, and has the capacity to become much greater. Salute to all of those who build with us.

AT A GLANCE

JULY 1, 2020 - JUNE 30, 2021



3.14 ▷ Average GPA of UA students persisting through college who participated in the College Incentive Program (CIP)



207 ▷ Number of College Incentive Program (CIP) rewards paid out to UA alumni persisting through college



148 ▷ Number of care packages sent to UA alumni in college at finals time



87 ▷ Number of UA alumni who received career services (resume and LinkedIn profile review, network assistance, interview prep, job search resources)



32 ▷ Number of area businesses and community partners that participated in the Career Acceleration Program (CAP) through internships, career workshop presentations and internship events



23 ▷ Number of UA alumni who received exclusive internship opportunities through the Career Acceleration Program (CAP)



220 ▷ College credits earned by 14 UA students who participated in dual credit courses



168 ▷ Number of UA graduates who were enrolled in college during the 2020-2021 school year



PHOTOS FROM THE PAST YEAR

TOP ROW: Summer intern cohort during a Career Exploration Event at KCATA/Ride KC. New UA alum, Lydie (UA '21), with fellow National Outdoor Leadership (NOLS) participants in July. UA alum, Leroy (UA '18) graduates from MCC and is on to UMKC!

BOTTOM ROW: UA seniors help stuff care packages for UA alumni in college. Jada (UA '17) graduated from Creighton University and landed a job with Shamrock Trading. The summer intern cohort poses for a group picture during a Career Exploration Event at VMLY&R.

UA FOUNDATION FINANCIAL REPORT

K-12 PROGRAM EXPENSES

Summer Travel Programs	\$27,015
Grants to UA Teachers and Staff	\$88,555
Special Program Opportunities	\$33,247
Total	\$148,817

ALUMNI PROGRAM EXPENSES

Alumni Success Program	\$185,322
Career Acceleration Program	\$27,022
College Incentive Program Awards	\$132,151
Scholarships	\$115,906
Total	\$460,400

OPERATIONS

Fundraising	\$166,367
General and Administrative	\$101,964
Total	\$268,330

Total UAF FY21 Expenses \$877,548



UNIVERSITY ACADEMY FOUNDATION 2021 K-12

SUMMER PROGRAMS

MIDDLE SCHOOL CAMPS

► NUMBER OF STUDENTS THAT ATTENDED EACH CAMP

- Birchwood Wilderness Camp: 5
- Camp Birchwood: 5
- Sanborn Western Camps: 2
- Camp Lincoln/Lake Hubert: 4

► 13 FIRST TIME CAMPERS

- 7 new/deferred from 2020
- 6 first time applicants

► 3 RETURN CAMPERS

► STUDENTS PER GRADE

- 6th: 3 ► 7th: 6
- 8th: 3 ► 9th: 4 (deferred)
- 8 female, 8 male

► MILES TRAVELED: 21,258

► STATES VISITED: Minnesota, Colorado

NATIONAL OUTDOOR LEADERSHIP SCHOOL (NOLS)

► PARTICIPANTS: 4

► PROGRAM LOCATION: Wyoming

► PARTICIPANTS BY GRADE

- 10th: 3 ► 12th: 1
- 3 female, 1 male

► MILES TRAVELED: 8,500 miles

SUMMER CAMPUS EXPERIENCES

► CPR TRAINING

- 14 students, 4 alumni
- Students/Alums certified in CPR: 14 students, 3 alumni

► COLLEGE CAMPUS EXPERIENCES

- 10 UAF Scholarships awarded
- 11 students in summer 2021 program

► LOCATIONS: Brown, UMKC, KU, SDC Summer College

While SDC and EIL did not run international travel programs in 2021 for the second summer in a row, 4 students received NOLS scholarships and attended their courses in Wyoming. Additionally, 11 students received scholarships to virtual and in-person programs on college campuses.

