



There is nothing scary about our new TRiO *Alumni Highlight!*

October 2017

The AAEOPP Alumni Committee is proud to present our Alumni Star of the month: Katelin Bell from Bevill State Community College

Alumni Committee

Terri Ricks, Alumni Chair
Kayla Light, Alumni Co-Chair
Erica Tabb
Lisa Moore
LaKee Binion
Cody Hammack

The committee members would like to invite you to nominate one of your TRIO Alumni. Please send nominations to Terri Ricks (tricks@wallace.edu) and Kayla Light (kayla.light@bscc.edu)

Happy Halloween, AAEOPPians!

The alumni committee is not *tricking* you. Nope! We give all **treats** to our alumni who work hard in our field. So, don't be scared to apply for next month's Alumni Highlights. We are happy to read over your amazing work. To see more information, check out the other attachment that gives a detailed form to fill out for this process. Then, let us give you the credit where the credit is due. We want to celebrate **your** work!

To apply, simply send us a picture and a 250-word write-up on how you started in TRIO, what you are doing now, and how TRIO advanced your life and education. It is our sincere hope that we will end up with enough emails to flood our inboxes for the year, so please do not hesitate to apply. Alumni are TRIO's shining stars because they embodied the success of our programs.

TRIO works, so let's show it!



Story by: *Katelin Bell*

Homeward Bound with Upward Bound

During my 10th, 11th, and 12th grade years of high school, I was in Upward Bound at Bevill State Community College – Hamilton Campus. The memories, contacts, and friendships I made during that time are priceless. My years during Upward Bound took me to places I probably never would have visited or thought I would be interested in.

I was given the opportunity to work in the Upward Bound



Office as the Student Assistant while attending Bevill. Throughout high school and my time at Bevill, the UB staff always made sure I was on track. They always stressed the importance of completing my associate degree and then completing a bachelor degree. Because of the dedication and support from my parents and the UB staff, I was able to complete my associate's degree at Bevill and

then my bachelor's from UNA in elementary education.

After graduating, I saw a job posted at Bevill in Upward Bound. I pulled the information about the job and thought about how rewarding it would be to return to a program that helped me so much in high school, and even college. I loved working with Sumiton Upward Bound and their participants. It was so rewarding to help someone who was once in the position I was – overwhelmed with school choices, paying for college, scholarships, etc. I worked with Sumiton Upward Bound for a year and a half,

Works at Bevill State
Community College

Upward Bound Alumnus

4.5 Years working in TRiO

Mentored and tutored
scores of UB students

A loving wife to Mr. Bell and
mother to Carlee and Cain

"Katelin is efficient, smart and a quick problem-solver. Upward Bound Hamilton is blessed to have her as our Coordinator/Records Manager. Katelin is a true success story who inspires many Upward Bound students!"

--Donna Swinney, Director
of Bevill State's Hamilton's UB



Special thanks to Shawanda Benjamin, AAEOPP President and Director of TRIO programs at UAB, Donna Swinney Director of Upward Bound at Bevill State Hamilton for assisting with this month's newsletter