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Thanks to the following staff and volunteers of Odyssey Junior:
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Scouts: Karla Holguin, Arantza Giron Cruz, Talina Lopez Ruiz, Ella Rogers
Explorers: KaBao Thao, Jerome Flowers, Patricia Vera, Geraldine Rivera
Voyagers: Brian Benford '07, Christina DeMars, Jerome Dizon, Zawadi Ozulamoi (Junior '22), Johnny Escobar
Adventurers: Angie Bazan, Deshawn McKinney, Ron Buford ('20)
Support Staff: Leigh Button, Michelle Mack ('22), Marisol Gonzalez ('17)
Volunteers: Amy Basel, Carol Heins-Daniels, Becky Wheeler, Jaden Zuzinec, Riley Lynch, Prisma Ruacho

Special thanks to Jamie Henke and Dr. Hailey Love from Literally Arts, Chell Perkins and her dance students, Pat and Ella from Cultural Connections Art Collab, Ella and the Madison Reading Project, Yorel from Drum Power, Nate and Rachel from the Madison Library, Duke Ellington the service dog, Kay Kreiwald and the UW Space Place, and our wonderful music folks: Carrie, Jeanne, Leo, Susan, Liz, and Sam.

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BABY BADGERS
Alora LOVES... instruments, clapping, and crawling!

Juwan LOVES... bouncing, exploring the classroom, and laughing!

Malachi LOVES... walking, rolling toys, and dancing!

Tre’den LOVES... stickers, drawing, and playing music!
Scouts
The Scouts Love . . .

I love Spiderman. (Sincere)
I love Paw Patrol. (Nana)
I love dinosaurs, dogs, and my friends. (Nina)

I love my friend Nina. (Ermias)
I love everybody. (Azalea)
LITERALLY ARTS

In Literally Arts’s first two visits of this semester, the Scouts read “In the Tall, Tall Grass,” made their very own tall grass art projects, read “The Seals on the Bus,” and got to play drums!
Explorers

We started the spring ’24 semester of Odyssey Junior by adding a new classroom! This new space is for our kindergarten through 2nd grade group called the Explorers. Our 3rd-5th grade group is now known as the Voyagers!
“I LOVE...”

I love Elodie! She’s a friend from school. I mostly like to play with her, and she gets a lot of turns when we play! I just want to be with her. She has a little birthmark on her cheek and it’s pretty. I also love dogs! I don’t have a dog but I meet my tía’s dogs so I can play with them. And when I come to this school, I can play with Duke! And my favorite animal is giraffes. And what I like about them is that they have these very long necks and they can do a lot of stuff like bend it back, and a lot of other things! (RozyInn)

I love spaghetti! I like that it has spaghetti sauce and there’s like spaghetti noodles. It tastes very, very, very, very, very, very, very, very, very, very, very good! When I was in kindergarten, I had a friend named Max. I liked that he would always be nice to me. And he always talked with my brother, too! (Legend)

I love vegetables. Except for broccoli! I very, very, very, very, very, very, very love them. I love you, too! (talking to Miss Christina).

And I love my brother! He is SO cool, he can even do the gritty. It’s like a dance move, it has a song to it! (Amir)

I love math! I like doing times and minus and plus. I love stuffies too! I love squishmallows the most. And I love books – my favorite are chapter books! (Omyma)
I love my mom. She’s very nice! She takes me wherever I want when I ask. She’s so pretty! (Noyelle)

I love drawing; I like that I can make stuff. I draw anything I think of! I just like to draw stuff. (Rae’Sel)

I love Valentine’s Day because I get a lot of presents, like coloring books, water bottles, a pop socket for my phone, and chocolate! I get EXPENSIVE chocolate! Ferrero Rocher. That is soooo good. My mom said she was going to give me some! I’m going to eat them ALL tonight. (Skylar)
**METAPHORS**

I am a bee because I am busy and I like to fly! When I fly, I run around with my arms spread wide. *(Rozlynn)*

I am a pencil because I like writing, just like my mom! *(Noyelle)*

I am a praying mantis because I always jump and I always find bugs! And sometimes I find rocks on the ground too, just like a praying mantis. *(Legend)*

I’m a trapdoor spider! I read it in a book. When you’re walking, it stands on the door, and when you open it and walk through, you trip! A trapdoor spider tripped me over yesterday. *(Amir)*

I am a stuffie, I am cute! I like hugs just like a stuffie. *(Omyma)*

I am pizza because I love to put hot sauce on it! I’m spicy like hot sauce. *(Skylar)*

I am a jaguar because I am fast and tough. My brother and I are both good at football. *(Rae’Sel)*
“I love…”

I love my family. I like playing Mario Party and cooking with them. I love my mom. I like my mom’s cooking and my favorite thing she cooks is chicken and macaroni! I love my two sisters too. Jayla and my brother Jaylen are both twins and they’re both twenty, and one of my sisters, Janae, is ten years older than me! Eighteen. My brother plays with me on his games. (Josiah)

I love gymnastics. I like doing flips, front flips, and back flips! I can do the splits. I can do a back handspring, too! Something else I love about it is paying attention and pointing my feet. (Iyjah)

I love basketball, how they like aim, shoot, and dribble. I like to watch; my favorite player is Giannis Antetokounmpo. I also like to sing, my favorite is probably like hip hop. (Lysis)

I love my mom. She’s helpful and nice. (True)

I love football. I like tackling and I play linebacker. (Gemini)
I love my family. I like family reunions. We play games and eat a lot of food. (Na’Kyiah)

