

May 2026



Upward Bound Times

Upcoming Events:

June 22 Summer Institute Begins

July 23 Summer Institute Banquet

July 27-30 College Tour Trip

Rites of Passage Leadership Program

Butterflies:

Donavin S.
Trinity M.
Logan J.
Olivia R.
Vincent K.
Nia S.
Josi L.
Aracely L.
Armani W.
Kailyana H.

Wolves:

Abigail N.
Lillyanna H.
Tori A.

Congratulations!

TRIO

Works

Family Service Learning Day: Upward Bound Loves Their Community

Upward Bounders met at Mark Watson Park to assist with the annual 5K run that is sponsored by the Jackson County Parks and Recreation. We first helped register participants and hand out t-shirts. Then, we made signs to motivate the runners and show our support towards our beautiful mountain community. Finally, we

prepared a water station at the halfway point so we could offer water and inspiration as they reached the midpoint of the race. Selfless service is the motto and Upward Bound is just gleaming in it's light.

After the 5K ended, we had the opportunity to enjoy the Greening Up the Mountains

Festival. The group had fun exploring the craft tables and hearing from different organizations. We also had the chance to hang out together and enjoy the food trucks. The 5K and the Greening Up the Mountains Festival was very fun and we would definitely recommend going next year!

~Jace F., Vincent K.



Exciting news from our alumni...

We are very thankful for the many visits and updates from our alumni!

There is not enough room here to share all their stories, but we wanted to mention as many as possible:

- Jessica Masters was named the Swain County High School Teacher of the Year for 2026.
- Madison Page Pickens graduated from Western Carolina University with a Doctorate of Nursing Practice with a concentration in Family Nurse Practitioner.
- Brianna Norris graduated from Western Carolina University with a Master of Business Administration including specializations in International Business and Sport Management.
- Scott Alligood graduated from Western Carolina University with a Bachelor of Science in Construction Management.
- Shawn Byfield graduated from Western Carolina University with a Bachelor of Science in Engineering Technology.

Upward Bound Seniors



Lydia Cabe

Southwestern Community College

Western Carolina University
UNC-Chapel Hill
Appalachian State University
UNC-Charlotte
UNC-Pembroke
East Carolina University

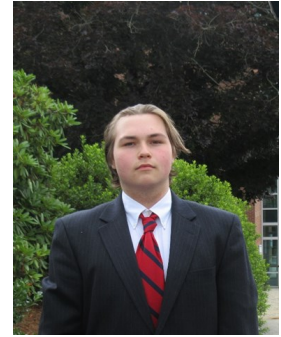
New Century Scholar



Matthew Evans

Blue Ridge Community College

Southwestern Community College
Western Carolina University



Logan Johnson

UNC-Asheville

Southwestern Community College

National Guard Scholarship
UNC-Asheville Merit Scholarship

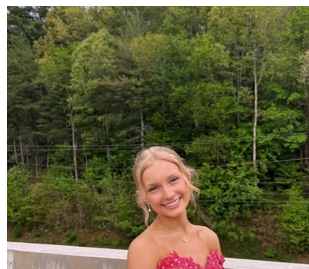


Rylee Rawls

Mars Hill University

Western Carolina University

MHU Softball Scholarship
Presidential Scholarship
MHU Grant
New Century Scholar



Mattison Moon

Southwestern Community College



Alana Santy

Southwestern Community College

WNC Regional Scholarship



Nia Sequoyah

AB Tech Community College

Southwestern Community College

Upward Bound Seniors



Josilyn Ledford

Workforce
AB Tech Community College
Southwestern Community College



Tiffany Lin

NC State University
Boston University
UNC-Charlotte
UNC-Asheville
UNC-Greensboro
Appalachian State University
University of Kentucky