TOP: Selena Snell, UA 11th grader, shows some love for her horse during her NOLS Wilderness Horsepacking Course on the Wind River Range in Wyoming. **MIDDLE LEFT:** Rashad Green-Mosley, UA 7th grader, helps out a friend on the rock climbing wall at Camp Lincoln. **MIDDLE RIGHT:** Antoine Cutchlow, UA 10th grader, kneels by the campfire to practice his fire-starting skills at Birchwood Wilderness Camp. **BOTTOM:** UA 8th Grader Elijah Marseberg (3rd to left on bottom) enjoys some laughs in the water while canoeing with fellow campers.



ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

KAYLA McCLELLAN

GRAMBLING STATE UNIVERSITY
+ MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY

AREA OF STUDY

- ▶ **BA and Masters:** History
- ▶ **Concentration:** Modern U.S. African American Studies
- ▶ **Minor Concentration:** Late Modern European Revolutions

CURRENT OCCUPATION

- ▶ Middle School Teacher at Lincoln College Preparatory Middle School
- ▶ Co-Founder of Queen Vibes KC



WHO OR WHAT AT UA HAD THE GREATEST IMPACT ON WHERE YOU ARE TODAY? WHY?

The College Incentive Program and UA Foundation helped me the most because they kept me motivated while I was 9 hours away from home in college. I felt supported, I was able to buy things I needed to get back to school, and they sent encouraging words and care packages. I also knew that when I came home there would be opportunities for me to get internships, jobs, and make connections with professionals in Kansas City. There were also many teachers who believed in me and pushed me to be my best.

HOW HAVE YOU UTILIZED THE EDUCATION YOU RECEIVED (OR THE SKILLS YOU LEARNED) AT UA?

I have learned the value of exposing students to college culture at a young age. I now teach a course called AVID that gives students the opportunity to learn about their college and career options. They also prepare for long-term success by learning life skills.

HOW IS YOUR EXPERIENCE AT UA IMPACTING YOU NOW?

My experience at UA has impacted my career in education by giving me a diverse perspective of how public schools in Kansas City work. I am also thankful for the network and opportunities provided by UA Foundation.

WHAT IF YOU CHOSE TO ATTEND A SCHOOL OTHER THAN UA? DO YOU THINK YOU WOULD BE IN THE SAME PLACE?

Honestly, going to University Academy was not my first choice and many times I didn't really feel like I was their first choice either. I was never top of my class, I was not quiet or shy, I didn't get the highest ACT score and I was not used to such a small close-knit school environment. This meant that I was not a star student at UA because of the heavy emphasis on college and mastery. All in all, people like Dr. Ukaoma, Ms. Farr, and Mr. Veal gave me the chance to redeem myself when I made mistakes, they gave encouraging words and instilled a work ethic in me that seemed to blossom later. I learned to believe in myself and stand out. I am not really sure where I would be if I attended a different school but I am thankful for the lifelong connections I made at UA and the effort they put in to take care of their alumni.

HOW HAS UA FOUNDATION (FORMERLY FRIENDS OF UA) IMPACTED YOU AND/OR WHERE YOU ARE TODAY?

The UA Foundation has made a tremendous impact on where I am today. Most high schools are glad to hear from you after high school but they don't intentionally seek you out and follow up with you. I meet new professionals at their mixers. I get excited

about all the updates they share and they really help create opportunities for alumni.

WHAT ARE YOUR GOALS FOR THE FUTURE AND WHO/WHAT HAS SHAPED THEM?

Right now I am hoping to stay in the classroom a little while longer before pursuing a job in instructional coaching. Eventually, I would like a position that allows me to build positive and equitable climates/cultures in schools that have predominately minority and underserved students. I also, hope to continue seeing growth in my wellness business.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING TO STAY CONNECTED TO UA AND YOUR FELLOW ALUMS?

I attend UA Foundation's Monday Mixers and read the alumni newsletters. I am also excited that my business partner and I, with Queen Vibes KC, will be hosting a UA alum as an intern this summer.

WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO SAY TO THE DONORS WHO GIVE TO PROGRAMS LIKE STUDY ABROAD, CIP, DUAL CREDIT COURSES, ETC.?

