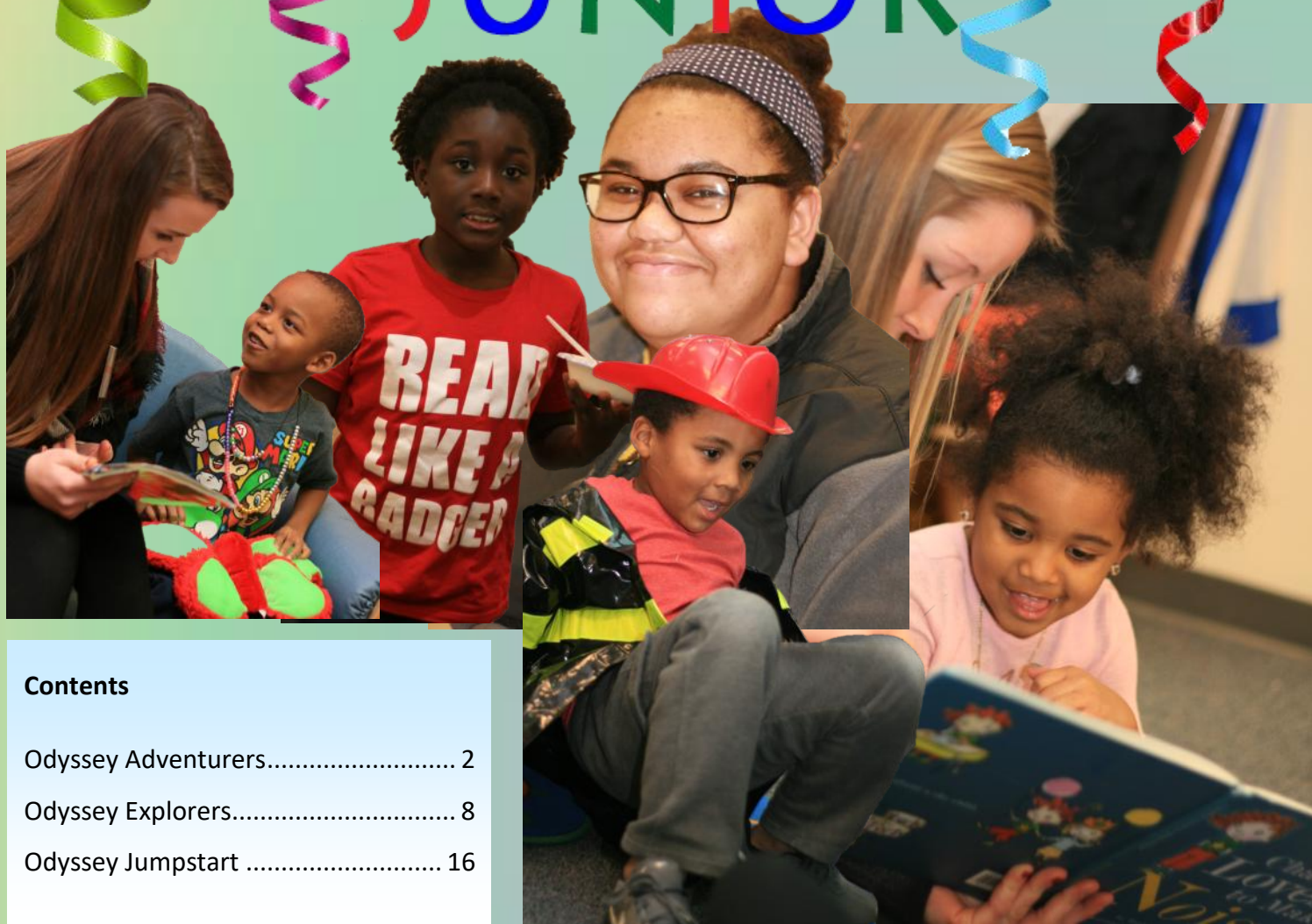


ISSUE 5

FEBRUARY 15, 2017

# ODYSSEY ORACLE JUNIOR



## Contents

Odyssey Adventurers.....	2
Odyssey Explorers.....	8
Odyssey Jumpstart .....	16

Thanks to the following staff and volunteers of Odyssey Junior:

