

Issue 1

September 21, 2016

ODYSSEY ORACLE JUNIOR

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Emily Auerbach, UW Odyssey Project Director; Oracle Editor
Beth McMahon, Oracle Designer
Chris Wagner, Odyssey Junior Coordinator

emily.auerbach@wisc.edu; 608-262-3733

www.odyssey.wisc.edu

ODYSSEY JUNIOR TEACHING STAFF



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ODYSSEY ADVENTURERS



ACROSTIC POEMS FROM NAMES



Rakiyah Wilson

Rainbow
Apples
Kind
I love to bake
Young and Cute
Am outgoing
Happy



Savannah Taylor

Senior year has just begun
Always learning never done
Vividly dreaming of success
Amazed at what I might do next
Now it's time to grow
Naively hoping it doesn't show
Adventuring away from where I'm from
Hopeful of what's to come



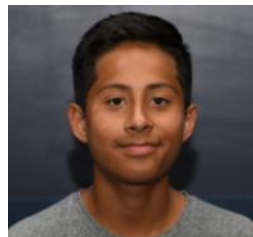
Safaa Mohammed Saed

Summer is far.
Autumn is near.
Fear of death is close.
And a new hope will be created,
A chance of a new life.



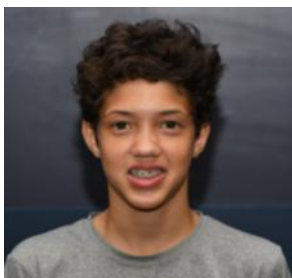
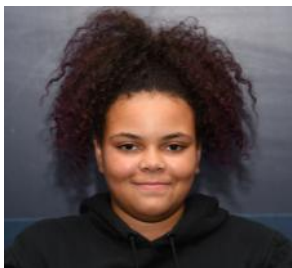
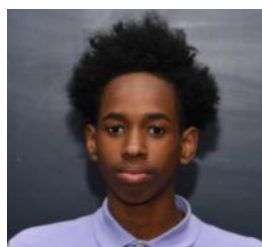
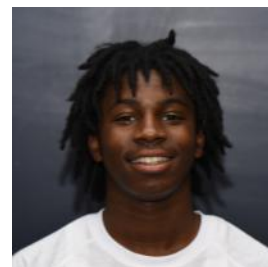
Javé Sanders

Jazzy but classy
Awesome person I am
Very very gorgeous
Everlasting extraordinary



Gael Rodriguez Tapia

Goals are hard to come by
Always tend to kick it high
Everyone expects to make a goal
Last one I kicked it at the pole.

**Kavon Jonté Bent****K**ing of them all**A**lways staying on the ball**V**ibes are on my mind, vices can be kind**O**verachievers can find**N**IKE super stars can be blind**T**akis are on my mind**E**vil is crawling in my mind.**Jaayd Roquemore****R**eally into music**O**utgoing**Q**uit acting a fool**U**nique**E**nergetic**M**otivated**O**utstanding**R**&B**E**very day I wish I was riding**Jackson Gamble****J**ust**A****C**ool**K**id**S**urviving and**O**vercoming**N**egative situations**Jerry Sanders III****J**abbers all day long.**E**ats as much as possible.**R**eally cute.**R**eally good at sports.**Y**oung and reckless.**Abdul Mohammed Saed****A**wesome at science**B**est at sleeping**D**o best at homework**U**niverse is awesome

HAIKU



Learn more

Noodles are really good
The microwave caught on fire
Don't forget the water!

Ashzianna Alexander



I really like him
How do I tell him the truth
Does he like me too

Olivia Partee



Air helps us to live
Wind makes us cool and happy
Tornado destroys

Abdul Mohammed Saed



Fire will be my rage.
Water will be my power.
Love will exist in both.

Safaa Mohammed Saed



I love basketball.
I play this sport every
I really love this sport.

Jackson Gamble



day.

ODYSSEY EXPLORERS



WHAT IS SOMETHING YOU WOULD LIKE TO LEARN OR EXPLORE?



Rae'Jon Shaw

I want to learn how to write so I can be a better writer.