These types of opportunities are absolutely amazing and crucial to getting our youth out of their comfort zones and exposing them to the multitude of opportunities out there for them. These programs also help them feel confident when going into more rigorous academic settings and it rewards them for the efforts they have put in to secure a bright future for themselves. Please check in with the students if you can or get to know them so that they can start building a network within their city even before they hit the workforce or start college.

CAP HIGHLIGHTS

CAREER ACCELERATION PROGRAM

THE UAF SUMMER INTERNSHIP PROGRAM CONNECTS UA ALUMNI CURRENTLY ENROLLED IN COLLEGE WITH RELEVANT SUMMER INTERNSHIPS.

SUMMER 2021 INTERNSHIPS

- ▶ Through partnerships with 11 KC businesses and organizations, 23 UA alumni participated in paid internships and received essential real-world work experiences.

SUCCESS STORIES

AVIONNE JONES

- ▶ Missouri State University, UA Class of 2017
- ▶ **INTERNSHIP: COMMERCE BANK, COMMERCIAL PAYMENT AND RISK**
- ▶ This was Avionne's fourth year participating in UA Foundation's Summer Internship Program, and she ended with a bang! Commerce Bank loved Avionne's work ethic and positive attitude and asked her to apply for full-time work upon her graduation in December 2021 through their elite Assent Program. She applied and was hired! Avionne was thrilled and loved finishing her last semester with no worries about what she would do after graduation!

JAYDEN JOHNSON

- ▶ Wichita State University, UA Class of 2020
- ▶ **INTERNSHIP: AMERICAN CENTURY INVESTMENTS, PERSONAL FINANCE SOLUTIONS AND CLIENT OPERATIONS**
- ▶ While in his first semester of college, Jayden applied to UA Foundation's Summer Internship Program. Even though he was pursuing marketing as a major, Jayden wanted to find a business-focused internship that he would enjoy that also offered abundant job growth and the opportunity to figure out what he wanted to devote himself to for his career. He found all that through his internship at American Century! Jayden made such a great impression that American Century asked him to intern again next summer!

YASZMYNE WORKCUFF

- ▶ University of Missouri-Kansas City, UA Class of 2020
- ▶ **INTERNSHIP: LEAD BANK, UNIVERSAL BANKING**
- ▶ This was Yaszmyne's first year in UA Foundation's Summer Internship Program. As an accounting major at UMKC, having an internship at LEAD Bank was just the type of work Yaszmyne needed to provide her with essential experiences and skills that relate directly to her major. Not only did Yaszmyne come away with valuable experience but she came away with a part-time job as well!

CHE' WILLIAMS

- ▶ University of Southern California, UA Class of 2017
- ▶ **INTERNSHIP: EDOPS, ACCOUNTING AND DATA MANAGEMENT**
- ▶ Last summer was Che's second year participating in UA Foundation's Summer Internship Program. He applied because he wanted an internship to help him find a career he could delve into that matched his interests in people and numbers. He found the perfect internship at EdOps, a long-time participant in this program. Che's supervisor/mentor, Anne, said this about Che: "We truly loved working with Che' and offered him an internship for the fall and have also asked him to apply to work full-time after his graduation."

2021 SUMMER INTERNSHIP PROGRAM PARTNERS



WE'D LIKE TO THANK THE FOLLOWING BUSINESSES AND INDIVIDUALS FOR PARTICIPATING IN OUR FY21 CAREER PROGRAMS!

