A Week of Challenges!
By Darian Burwell, Director

Every day last week, we had a challenge for our students. When we took a trip off campus to Adventure Park, many of our students were in awe with how high the obstacle courses were and immediately said, “I am going to challenge myself!” The JumpStart staff told the students to use that mentality throughout their college years.

Now JumpStart students are starting to get a grasp on college life and becoming independent. They learned how to develop a rapport with their instructors and ask for help when they don’t understand something. They also attended tutoring sessions in the evenings to get additional help. I look forward to sharing with you what our instructors are teaching in class in the next newsletter!

Sincerely,
Darian Burwell
Marie Beth Donegan
Academic Success
Home: New York City
Hobbies: Volleyball, cheerleading, reading comic books

Why did you choose to come to Gallaudet University?
A lot of people I knew from my high school were here, and Gallaudet has the major I’m interested in.

What has been your favorite part of JumpStart so far? What are you looking forward to?
The Bisonlympic activities like Lost and Found and the Relay have been my favorite. I’m looking forward to socializing with other students and getting a glimpse of life in college.

Name a unique fact about yourself:
When I went to the National Association for the Deaf’s Youth Leadership Camp, I thought I wouldn’t be able to make it through camp—but I did!
Karis-Meagan Allred  
Academic Success  
Home: Texas  
Hobbies: Writing poetry and hanging out with friends

**Why did you choose to come to Gallaudet University?**

I wanted to further my education and meet new people. Gallaudet also had the major I’m interested in.

**What has been your favorite part of JumpStart so far? What are you looking forward to?**

I really liked Blind Volleyball, and so far I like my English class. I’m looking forward to a lot of things, especially meeting more people!

**Name a unique fact about yourself:**

I’m allergic to orange juice!

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**Hula-Hoop Relay**

Another relay—this time with hula-hoops! Teamwork and communication is what it’s all about!

Zackery Garcia and Bobby Ofiu wait for the hula-hoop relay to begin.

Peer Counselor Stephanie Weiss’ team passes two hula-hoops within their circle.

Ceri-Jayne Hawley tosses hoops onto a fellow student.

Francina Maurin successfully tosses a hoop onto Gabriel Calza-Everett.
B.J. Wise  
JumpStart: ASL  
Home: Maryland  
Hobbies: Reading, writing, and video games

**Why did you choose to come to Gallaudet University?**

I wanted to be around deaf people.

**What has been your favorite part of JumpStart so far? What are you looking forward to?**

My favorite activity so far was Blind Volleyball. I’m looking forward to being involved in other fun activities.

**Name a unique fact about yourself:**

I tend to be good at whatever I do!

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**Improv Night!**

Improv night was held on Tuesday, July 24th. It was not only a fun, but hilarious night of activities that encouraged JumpStart students to break out of their shells and get to know each other better.

JumpStart students and staff play the “Pose” game.

Kristopher Saucedo and Jonathan Ford face off while playing What?

JumpStart staff Mike Halloran and Stephanie Weiss play a game of What?

JumpStart students play a game of Killer.
Zumba & Kickboxing

Michael Berry
JumpStart: ASL
Home: Mississippi
Hobbies: Reading, writing, and video games

Why did you choose to come to Gallaudet University?

I’m interested in developing video games and Gallaudet has the major that fits with my interest.

What has been your favorite part of JumpStart so far? What are you looking forward to?

My favorite part so far was Blind Volleyball. I’m looking forward to doing more fun activities.

Name a unique fact about yourself:

I’ve been developing my own video game for the past four years.

On Wednesday, July 25th, JumpStart students and staff participated in a class that featured kickboxing and Zumba, a form of dance fitness.

The Zumba and kickboxing class was the perfect opportunity for many to sweat away stress and to have fun!

Zumba!

JumpStart students watch the Zumba instructor’s demonstration.

JumpStart students sweating it out!
Twice a week, JumpStart students and staff gather for what is called Interactive Hour. This activity features American Sign Language (ASL) instructors working with JumpStart students and staff by playing ASL-related games.

In addition to ASL, many of the games also focused on teamwork and communication. For example, the Human Knot, where students tangled themselves into a group by grabbing a random hand, then had to work together to become free of the knot.

JumpStart students and staff play a game where a number is called, then students and staff rush to get into a group of the same number.

Students learn ASL signs for colors by playing fun games.

A group of students learns about eye contact rules in ASL.
NoMa Summer Screen

Each Wednesday evening this summer, up until August 8th, the NoMa neighborhood near Gallaudet University hosts an outdoor movie screening event, complete with food vendors.

This week, JumpStart students and staff gathered to watch *The Incredibles* and enjoy what the NoMa neighborhood has to offer them.

Spy Museum

On Wednesday, July 25th, JumpStart students and staff headed to the Spy Museum, which focuses on the artifacts and the history of the spy profession.

Photos by Matthew Vita

Yee Chen takes a picture of Ivan Alfaro
Bright and early on July 27th, JumpStart students and staff traveled to The Adventure Park at Sandy Springs Friends School in Sandy Spring, Maryland.

Upon arrival, students and staff went on many different rope courses wrapped around trees, varying in height and in degree of difficulty.

Many students pushed themselves to do something they thought they couldn’t do, such as beating their fear of heights.

Peer Counselor Stephanie Weiss smiles for the camera while up high in the treetops.

Lining up to begin climbing up to the main platform.

Students practicing before heading to the course.

Braxton Baker navigating the rope course.
Dustin Shiverdecker ziplining through the trees.

Arica Jones walks the planks.

A view of the different rope courses Adventure Park has to offer!
This week, JumpStart students in the Academic Success program began their math and English classes, while students in the ASL program began their ASL classes.

Photos by Matthew Vita
Chase Magsig works with a fellow student.

Gabriel Calza-Everett practices with Jeremy Adams.

Zackery Garcia asks a question during class.

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## Week of July 30 – August 3, 2012

*Subject to change*

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<th>Time/Date</th>
<th>Sun 7/29</th>
<th>Mon 7/30</th>
<th>Tues 7/31</th>
<th>Wed 8/01</th>
<th>Thurs 8/02</th>
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Updated on 07/11/2012