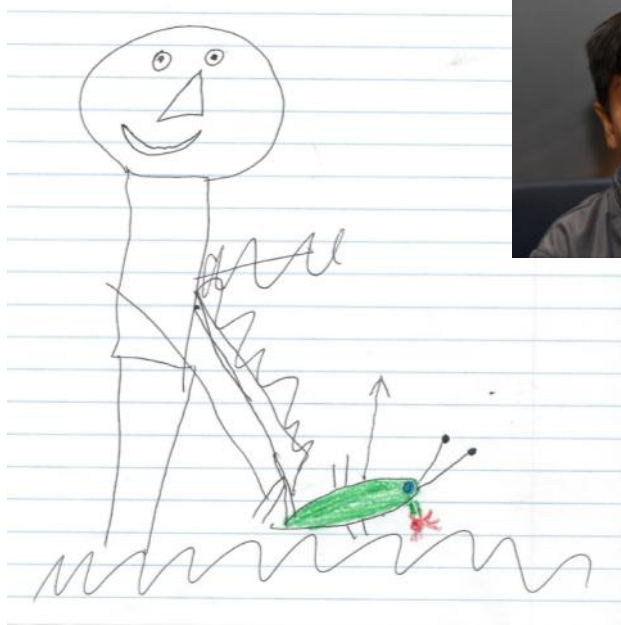
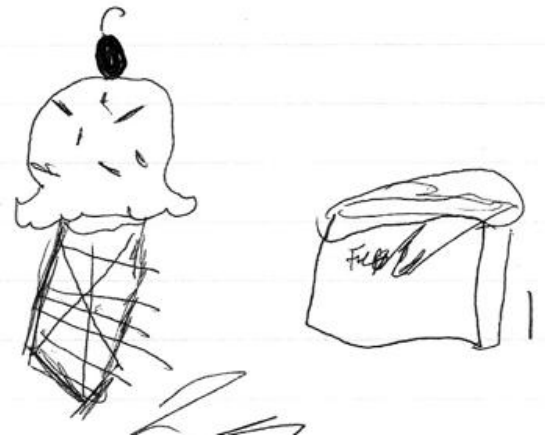
Nyjua Daniel

I want to be a football player when I grow up because I am a football player now. I love playing football! It's the first hobby I ever had. The positions I play are tackle, defense and guard. There are two girls on my team and a lot of boys.



Amariamma Diagne (Amari)

I want to learn about math in school. (And I LOVE ice cream!)



Alan Mendoza

I want to learn about insects because most insects are really interesting. One of the things I already know is how to pick up a grasshopper. How you do it is you have to pick it up from their back legs.



Sheari Evans-Miller

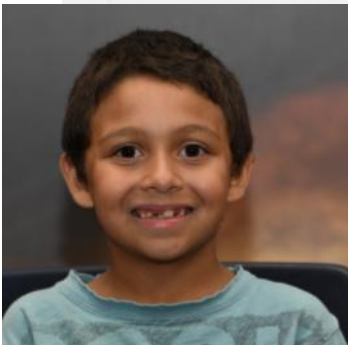
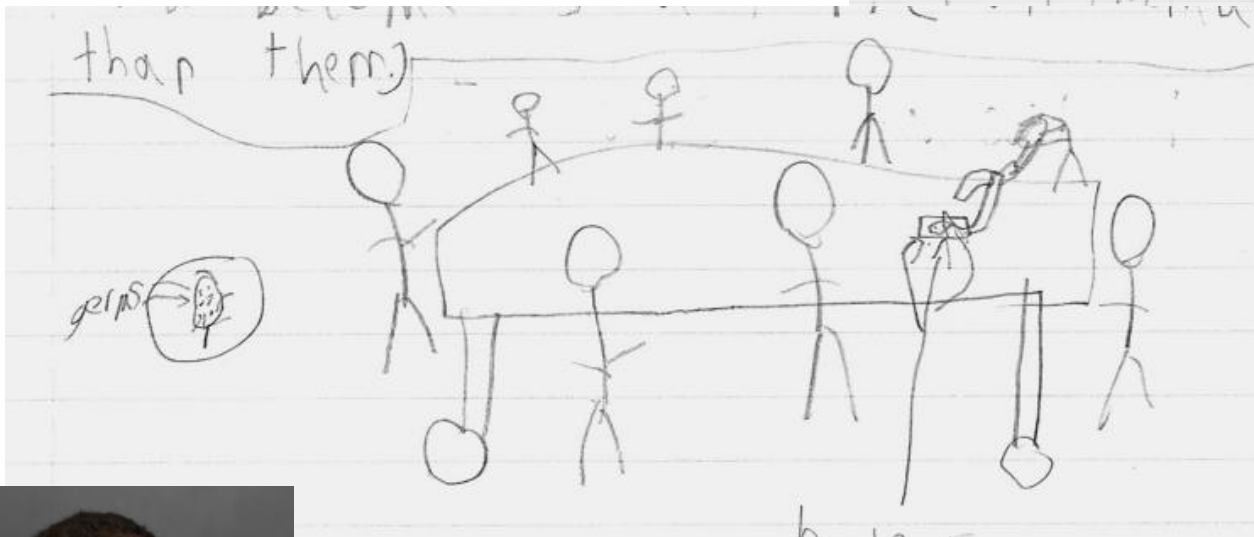
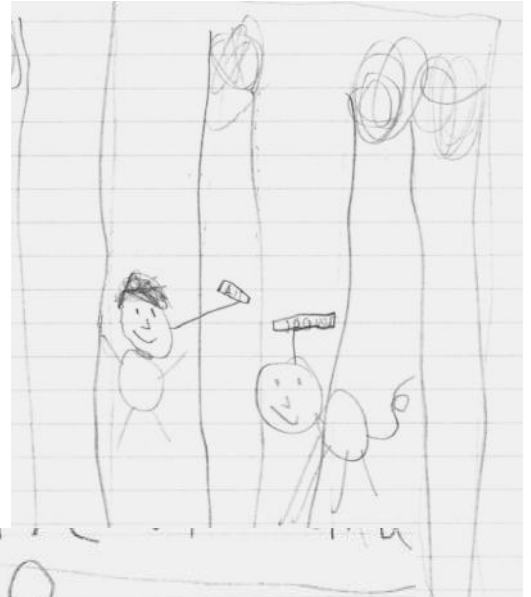
I want to learn how to dance hip hop. Hip hop looks fun. Hip hop is challenging for me. I think I am going to like it. I love to dance. I love to learn. I love math.