COMPANIES THAT OFFERED INTERNSHIPS

- ▶ BNIM
- ▶ American Century Investments
- ▶ Commerce Bank
- ▶ Children's Mercy Hospital
- ▶ EdOps
- ▶ Fenaroli & Associates
- ▶ LEAD Bank
- ▶ Helzberg Diamonds

- ▶ Seyferth, Blumenthal & Harris Law
- ▶ Swope Health
- ▶ KC Area Transportation Authority / Ride KC
- ▶ SMG - (Service Management Group)

INTERN ORIENTATION WORKSHOP LEADER OR SPEAKER

- ▶ Tonya Guinn, The Kauffman Foundation
- ▶ Alana Muller, Alana Muller Enterprises
- ▶ Barnett Helzberg
- ▶ Anne Schaffa, EdOps
- ▶ Julia Gaulter, SMG

- ▶ Kiona Sinks, Negro Leagues Baseball Museum
- ▶ Jy and Gerald Maze, Maze Freight Solutions
- ▶ Mariah Jordan, Commerce Bank
- ▶ Nicole Jacobs-Silvey, Connection Coach KC
- ▶ Tahir Atwater, CASA
- ▶ Angela Barron, VMLY&R
- ▶ Katie Thompson, VMLY&R

WEEKLY CAREER EXPLORATION EVENT HOSTS

- ▶ KC Area Transportation
- ▶ Swope Health Services

- ▶ The DeBruce Foundation
- ▶ VMLY&R

END OF INTERNSHIP PRESENTATION JUDGES

- ▶ Katie Kwo Gerson, Chair, UA Board of Directors
- ▶ Rebecca Gudde, UA's Interim Superintendent
- ▶ Danisha Turner, UA Foundation's Alumni Success Fellow (UA '14)
- ▶ Will Powell, engineer at Burns & McDonnell and previous presentation contest winner (UA '17)



INTERNS AT WORK

TOP ROW: Reiko Reliford of Swope Health Services with summer intern Mariah (UA '18). Interns at Summer Internship Program concluding dinner/presentation contest.

BOTTOM ROW: Interns Che' (UA '17) and Bernadette (UA '19) at AAF's Internship Orientation in May. Hannah Merriman of American Century with intern Breana (UA '17). Tiffany Chow of Children's Mercy with summer interns: Domini (UA '19), Amaya (UA '18), Elijah (UA '19), Khamrin (UA '20), and Ahnia (UA '19).

MANY THANKS TO THESE
SPECIAL DONORS TO UA
AND UA FOUNDATION WHO
HAVE GONE ABOVE AND
BEYOND FOR UA STUDENTS
AND ALUMNI

\$25,000+ DONORS

- ▶ Robert and Marcia Wolff
- ▶ Barnett and Shirley Helzberg
- ▶ Ann Slegman and Tom Isenberg
- ▶ Jenny and John Isenberg
- ▶ The DeBruce Foundation
- ▶ Baptist-Trinity Lutheran Legacy Foundation
- ▶ The Kauffman Foundation
- ▶ University Academy Supporting Foundation
- ▶ Marion and Henry Bloch Family Foundation

\$10,000+ DONORS

- ▶ Harry Portman Charitable Trust
- ▶ R & C Charitable Foundation
- ▶ Murphy Charitable Trust
- ▶ William T. Kemper Foundation

\$5,000+ DONORS

- ▶ Lois Lacy
- ▶ William and Vicki Reisler
- ▶ Barrows Foundation
- ▶ SchoolSmart KC

\$1,000+ DONORS

- ▶ JJ Watt Foundation
- ▶ Byron White and Dashini Jeyathurai
- ▶ Chris Schumm and Ryan McQueary/ Morgan Stanley Wealth Management
- ▶ Tortoise Capital Advisors
- ▶ Paul and Bunni Copaken
- ▶ James and Zibbie Ferrell
- ▶ Marlin Fiola
- ▶ Kirk and Shirley Goza

- ▶ Julie and Michael Hiron
- ▶ Ellis Foundation
- ▶ Sonya Nutter
- ▶ Anonymous
- ▶ Don and Christine Alexander
- ▶ Irv and Ellen Robinson
- ▶ David and Erika Dickey
- ▶ Kansas City Area Transportation Authority

\$500+ DONORS

- ▶ Cheri Shannon and Bob Bartman
- ▶ Garver
- ▶ Devin and LeRay Warrior
- ▶ John Helzberg
- ▶ Josh and Mindy Wilson
- ▶ Randall Greene
- ▶ Webster House

All gifts listed above were received between July 1, 2020 and June 30, 2021.

