



April 2021 Newsletter



Vanderbilt Giving Day

Vanderbilt Giving Day begins at midnight on Wednesday, April 7th until 11:59 p.m.

This is your opportunity to triple your impact! Katie Marshall is generously matching all gifts to Next Steps 3:1, up to \$7,000. This means that your gift to Next Steps will be tripled! There is no minimum for the gift amount. Gifts of all sizes are greatly appreciated!

[Click HERE](#) to learn more about VU Giving Day!

Next Steps at Vanderbilt Events

**All events will be virtual until further notice.*

Online Information Sessions

Please join us for an Online Information Session! During these virtual events, prospective students, parents, and guests will learn about classes, internships, social opportunities, and more. Once you register for an Online Information Session, you will

be sent a link to join. Please come with questions as you will be able to type your questions into the chat box.

2021 Online Information Session Dates:

Monday, June 14, 2021 (5:00 - 6:30 p.m.)

2021 - 2022 Open House Dates:

Thursday, August 5th (2:30 – 4:00 p.m.)

Monday, October 4th (4:00 – 5:30 p.m.)

Thursday, January 6th (2:30 – 4:00 p.m.)

Monday, March 28th (4:00 – 5:30 p.m.)

College Night Dates:

Thursday, November 11th (5:00 – 6:30 p.m.)

Thursday, May 19th (5:00 – 6:30 p.m.)

[Click here to register for an event](#)

Movin' and Groovin'

Cat Bernstein, Office Assistant

Olivia Murry, class of 2021, has been involved in a dance group called MOVE Inclusive Dance for two years. MOVE Inclusive Dance is a dance group that empowers individuals of all abilities and levels to learn life skills through dance. Recently, Olivia's dance teacher asked if she wanted to be an instructor and help lead classes. Olivia is also involved with Dancing Divas. Dancing Divas is another



dance program through MOVE Inclusive Dance. She enjoys dancing to different music and expressing herself through dance. Olivia 'enjoys being a leader for people with disabilities and teaching others to

dance.”

We reached out to the founder of MOVE Inclusive Dance, Lauren Beasley, to ask her how and why she started MOVE. "Most of my life's fondest memories happened on a wood grain floor, dancing my heart out. My dance studio was my favorite place to be. It brought joy to my life that nothing else could. One day, when I was around 13 and on my way home from dance class, I asked my mom why there weren't any dance studios for people with special needs. My mom replied, "I don't know. Maybe you will open one someday."

Seven years later, I was in my senior year at the University of Southern Mississippi, studying dance education. During my capstone course, I was required to create a presentation on anything related to dance. Upon remembering the conversation I had with my mother many years before, I decided to give mine on the benefits that dance has for people with Down Syndrome. After the presentation, one of my professors said to me, "You should start a program like that." And I thought, "Maybe I will someday." I began my research, looking for similar programs, but I found that options were limited. I contacted professionals and went on coffee dates with strangers, seeking to gain a deeper understanding of the special needs community. In all my conversations, I found that people were willing and eager to help! They wanted to see my dream become a reality because they believed just as much as I did that the world would benefit from this program.

Together, we are making the world MOVE."

[Click here to learn more about MOVE Inclusive Dance](#)

Alumni Update

Steven Greiner, Alumni Coordinator and Recruitment Assistant

Jamal Underwood graduated from Next Steps at Vanderbilt in the class of 2017. He is currently employed with the Davidson County Clerk's Office as a mail clerk. Some of his main tasks at work include sorting out registrations for cars, filing paperwork for rental cars, and logging in mail. When he is not at work, Jamal's hobbies include going to church, reading, and going out to dinner. Jamal's previous work experience

included working with the Davidson County
District Attorney's Office and Hill Center IT.



[Click here to view our website](#)



Share this email:



[Manage](#) your preferences | [Opt out](#) using TrueRemove™

Got this as a forward? [Sign up](#) to receive our future emails.

View this email [online](#).

230 Appleton Place
Nashville, TN | 37203 US

This email was sent to .
To continue receiving our emails, add us to your address book.

emma®

[Subscribe](#) to our email list.