Ali Melendez

I want to learn about animals and their behavior.

(picture shows Ali getting to know about the jaguar's behavior).



Francisco Uriostegui

I want to learn about nature because I can show my friends and become smarter. (Not smarter than them, just smarter). I also want to give money to the homeless so our population doesn't go extinct.



Don'ielle Spivey

I want to learn more about space because I don't know a lot about planets.



Don'ye Spivey

I want to learn more about math because you can learn more about division, times, plusses and minuses. I love math!



Yarianie Rodriguez Tapia

I think we should learn more about bees because I don't know that much about bees, and it looks like it is interesting to learn about them.



Cadin Bent

I want to learn more about basketball, especially how to shoot better and more.



Keenan Hayes

I want to be a firefighter.



Mario Drone, Jr.

I want to learn how to pop a wheelie on my bike.





Alleanah Hancock-Jammeh

I want to do more writing because I think it is really fun to do.

Kimari Christian

I would like to learn what I need to do in order to understand what I am reading. I like to read books but I have a hard time with some words and that makes me forget important things. I guess I want to learn to read better.

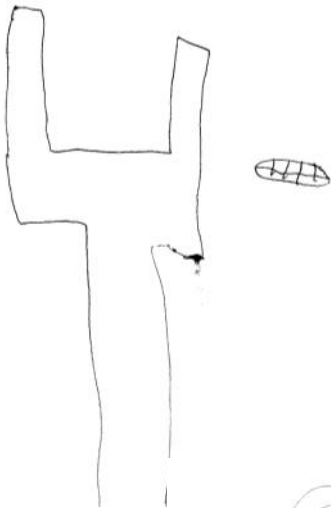


Nasier Daniel

I want to learn more about football. I like tackling, catching and running. My goal is to be in the NFL.

Isa Melendez

I want to learn more about animals because I don't know much about them.