Odyssey Adventurers/Goodman Library, grades 6-12: Kirk Parslow, Todd Lilly, Mackenzie McDermitt, Leigh Fredrickson, Scott Cooper, Lucia Chikowero '14

Odyssey Explorers/Space Place, grades 1-5: Marian Slaughter, Christina Wagner, Shannon Huberty, Max Lenz, Kay Kriewald

Odyssey Jumpstart/Head Start, ages 2-K: Char Longino, Paula Noyce, Lilibeth Alvarez, Avery Wallace, Wanda Carpenter, Ariana McCallum, with Literally Arts (Jamie Henke, Jessica Courtier, Kate Hewson, Randi Neimeyer) and UW Office of Campus Childcare

Guests: UW Language and Speech, UW Slow Food, Sandra Bonicci (Madison Children's Museum), Monona Academy of Dance, Janelle Cox (Librarian, Goodman South Madison Library), Fabu Carter, Venus Washington, R U Fit

Photography by Colleen Johnson, Keith Meyer, and Odyssey Junior staff

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

[emily.auerbach@wisc.edu](mailto:emily.auerbach@wisc.edu); 608-262-3733

[www.odyssey.wisc.edu](http://www.odyssey.wisc.edu)

# ODYSSEY ADVENTURERS

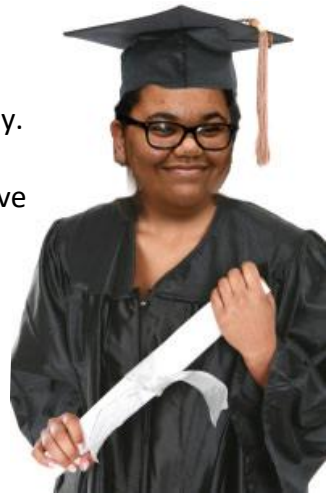




# GOALS, OBSTACLES, AND SOLUTIONS

## Savannah Taylor

My mom was a high school dropout, due to teenage pregnancy. My father is another story. My brother and sister both got their HSED from going to the Challenge Academy. Both were troubled in high school. I will be the first to walk across a high school gym wearing a cap and gown. I intend to do it, leaving high school feeling accomplished. I've already been accepted into Madison College's Culinary Arts Program, but I haven't always done well in school. I'm taking college in preparation for next fall. I want to go into college feeling confident and proud. Getting all A's my last year in high school will help me feel proud and ready for college.



I have passed my first semester with all A's, but going into second semester I'm a little nervous. I am going to be missing two weeks of school because I am going on vacation. I am nervous about falling behind. My solution is to have ALL my work done BEFORE I leave.

Another obstacle is money. My family is struggling really badly right now, and I am doing my best to help. Putting food on the table is hard. I have been picking up as many shifts as possible at work. I work every day. I get home from school, change, and go straight to work, then I get off from 9 to 11. I have to do homework, so it's easy for me to get stressed. Then on top of all of this, my mom and I take turns in the hospital. We're both sick, and sometimes it's overwhelming. It's hard to focus on school when you spent the night before on the bathroom floor, sick.

But despite all of these things, I am confident I can succeed. My mom and my two best friends, Rakayah and Quran, keep me afloat. Whenever I feel like giving up, they keep me going. I want to beat the statistics of being a Hispanic and African American girl. I want to prove everyone who said "You can't" that I can, I will, and I have.



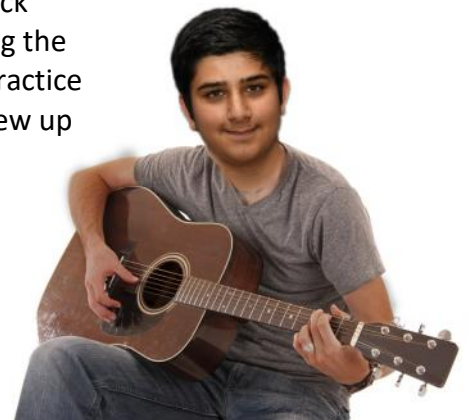
## Jerry Sanders

A goal I have is to get to the NBA. To me, this is a big goal. My most precious goal is to get to the NBA because I love basketball. I just love playing. I love making great plays.