I love going places with my family. I love my mommy. We take naps together and go places together, like Target. (Nevaeh)

I love my mom and my sister. They’re really cool and I love them, they take care of me and I take of them. Well, mostly I take care of my sister. I like playing with my mom and sister. Me and my sister play cooking, police, and fireman. My sister’s favorite game is “Totally Reliable Delivery Service.” It’s like a fun game where she can be a funny little person that can jump around and do deliveries. (Dorian)

I love my mom and everything she does for me. My mom is my world. (EJ)

I love my family. They is my everything. I go out with my family, we go to places to eat like Red Lobster. (Martez, aka MAR)

I love pokemon! Everything about it. My favorite pokemon is Blaziken. My second favorite is wooper. I also love doing art with my dad. (Kai)
**METAPHORS:**

I’m a cheetah because I’m fast! And I’m a pencil, because I like to write and draw. (Josiah)

I’m a jaguar, and a cheetah! I’m fast and flexible. Jaguars are my favorite animal. (Iyjah)

I am a jaguar because I’m pretty. We are both pretty fast. (Iysis)

I am a dog, we both like to scratch! I’m not friendly like a dog, though. Never! (Nevaeh)

I’m a butterfly because butterflies are pretty. (Na’Kyiah)
**DRUM POWER FIELD TRIP**

On February 6th, Voyagers and Adventurers visited Yorel Lashley, founder of Drum Power, at the Madison Youth Arts Center. Drum Power provides youth dance and drum opportunities, where they are actively encouraged to develop valuable social-emotional skills through the exploration of African cultural traditions. Many students will have the opportunity to continue their experience this July at Drum Power Summer Camp!
LOVE

What does love mean to you?

Family. (Dre’Jean)

Love is all the emotions. Love is experiences. Love is an attachment. (Stephen)

It means that you care about someone like you strongly do. (Ilysis)

It means someone cares about you. (Zion)

I don’t know. (Z)

Caring about someone and being there for them. (Saniya)

What is one thing you love about yourself?

I love my way of thinking (sometimes.) (Stephen)

I love my voice. (Saniya)

I love my skin, hair, basically my looks and style. (Ilysis)

I make money. (Z)

My hair, my self. (Dre’Jean)

My hair. (Zion)
In your opinion, what does love feel like?

Like if you see someone that you love, you feel safe and you feel butterflies in your stomach and you feel warm. Happy. **(Ilysis)**

Love feels like someone cares about you. 
**(Stephen)**

Warm? It’s been a while. **(Z)**

Like your first hug with your mom. **(Dre’Jean)**

It feels like you’re safe and you’re happy. 
**(Zion)**

Making you smile and laugh, feeling you can be yourself. **(Saniya)**

Who or what do you love most and why?

My family because I love them. **(Zion)**

I love myself most ‘cause that’s where you have to start. **(Stephen)**

My family and friends because they care for me and they love me. They will always be there when I need them. **(Ilysis)**

My life and why, just like how it’s been so far. **(Z)**

My mother, she my twin. **(Dre’Jean)**

I love God, he made everything else I love. **(Saniya)**
WORDS OF ADVICE

If you could give your past self one piece of advice, what would it be and why?

Be kinder and get used to failure. (Emily)

Not putting it all out when I played poker. (Alex)

Think before you act and don’t care as much because not everything has such a deep meaning. (Zion)

Speak up more. People will put you down and you don’t want that so I suggest that you be nice, smart, and stay popping off like we always do. Just stay humble and speak up for yourself. (Saniya)

What is the best piece of advice you have ever received? What made it so good?

“You gone miss me when I’m gone.” It was good because when she passed it really did hurt me to my core. (Samaria)

“Speed kills.” It’s good because it taught me to take my time. (Zion)

Don’t be friends with ____, she is a bad person. (Emily)

Things will be hard but persist and they will get better. (Alex)

Our mom always told me to never look down and let your crown fall off. It was good because I never looked down again on someone or myself. (Saniya)
**SOCIAL JUSTICE**

*What does social justice look like to you? Feel like? Sound like?*

To me social justice means things like racial equality and as well as gender equality. It feels like everyone being respectful of others as well as themselves. It sounds like everyone complimenting each other and lifting each other up. *(Zion)*

Looks like people helping others do what’s right. Feels kind. Sounds calm. *(Saniya)*

Any kind of fighting for what’s right. Feels relieving. Sounds powerful. *(Stephen)*

Social justice sounds like a speech. Social justice feels strong. *(Dre’Jean)*

To me social justice is about the wrongful persecution of minorities and POC. *(Dae’vion)*

I feel that justice means that things are fair, people are getting what they deserve. I think that justice means that there is a system in place to make sure that people in a society are being given or shown the treatment they deserve. *(Anna)*

When you get justice for the world. *(Samaria)*

Equal opportunities for everyone. No bias. Offering everyone the same resources. No discrimination. No backhanded comments. Quiet (no protest). Feeling comfortable in your own skin. No systematic oppression. *(Duckie)*

Inclusive and equal rights. *(Emily)*

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**MADISON POLICE FIELD TRIP**

On Wednesday, February 21st, the Adventurers were invited to a meet and greet with the Madison Police Department at the Urban League. Along with a few community members, our students learned about protecting themselves from identity theft and what their rights are should they ever have an encounter with a police officer. The students asked some really insightful questions about their rights as teenagers and had some great dialogue with the officers. The session ended with a very powerful discussion from the officers, all of whom were officers of color, about how to be proud of who they are and protect themselves at the same time.