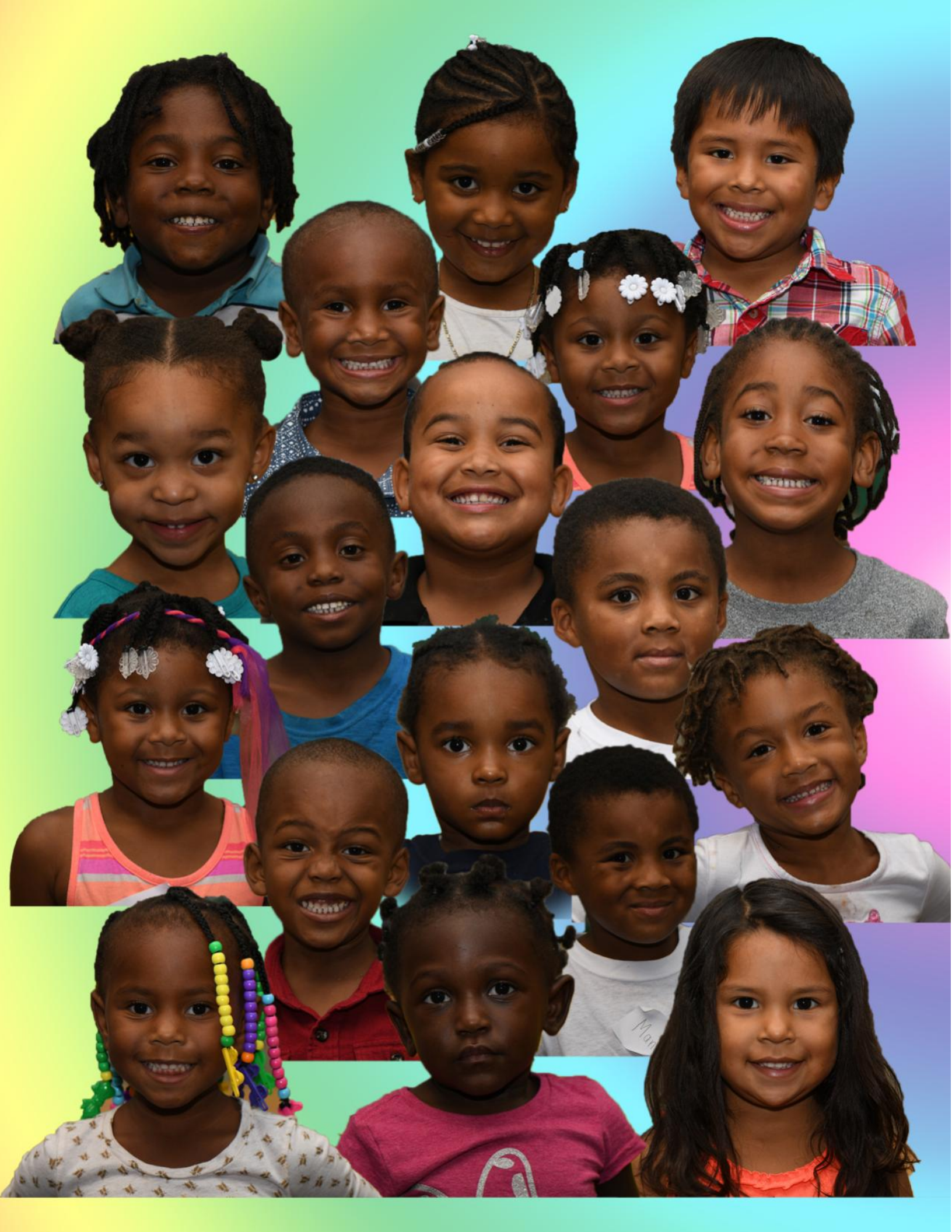
Anna Uriostegui

I want to learn about hairstyling because I want to do my own hair and other people's hair for a hobby. It looks fun and challenging! It would be fun to do hair for other people. I also want to cut and style hair for fun.



ODYSSEY JUMPSTART





COLLEGE CORNER



The Best Years of my Life: My Last Year at UWM

By Raven White, Daughter of Lea White '09

My name is Raven, and I'm the daughter of Lea White, an Odyssey alumna from the Class of 2009. I was only in 9th grade when my mom was part of the Odyssey Project, but I do remember her telling my two siblings and me that she was taking a class and that she was really excited to start. She would bring home books that her Odyssey class was reading and tell me about them. She was really proud to be in the project and talked about it a lot with our family and friends. The day of the completion ceremony, I definitely remember my mom standing at a podium and giving a speech. I was happy for her and also crying because I was just so proud of her. It's hard to describe how I felt during that ceremony. My mom has been through a lot of tough times, and it just felt really, really good to see her accomplish this. As long as I can remember, my mom has always talked about how she loved school and loved to learn when she was a kid. Nothing had changed when she became part of the Odyssey Project—she was still that determined student who was looking forward to the next day of class!

My mom is the most hardworking woman I know. She has never let an obstacle stop her from doing anything. She has done an amazing job of raising three children on her own, teaching us to be kind to other people, never, ever give up, and enjoy all of the good moments in life.

I am now a senior at UW-Milwaukee, graduating in May 2017. Time flew by, and I can't believe I'm approaching the final year of college!