An obstacle I'm facing is to get into a D-1 college with a program that gets players ready for the NBA. How I could push back against those obstacles is I can work hard during the summer to get better at basketball. I need to practice my free throws and mid-range shots. My basketball idol is Kyrie Irving. He grew up in a single parent home with sisters, just like me, and made it to the NBA.

## Abdul Mohammed Saed

I want to learn to play the guitar. Obstacles I might face are finding a guitar and trying to learn to play it myself because of the cost of lessons. I will achieve this by finding a guitar at a garage sale or Goodwill. I can teach myself by watching YouTube videos.



### Safaa Mohammed Saed

Growing up, I feel warmth from my mother. She is my friend to gossip with, the shoulder to cry on, the warmth from a hug to give me assurance. My father is my sense of safety and protection, one who speaks of knowledge and experience for me to try and not just simply give up without thought. What about an orphan? He or she would have other orphans as siblings, but wouldn't have the exact sense of parents unless adopted.



Orphans are all around the world and speak different languages. They go through different hardships. No matter what hardships I went through, I had a sense of some sort of comfort because I had my parents. When growing up at a young age not understanding the language the other person was speaking, I felt humiliated. I wanted to improve, so I started reading. I improved. I started from reading children's books to reading the Odyssey last year.

I want to learn more languages in a matter of time. Time is precious. It can be wasted, but it also can be limited. I wish to learn multiple languages. With time, I would like to speak with orphans in their language so they wouldn't feel the added sense of being unaware.



### Javé Sanders

My main goal is to get a 4.0 GPA. If I get a 4.0 I can do almost every other life goal I have. I can get into a historically Black College and become a surgeon, or OB/GYN, or anything in the medical field. Getting a 4.0 opens a lot more doors and opportunities.

### Gael Rodriguez

One of my goals is when I finish high school, I'd like to go to the university. I'd like to get a career like an engineer or a soccer player and play for a

professional team. That is, I'll do that unless I break a leg or my ankle and they tell me I can't play anymore. Then I'll still keep going with the university and later buy my own house, my own car, and help my family. Those are my goals in life.



### Olivia Partee

Reasons I want to get a tattoo:  
I like them.

They can express your feelings.

They're very creative and beautiful.

My mom has them and I like them. My mom is a writer, so her tattoos are inspirational to her.



### Kavon Bent

My goals: to be state champion, sports, school, food, life, brothers, sisters, girlfriend.

### Ashzianna Alexander

I want to reach my goals, but it's kind of hard to complete them. I would like to be better at math. No way could I defeat it, but I strive to do my best because I know I can complete it. Science only gets harder. It's just bad to defeat it, but goals are goals, and I have to accomplish them with family and friends. They make me strive to defeat them.



Reaching for my goals is what I'm trying to do. Going to college is who I'm trying to be. High honors would be great to me. I just want to make it through and be the best I can be.

### Yael Gonzalez

Goal: something achievable or attainable that you want to accomplish. One of my many goals is to be successful and attend college. I believe that this is important for many reasons. One reason that I believe college is important is because it furthers your education, not to mention gives you a more in-depth knowledge. Another reason is that going to college dramatically changes your success rate, as well as improves your chances of getting a great job. I'm not 100% sure I'm going to be an employee, but I think I want to become an employer. College can also help me with that.

Achieving this goal is certainly not going to be easy. I will have lots of obstacles along the way. Some obstacles include (but certainly are not limited to) money, groceries, acceptance rate, and that I was not born into a particularly wealthy family. Money will be an issue if I want to get into college that way. One way to push back and surpass this obstacle is to get a scholarship. I can also enroll in programs to help me get a scholarship. I can use different resources to help me get through that obstacle.

Another obstacle would be grades. This obstacle is a little easier to surpass. I have to work hard and ask questions. If I get stuck, I can always look at the resources around me and even get tutors.

A résumé is hard to build, but could be manageable. I need to start getting some volunteer hours. I also need to be a well-rounded student. I need to do some extra-curriculars. I'm doing piano now, and I have to do some soccer in the fall. So I've gotten a start.