UA CORNERSTONE BENEFACTORS

- ▶ Mary and Tom Bloch
- ▶ Lynne and Peter Brown
- ▶ Ann K. Dickinson in memory of Gary Dickinson

- ▶ J.E. Dunn Construction Company
- ▶ Hall Family Foundation
- ▶ Jamie and Bush Helzberg
- ▶ Jen and Bar Helzberg
- ▶ Shirley and Barnett Helzberg Foundation

- ▶ Julia Irene Kauffman Donor Advised Fund
- ▶ Lois Lacy
- ▶ William T. Kemper Foundation, Commerce Bank Trustee
- ▶ Pryor Family

SUMMER 2021 MIDDLE SCHOOL CAMP THANK-YOUs

I sincerely thank you for sponsoring my daughter Tayla Williams. Her experience in camp is unlike anything she has access to in Kansas City. I am immensely grateful for your generosity. It is not in vain nor is it without appreciation. I pray God continues to multiply your well wealth as you continue to sow into the communities around you.

Thank Again!

Janeese B. W.

Thank you for the opportunity you've given me over the years! Camp Birchwood has been an absolute positive throughout the years. Although this was my last year it was the best one yet! Being a senior camper at Camp Birchwood was amazing! Words can't describe how it was. I have pictures, but not physical ones.

This experience is something that I'm going to cherish for the rest of my life. Thank you very much!

-lovingly Tayla Williams

Thank you so much for giving the funds to pay for me to go to camp! I really appreciated this opportunity. I had a lot of fun being able to travel to a new place, make new friends, and try activities that I've never tried before. Archery was my favorite activity! I earned 3 archery badges. I would love to go back to camp next year! Thank you for helping me experience this awesome camp!

Sincerely,
Rashad Green-Mosley

Thank you so much for the c again. This year was honest all. I am now a Sophomore Program is for middle school to have gone this year. I've found new passions. Throughout I've grown into a more independent everyone at camp were so nice and were new they were so welcoming. the amazing opportunity to be a

Sincerely

Thank you for the scholarship to camp! You've given me the best time of things that I did before was shoot doing Archery, going hiking and learning in and out of from this camp teaching me how not to give up and believe in myself. Thank you again to experience it ever.

written by: Eli
9-14-21

The opportunity to go to camp is truly the best year of them all. I am truly grateful for the opportunity. I've made new friends and throughout the years I do feel like a dependent young lady. I am nice and kind; no matter if we are in a group. So, thank you both again for becoming a better me!

Sincerely,
Jateya Amerison

The opportunity to go to camp with your generous camp Birchwood, I had a lot of fun. A lot of things I have never done before. I went hunting on pellet gun, going fishing, going to the lake, learning how to dive, and how to be more active. I grew up on my self and to take better care of myself. Finally it taught me the best summer.

Elijah Marsenburg



ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

JAYDEN JOHNSON

WICHITA STATE UNIVERSITY

AREA OF STUDY

► **Major:** Marketing



DEAR UNIVERSITY ACADEMY FOUNDATION,

I hope everyone at University Academy Foundation and all of the foundation's supporters are doing well. I, Jayden Johnson, am reaching out to say thank you for my College Incentive Program reward.

This reward is more than money to me. It is something I could add to the list of reasons to keep pushing when things got difficult, and I'm so happy that I got through all obstacles in my way to finish my first semester strong. This check, to me, is the definition of "hard work pays off." You all are well aware of the expenses that college can bring. It can be very stressful financially, but this reward takes a huge weight off my shoulders and allows me to focus even more on school rather than worrying about not having enough money for groceries, gas, etc.

THANK YOU SO MUCH!

Best regards,
JAYDEN JOHNSON



6801 Holmes Road
Kansas City, MO 64131
816.412.5900

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8080 Ward Parkway, Ste 201
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