I want to be a Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA). A BCBA is someone who has graduate-level certification in behavior analysis. They are independent practitioners who provide behavior services. For example, I personally am interested in working with children who have behavior problems (some more severe than others). A BCBA can be called in to handle situations where children with SIB (self-injurious behavior) are brought in and taught how to stop harming themselves by using positive or negative reinforcement, situations where autistic children need to learn basic skills like "clap your hands" or "pat your head," or situations where, for example, a school child throws tantrums during reading time. A behavior analyst can be called to the school to observe, take notes, and implement an intervention to encourage the child to behave in the classroom. Those examples are what I would like to be a part of as a behavior analyst!

Last year I took a four-credit Psychology class called "Applied Behavior Analysis" and loved everything about it—seriously, everything! I had this amazing feeling that this kind of career would be perfect for me. I'm obsessed with anything psych-related, I love children, and I enjoy helping people reach their full potential. Becoming a BCBA will be the perfect career for me— I just know it!

Being at UW-Milwaukee was the best decision I could have made when picking colleges. I like that the campus offers so much support and diversity—there is an advisor or counselor for every question a student could think of. It's also nice to see a variety of support, like African American advisors and Hispanic

advisors. I notice that all Asian supporters aren't lumped into one group—they actually distinguish the different groups and cultures. I also like that UWM has an amazing sign language program. All of the professors and many of the staff are deaf, so they give their perspective of the world from a deaf point of view—I have learned SO much from them, and I have learned American Sign Language. Overall, UWM has a very welcoming feel to it.



One challenging thing about UWM is finding professors that are right for me. Most of the professors I've had are amazing, but there are some who just don't have the kind of teaching style that helps me learn, so it can be tough. One other challenge is cost. Maybe this can be applied to other universities, not just UWM, but it has been a huge challenge to pay for a four-year university. Besides tuition and room/board, there are other miscellaneous fees and extra costs if I need to take online classes. Despite these challenges, I don't and will never regret attending this school. These college years have been the best years of my life!

After finishing college, I have plans to go to graduate school for a Master's in ABA (applied behavior analysis).

For any kids who say "I'm never going to college. It's not for people like me and I don't know what it's for anyway"—it's ok if you are having these thoughts. I think these are normal feelings, and I had them myself when I was younger. But colleges offer so many opportunities that you may not have realized existed! There are cool hobbies, jobs, or careers that you've never heard of (I never knew what a BCBA was until my 4th year at UWM!). Colleges will give you the chance to travel somewhere in the world you've never been before, learn a new language, or meet a person who can teach you about a culture you never knew existed. It's meant for you to go to college! It's ok to be nervous about something new, but don't let that stop you from trying all of those new things! If you ever have questions about college because you don't know what something means, don't be embarrassed: ask questions. People will be there to help you. In college, there is ALWAYS someone there to help!

If you have more questions to ask me, please don't hesitate to ask! I'm willing to answer anything, especially if it's encouraging for young kids who are curious about college. My email is rwood345@gmail.com.



Living up to the Hype: Starting College

By Ishmael James, son of Robert James '14

My name is Ishmael James, and I'm a freshman at the University of Kentucky. I major in neuroscience, and my goal is to be a neurosurgeon. My interest started in seventh grade at Toki Middle School when Dr. Hubbard brought in the first brain I'd ever seen.

I graduated from Madison Memorial in 2016, which is where my decision to go to UK developed. I had always loved to watch the Wildcats on TV, and I thought being one would be a major accomplishment. The greatest attractions were probably Kentucky being a research university and having a brand new neuroscience program. Also, I liked the distance from home—not too far, but still not close at all.

Now that I am so far away from home, about 500 miles away from Madison, I've had to adopt a new mindset and way of life, becoming more independent. It's a tough transition not having your parents in the same house when you need them, but being in college has brought about a bunch of different emotions. Mostly I feel excitement and anxiousness, yet there's some sadness leaving old friends behind and a little homesickness.

A major reason that I am in college today is my father, Robert James. He has motivated and pushed me through a lot to be here. He even inspired me, leading by example and joining the Odyssey Program and re-enrolling in school. I got to see him in action a few times at Odyssey events like the Romare Bearden symposium, and I even sat in on a class! His incredible knowledge of a multitude of things never ceases to amaze me. Odyssey helped me to realize that about him since I never had a chance before Odyssey to see him in a classroom setting.



All in all, school is an adventure that I believe everyone should take, especially college. It's where you learn not only knowledge for your future career but also a good amount of social skills and how to become independent. It's supposed to be the best four years of your life. So far for me, college has lived up to the hype.