My parents, teachers and adults around me can help support me through these obstacles and can also help me succeed. My role models are both of my parents. My mom and dad are both entrepreneurs and succeeding in both of their companies that they have built from the ground up. They are an inspiration for me because they were able to do that with their companies. My parents are some pretty great and amazing people, and I look up to them and I will continue to look up to them for the rest of my life.





# CREATIVE CORNER



I love doing makeup because it's fun for me and it makes other people feel good. I've always been an artist and I buy lots of makeup to do my own, so face painting is just like an extension of doing makeup. Instead of being for me, it makes kids happy, especially my sisters. My favorite face art is doing the animals because it actually makes the kids look like the animals that they want to be. **J'avé Sanders**

Most of my ceramics are done as gifts for my mom, or are just things that I might need or think are cool to decorate my room with. I'm a basketball player, so I made the ceramic court. I made the lion because I'm a Leo and the "I Love You" for my mom. **Jerry Sanders III**





## **SOMETHING'S HAPPENED**

### **A short story by Savannah Taylor**

Lieutenant Williams finished his report and threw it in a folder. He sat back in his chair massaging his temples. Today had been long day. He stopped two crooks from robbing a bank and saved many hostages. The only thing that kept him going was his daughter, Kayla. She was his world, the only one that could get through to him. He lost his wife a couple years back to cancer, but the two of them fought through it together.

The door burst open, taking him out of these thoughts. Lieutenant Williams stood from his chair, knowing this was urgent, "What is it, Guerrero?" Detective Guerrero looked at the Lieutenant with sadness and fear. "Sir, I'm afraid something's happened."

Time seemed to slow down. When Lieutenant Williams made it to the hospital, he rushed through the doors. He was frantic. His angel had been hurt. Chicago PD greeted him at her room. He tried to go through them, but they held him back. "With all due respect, sir, it's best if you don't go in there," a young woman said. She looked fresh out of the academy. "W-what happened?" Williams felt his throat get tighter and the air couldn't get in and out effectively. "She was attacked, sir, multiple stab wounds. We have the suspect in custody at the station."

Williams looked back and forth between the two police officers, "Let me through," he spat between clenched teeth. They looked at each other skeptically but moved out of the way. When he walked through the doors, he nearly lost his footing. There was his baby girl, lying unconscious on the bed. He ran to her bedside and touched her face. "Who let him in here?" The doctor yelled. Kayla's line went flat and the blood seemed to burst out of her abdomen like a volcano. "Oh my God! Do something!" Williams yelled. He was sobbing quietly. He held her face in his hands and kissed her forehead. "Come back to me!"

"We need to take her to surgery. Call the OR, and tell them we're coming!" the doctor yelled to a nurse. The doctor looked at the Lieutenant. "Sir, you need to move. We have to take her to surgery." Williams gave Kayla one last kiss. "Be strong, princess." He moved and watched them roll her bed out of the room swiftly. He dropped to his knees, "Please, don't take her, too."

Williams felt his heart clench in pain. He knew this feeling all too well. He wiped his face, and the sadness was gone. In replacement, rage filled his body. He picked himself up and marched out of the room. He went as quickly as possible. He had no one to blame for his wife's death, no one to bring to justice, but this time, this time it was different. He knew where the person responsible for his daughter's injuries was. He intended to make him pay.

When he arrived at the station, everyone was quiet. They all knew where he was going, and no one could stop him.



# ODYSSEY EXPLORERS





# KINDNESS



Yesterday, I received kindness from a guy named Chase. We were not friends until he said "yes" to us being friends and said he was sorry for being mean to me in the third grade. It made me feel happy because we were enemies before. **Don'ye Spivey**



First, I was outside. I met a really nice girl named Ariela. I asked her if she wanted to play with me, and she said yes. We were playing in the gym, and then we were going to fly our planes. Then she left and I left. The End.

**Rae'Jon Shaw**



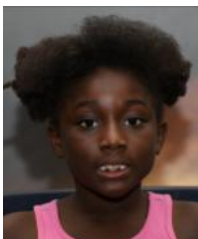
Once I was playing in the park. Then I saw my friend sitting on the bench. And then I went to play with him so he could have a friend to play with.

