



**Cincinnati Arts and
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Quarterly Newsletter

Fall 2018

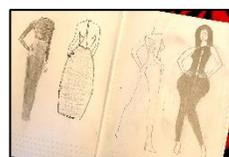


Yellowstone Expedition 2018



Sweeping mountain landscapes. Wild animals meandering in the road or drinking from streams and grazing in mountain-bordered fields, waterfalls cascading, geysers shooting in the air. There were hikes to icy peaks, lessons in photography and the natural world, watching out for each other's safety on hikes, and all the while in awe at the majesty of Yellowstone. Then it was back to the cabin to cook healthy meals, discuss how the lessons of the Hero's Journey are playing out in their lives, and write in their journals. The 2018 CATS Yellowstone expedition students are home, and if they're like our previous Yellowstone alumni, they're on new and even more meaningful, productive paths. Welcome home, CATS 2018 Yellowstone students!

Designing their futures: CATS students at DAAPcamps



Two CATS students, David Unthank and Najla Elliott, received scholarships to DAAPcamps 2018. At this internationally recognized summer design program of the University of Cincinnati's College of Design, Architecture, Art & Planning, and Procter & Gamble, young people explore potential careers such as architecture, fashion and graphic design. David, a 2018 CATS graduate and now a DAAP student, says he was challenged to "stretch his comfort zone," tackling still life and abstract art while developing his signature style. Najla Elliott, who was in the DAAPcamps fashion design program, says her growth came in the form of the discipline and focus required for the details of pattern selection, fabric match, and "thinking outside the box" in creating her designs.



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What a difference a summer makes...STNA training—then jobs!



While other students were on summer break, 29 recently graduated CATS students prepared for career, college or both, with the help of the CATS [Bridging the Gap](#) workforce development program. Twelve students trained for the STNA (State Tested Nursing Assistant) test, to qualify for positions as nurses' assistants under the guidance of Unique Blackman of Unique Enterprises, L.L.C. Twenty-seven students remain in BTG, with 19 in the process of testing and interviewing for career positions in health care, construction, banking and food service. Eight students have chosen to attend college full time. So far four of the STNA-certified students have been selected for positions at Cincinnati Children's, and more interviews are in progress. The recently hired students (lower right photo, L-R,) are Vondane Edwards, Brandy Burns, Destiny Cavins, and Kaitlyn Wilcox (not pictured).

Welcoming our 2018-19 students: "You have a friend in us."



Year after year there's nothing quite like the week when we welcome new and returning students to the new school year at CATS. Education Director Laura Greene-White's orientation included introducing the first semester study theme. Based on Joseph Campbell's *The Hero's Journey*, "The Hero Within" will guide them in how to unlock their own potential and become heroes of their own lives. From heeding the "Call to Adventure" (like showing up at CATS!) through overcoming obstacles along their journey and, eventually, becoming strong contributors to society. They'll start by looking for the hero already within them, identifying ways they've dealt with the challenges life has already handed them, and build from there. If they put in the time and effort at CATS, said Ms. Laura, "you'll have a friend in us" when they need advice or help, far into the future.

Former CATS student is back--with her own office!

Say hello to Kayla McGill. A 2012-13 CATS and Bridging the Gap graduate, Kayla went on to earn her bachelor's degree from Northern Kentucky University. She's back at CATS now full time--with her own office—as our new Cincinnati Youth Collaborative college guide. Who better to show our students they can do it, too?



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