

Vanderbilt: Next Steps Program

February 2017 Newsletter

NSAA: Movie Night

On Saturday, January 21st, the Next Steps Alumni Association hosted a movie night at the Green Hills theater. Alumni and their family members saw Hidden Figures. The movie is based on a true story about African American women who worked for NASA.

The alumni really enjoyed watching the movie and spending time together with their friends. Bryshawn, the alumnus who planned the event, said that the movie was "awesome!"



Fall 2017 Admissions:

The Fall 2017 admissions deadline has passed. Decisions regarding Regular Admission candidates will be announced soon.

For more information about Next Steps, please attend our Open House and/or College Night.

Register here:

<https://goo.gl/forms/tfTCFfZicQVi57jt2>

Important Dates

- February 7: Legislative Reception, 5-7
- February 8: Disability Day on the Hill
- March 4-12: Spring Break - No Classes
- April 24: Classes End
- April 26: Graduation Ceremony, 5-7, Wyatt Center Rotunda

Highlighted Alumnus



Nicholas Pinter, a graduate of the Next Steps at Vanderbilt Class of 2015, is currently working at the Christ Church YMCA. He works with both the preschool and older age group. Nicholas says that he feels that his experience has been life-changing because he enjoys "working with sweet and lovable children."

In addition to working, Nicholas has been busy taking classes at Nashville State Community College to become a preschool teacher. Nicholas says that his instructors are supportive and challenge him, which has enhanced his learning experience. During his free time, Nicholas enjoys going out to eat and going to social events with his friends.

Vanderbilt v. Alabama Basketball Game

On Thursday, January 25th, several Next Steps students and graduates attended a women's basketball game with the Next Steps Alumni Association. The students had a great time watching the game and spending time with their friends. The students cheered on the Commodores as they played against Alabama. The game was exciting to watch and the Commodores won the game!



New Semester Classes

Each semester, Next Steps students take 1-2 VU electives; these courses have varied topics and are taught by many different professors. This semester, we have students registered in ten new classes and four Commons Seminars that have never been taken by a Next Steps student before! Additionally, we have eight new professors that have agreed to welcome our students into their classrooms! The students and staff are very excited that the students will have even more course options to choose from in the future.

New Courses:

- African Music
- Introduction to Counseling
- Introduction to Southern Religion and Culture
- Adolescent Psychology
- History of World Cinema
- Serving and Learning
- Trial of Galileo and Its Background
- Music of the South
- Disney and Gender
- Solar System
- 20th Century Visual Rhetoric
- Guns: An American Obsession
- Songwriting II
- Life Through Time

Other Courses:

- Oceanography
- Family Intervention
- Songwriting and Music Theory
- Contemporary Social Issues

Best Buddies Talent Show

Best Buddies is an international organization that helps people who have disabilities build friendships with other people in the community. Every Next Steps student participates in Vanderbilt University's chapter of Best Buddies. Students bond with their buddies and attend Best Buddies social events. Some of the most popular Best Buddies events are the Best Buddies' Talent Show, Best Buddies' Walk, the match party, Best Buddies' Prom, Spread the Word to End the Word, and the Halloween Party.

On January 22nd, Vanderbilt's chapter of Best Buddies held a talent show and all of the Next Steps students were invited to participate. Our students and alumni showcased a variety of talents! One of the second-year students, Nila, sang and danced to Miley Cyrus' "Party in the U.S.A." An alumni and current Next Steps staff person, Cat, sang "Why Can't We Be Friends?" The event was fun for all who attended!



Next Steps students and alumni took the stage for the finale of the Best Buddies' Talent Show!

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