Once I broke my arm. When I went to the hospital, my mom gave me pizza. **Ali Melendez**



Today my friend named Sarah almost fell, but I caught her just in time. She almost slipped because there was ice everywhere. There was ice on the sidewalk, hills, and blacktop. I'm glad I saved her, or she could have gotten very hurt or even injured very badly. So I feel good inside.

**Alleanah Hancock-Jammeh**



Being kind is being responsibly nice to everyone. At my school, my teacher said I did an outstanding job. It made me happy. My teacher said, "Good job!" **Amari Diagne**





*Mi maestra me dio amabilidad porque me ayudó con mi lectura y mi escritura. Ayudé a unas de mis amigas con nuestra tarea.*

My teacher gave me kindness because she helped me with my reading and spelling in English. And I helped my friend catch up with the class.

**Yarianie Rodriguez Tapia**



A time someone showed kindness to me was when my grandmom took me to the movies. The movie was called "Hidden Figures."

The movie was

spectacular. When we went to the movies, it was very fun. We got fresh popcorn and a big soda. I'm so happy my grandmom took me to the movies. That is something very kind to me. **Anna Uriostegui**



I will talk about receiving kindness! Today at school there was some ice and I was about to step on it, and my friend told me not to because it might break. In my body and in my head, I said, "Don't do it! Don't do it!" But in my heart it said, "Do it! Do it!" So I followed my heart and when I did, the ice did break, and I fell and got wet. But even though my friend told me not to, and I didn't listen, she still helped me get dry and helped me up.

Also, today, in P.E., we were playing a game where everybody is it and throwing balls at each other, and a boy named Graham threw the ball at me really hard and hit me in the head at the same time a guy hit me in the leg and then I fell and hit my head. A girl named Kyla, who has been my worst enemy, helped me and took me to the nurse, and today we became friends!!!

**Don'ielle Spivey**

My boxing coach taught me how to box and how to block and how to defend myself. I appreciate her teaching me how to box. **Nyjua Daniel**



*Yo ayudo a mi mamá cuidar a mi hermana pequeña y la veo si necesita algo.*

I help out my mom with watching my little sister if she needs something.

**Isa Melendez**





I was kind to my friend Libby. She and I were playing a game of soccer, and Libby tried to block the ball and almost broke her thumb, but as soon as it hit her thumb, I moved her so she was safe. **Sheari Evans-Miller**

I was given kindness because when I was bored and there was nothing to do, I was walking around the field and playground, and someone saw me and asked me if I wanted to play tag with him. I responded by saying, "Yes." That is how I was given kindness. **Francisco Uriostegui**



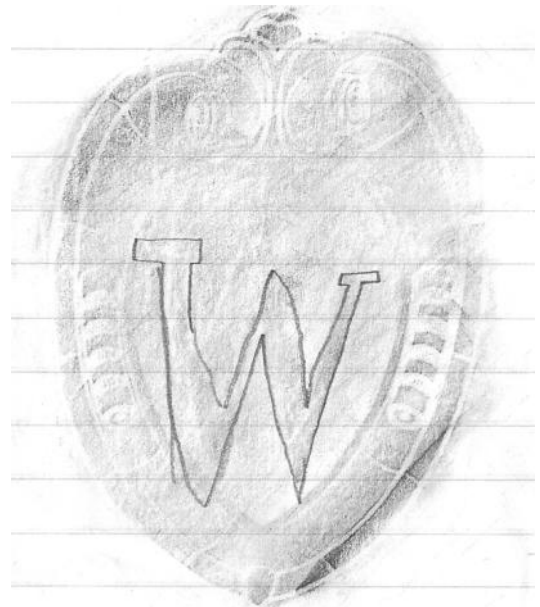
My boxing coach helped me by saying I was good. Tyrell said, "Dang, you're good." Terrell said, "OK, you're good. Is it your second time?" Javeon said, "You want to know how to get good at this? You've got to take two steps and punch with the left hand called a one and then a right hand punch called a two." **Nasier Daniel**