Appalachian Excellence Scholarship
UK Heritage Scholarship
Prague Connect



Trinity Martinez

AB Tech Community College
Southwestern Community College



Donavin Shaw

Workforce



Lizbeth Soriano Aguilar

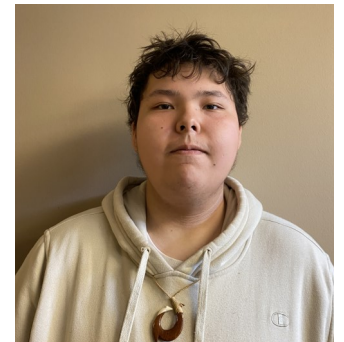
Southwestern Community College



Adaline Taylor

UNC-Wilmington
NC State University
East Carolina University
Appalachian State University
UNC-Charlotte
Western Carolina University
University of South Carolina

Catamount Commitment



Johnathon DeWi Thompson

University of Alaska Fairbanks
Augsburg University
Grand Valley State University
University of Maine
Lawrence University
Hofstra University
Long Island University

Long Island University Scholarship

College Connection (Two-Year and Four-Year):



One of the most cost effective ways to obtain your four-year degree is by starting at SCC!

Through an agreement with the University of North Carolina system, SCC students can earn up to 61 hours worth of credit that will transfer to any public university and many private colleges in the state. Completion of the Associate in Arts, Associate in Fine Arts, or Associate in Science degree program ensures students' transfer with junior status into most majors.

More information can be found here: <https://www.southwesterncc.edu/easy-transfer>



University of Georgia

Located in Athens, Georgia

Founded in 1785, UGA is called "The Birthplace of Public Higher Education in America" because it was the first state-chartered university in the U.S.

The university has been ranked as a Top 20 U.S. Public University for ten consecutive years by U.S. News & World Report.

UGA offers 250 + academic offerings and the Double Dawgs program to earn both a bachelor's degree and master's degree in five years or less.

The most popular majors include Psychology, Business, Biological Sciences, Finance, Marketing, and Management Information Systems.

Specialized majors offered are Scientific Illustration, Regenerative Bioscience, Avian Biology and Cognitive Science.

More information can be found here: <https://uga.edu>

Career Exploration:

Are you interested in the scientific study of birds, encompassing every aspect of their existence?

If so, consider a degree in Avian Biology!

Interested in exploring the curriculum? Please visit the link below:

<https://bulletin.uga.edu/Program/Details/20412?IDc=CAES>

The Avian Biology major provides broad training in practical, applied science and a strong grounding in general biology and chemistry. This degree prepares students in various areas including education, environmental protection, resource conservation, wildlife rehabilitation, and biomedical research.

This major is part of a Double Dawgs pathway: Avian Biology BSA/Poultry Science MS

For more information, go to doubledawgs.uga.edu

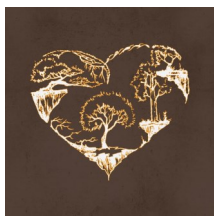
Summer Institute 2026

Our summer dates are June 22–July 30.

Our theme is "Roots Run Deep!"

Please save the date for Thursday, July 23, 7–9pm for our Annual Banquet.

Our College Tour Trip is July 27–30 and will be to Atlanta, GA with college visits, cultural experiences, and lots of fun!



"Roots Run Deep" Upward Bound Summer Institute 2026

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
June 22 9:00am–3:00pm	June 23 9:00am–3:00pm	June 24 9:00am–3:00pm	June 25 9:00am–3:00pm	June 26 Service Learning Work Study Job Shadowing Career Exploration
June 29 9:00am–3:00pm	June 30 9:00am–3:00pm	July 1 9:00am–3:00pm	July 2 HOLIDAY	July 3 HOLIDAY
July 6 9:00am–3:00pm	July 7 9:00am–3:00pm	July 8 9:00am–3:00pm	July 9 9:00am–3:00pm	July 10 Service Learning Work Study Job Shadowing Career Exploration
June 13 9:00am–3:00pm	July 14 9:00am–3:00pm	July 15 9:00am–3:00pm	July 16 9:00am–3:00pm	July 17 Service Learning Work Study Job Shadowing Career Exploration
July 20 9:00am–3:00pm	July 21 9:00am–3:00pm	July 22 9:00am–3:00pm	July 23 9:00am–3:00pm UB Banquet 7:00pm	July 24 Service Learning Work Study Job Shadowing Career Exploration
July 27	July 28 College Tour Trip to	July 29 Atlanta, Georgia!	July 30	