A time that I was kind was when I helped my mom take down my little sister's hair. It takes a lot of work, and my sister wanted to get it over with, so I helped. It made my mom feel great. I felt great, too! My mom thanked me for helping her. **Kimari Christian**



Today I gave a card to my friend named Angel. The card was about video games. I think Angel liked the card. I gave it to him because I know he likes video games. **Alan Mendoza**



# TEAMWORK



I showed teamwork when I really didn't want to. I had to work with a group of kids in math. I really wanted to work by myself, but I worked with them anyway. It wasn't as bad as I thought it was going to be. I got to help other people on my team, and other people got to help me. It was all good at the end. "Teamwork makes the dream work." (That is what Ms. Victoria says.)

**Anna Uriostegui**



Boxing is a team sport. My team supports me by blocking the punches. That helps me become good at boxing. I help my team by teaching them to block with their bodies. **Nasier Daniel**



I do teamwork when I dance with my friends. The type of dancing we do is called Ballet Folklorico. It is a Mexican dance, and it has different music like Yucatan, Jalisco, Nayarit, and La Negra. Those are some of

the dances that we dance, and we have to do teamwork in practice so the routine goes well. **Yarianie Rodriguez Tapia**



I watch people through the cracks in their forts for fun. My friend Max doesn't really do this a lot, but sometimes he distracts them while I look. There was this one time that I saw a snow fort on the hill, and I started crawling over to it.

Soon my friend Samord came by and asked me what I was doing. I responded by shushing him. Max was distracting them. I went through a crack that wasn't

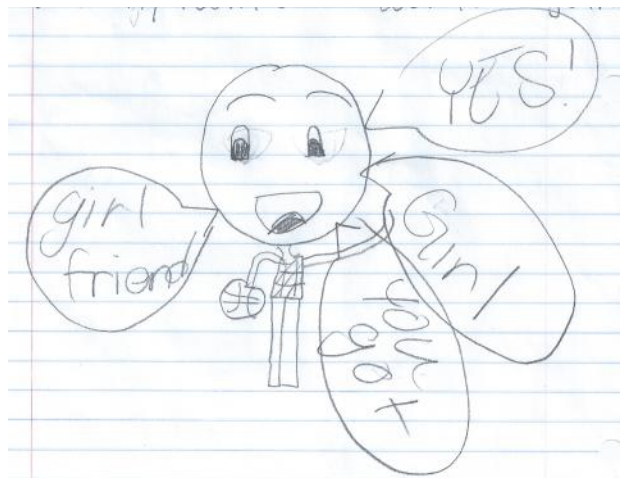
blocked. Max was still

distracting them. In the end,

when they saw me, I thought my friend Max was doing teamwork with me. **Francisco**

**Uriostegui**

I play soccer with my friends, Libby and Joe. Libby, Joe, and I are good sports. We pass to all the players on the team. We score goals and win some games and lose some games. We do lots of exercises. We got into the championship games, too. We win medals. I play against some people in Odyssey. **Sheari Evans-Miller**







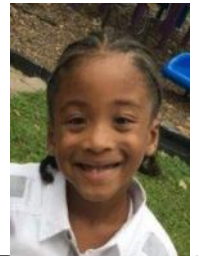
My name is Kimari. My team is the Spartans. We always practice a lot on Wednesdays and Thursdays. It's hard sometimes when my team doesn't work together. **Kimari Christian**



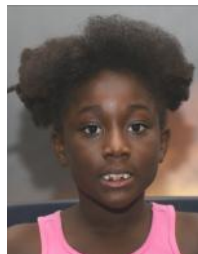
I played on a soccer team named Ace. We passed the ball so that we could score a goal. That way, we kept on winning. **Alan Mendoza**



On my first day at football, I was late, and my coach was going to make me run four laps. I saw two of my friends, Subashtan and Shakira. The next day we didn't work together. We never did teamwork because everyone was happy because we were having a football game the next day. But we lost until a boy said, "We have to have teamwork." Then the next time, we won. **Nyjua Daniel**



I work with my mom by helping her write. My mom helps me walk the dog. We are a great team! **Rae'Jon Shaw**



Last year, I went to a violin concert. I was in the violin concert. My mom, Dad, brother, Ms.

Chris and my aunt went to my concert. I was so happy to see everyone there. I did not know that many songs, but I tried my



best. **Amari Diagne**



When I do karate, I love sparring. I like to pay attention to my teacher so that I get to have a war with everyone. We split into teams for this. **Ali Melendez**

A time where teamwork was necessary was in the classroom when we had to do posters about Ho-chunk Native American people. My team was successful because we each brought one fact and one picture. Once we put all of our work together, it looked amazing and our teacher loved it. **Don'yé Spivey**



A time when teamwork was necessary was in gym when we had to create a castle out of hula hoops. Each team had to go against each other to get it done the fastest. My team worked well together, and we beat the other team. **Don'ielle Spivey**

When Mario uses teamwork, it makes dream work! I was trying to make a paper hand. My friend cut it out for me, and we colored it with cool designs. It was teamwork! **Mario Drone**





*Yo juego en un equipo de fútbol. Nuestro grupo es muy bueno. Nosotros somos todos amigos. Mi mamá trajo el pastel de chocolate y cerezas para el grupo.*

I play on a soccer team. Our team is very good. We are all friends. My mom brought chocolate cake and cherries for the whole team. **Isa Melendez**



I work with my mom. We work on our reading. She helps me get a lot better. She helps me read, and I help her cook. We are a great team! **Keenan Hayes**



I am in the Madison Youth Choir. We depend on each other to sing the right notes and words when it is time to perform. We work together in helping each other learn the songs. We often sing in different languages and need one another's help. Without our teamwork our goal cannot be accomplished. I enjoy being part of a team effort in order to accomplish the goal together of helping each other. Without each of us, our goal cannot be achieved. **Alleanah Hancock-Jammeh**





# MADISON CHILDREN'S MUSEUM





# ODYSSEY JUMPSTART





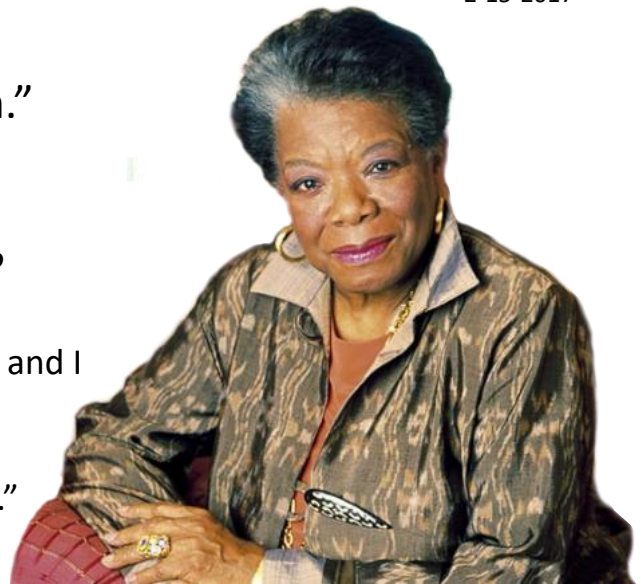
**"I've learned that I still have a lot to learn."  
~Maya Angelou**

*What is something that you would like to learn?*

**"I would like to learn how to play a game from the PS3 and I also want to learn how to drive a car." Erick Mendoza**

**"I want to learn more about superman and spiderman."  
Kas'myr Emmanuel**

**"I want to learn how to count to a million." Parish Reed**



**"I would like to know how Santa delivers presents at night." Aa'laisa Batchelor**

**"I would like to read more farm books and learn about farming." Choho Ako**

**"I want to learn how to paint my own nails."  
Nakyiah Norton**

**"I want to learn how to do blocks really fast."  
Johnathan Taylor**

**"I want to learn how to make money! I'd buy a car, a big TV, and a phone." Alex Gonzalez**

**"I want to learn to count to 100."  
RJ Emmanuel**

**"I want to learn about puppy dogs."  
Aria Wright**

**"I want to learn about zebras, pigs, dogs, ladybugs, ducks, and frogs."  
Emily Gonzalez**



# OVERHEARD AT JUMPSTART

"I want to be a superhero when I grow up! I want to be strong. I can pick up the table. I want to be superman KK!"

"I like Spiderman and Batman and . . . snowman." **Kas'myr Emmanuel**

"I want to be Aria when I grow up. I could be like Elsa...make a snowman!"

"Can I have milk please? I used my manners."  
**Aria Wright**



"I love my mommy because she brushes my hair." **Emily Gonzalez**

"My mom made me feel better when I got a shot." **Nakyiah Norton**

"My dad went with me to the doctor."  
**RJ Emmanuel**

"I liked going to Chicago with my mom and baby sister." **Parish Reed**

"Mom did my beads in my hair!"

"I learned how to snap today."

**Jamyla Davis**

"I'm going to sit with teacher Kate!"

**Mane Talley**

"Do you want me to braid your hair, too?"

**A'jhani Stevens**

"My dad likes pizza too. He likes pepperoni, but I like mac and cheese on it." **Johnathan Taylor**





# ARI'S CORNER



It was really fun to be back at Odyssey Jumpstart after a long winter break. Everyone was really excited to see each other... especially Ari. She missed everyone a little too much.

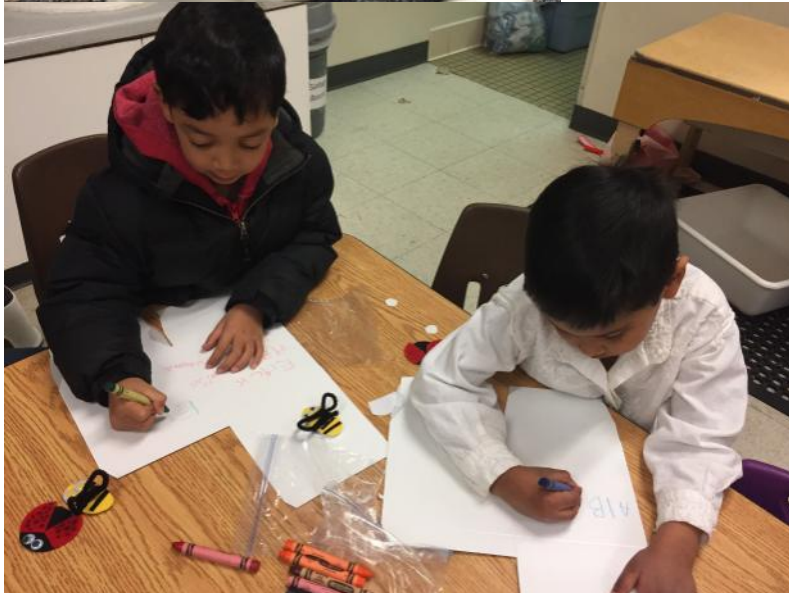


Ariana McCallum



Jamie from the UW Literary Arts program led half of the group in reading Kipper's A to Z by Mick Inkpen. After reading the book aloud together, the kids got some time to move around their room, listen to music, and use their imagination to place themselves in the storyline of the book. Some of the kids even got down on their bellies and acted like a family of snakes! The kids got to make a ladybug, a bumblebee and, of course, a home for the critters just like in the book!

Thank you to Literary Arts for always planning such fun nights for us! The kids were so proud to show off their bugs to parents.







New art teacher Kate had the idea to work with chalk and dark colored paper to create fun winter scenes. The teachers were *really* excited to have Kate on board for some new arts and crafts ideas. While some of the students worked on their craft, a few kids spent some time playing with the train sets and blocks. After a few minutes, we usually end up with a whole city sprawled out across the floor!



Every couple of weeks this semester, the kids get to spend some time with a great group of UW undergraduate students studying Speech Pathology. Peggy Rosin, the Director of Clinical Education, always brings such fun students for the kids to be around. The kids are happy to reunite with some cheerful, familiar faces every couple of weeks. One group of students and kids had fun with a craft that focused on sounding out and spelling their names. The other group worked on a little bit different kind of craft. After tracing their hands on a piece of paper, they cut out and glued pictures of things that are important to them around their hand. After craft time all of the kids paired up with a UW student and had some one-on-one book time.

