Welcome Back!

The spring semester is upon us, and with it comes some new and exciting things for the FUTURE Program! In the last newsletter, there was an article discussing new services Student Disability Services will be providing to FUTURE students. Those services are now underway, with note takers present in most of our students' classes on campus. We are so excited about the added assistance this will bring.

Additionally, FUTURE is beginning a new mentoring system. Mentors will now be placed in Circles of Support for each student. This will create a more efficient way to communicate while also assuring that every aspect of the FUTURE students' college life is covered. It puts the FUTURE student at the center of planning and communication. We also know that the relationships built between the students and mentors are important friendships that last a lifetime. With the circles of support, these relationships will only be strengthened. A huge thanks to Natalie Campbell for the hours of work she put into making this new system possible. We are so excited for this semester and all of the possibilities that lie ahead.

Thanks to our fantastic Digital Literacy instructor, Mary Jo Krile, FUTURE now has access to another great resource for our students, Bookshare. It is an online library that offers different ebooks with a variety of accessible options, including enlarged text, audio, braille, and more. Each student has made an account and should be able to get textbooks and other class texts. If you would like to know your student's login information or learn more about Bookshare, contact Mary-Jo or Meredith!
An Evening of Art at the ABA Art Show

In December, ABA Interventions hosted an art show that featured art created by individuals with I/DD. ABA Interventions provides Applied Behavior Analysis as well as other therapeutic and counseling services to individuals with Autism and similar disabilities. They decided to highlight some amazing artists while helping a local nonprofit organization, The GATE.

FUTURE had four students participate in the art show. Caleb Kyker contributed his series of sorority house drawings. Aley Sasport donated four pictures from her photography collection. Joseph Park donated both paintings and drawings, with a wide variety of skills displayed. Ben Kredich also donated a few drawings. Attendees marveled at the skill and creativity of our artists, and most of the pieces were sold by the end of the night. We could not be more proud of our students who participated.

Something to Talk About: New Podcast 'Able Ed'

The FUTURE Program is always taking strides to keep up with the latest technology and trends. Currently, the podcast craze is really booming in popularity. We thought this was the perfect opportunity for our voices to be heard! FUTURE is starting a new podcast called Able Ed. Former FUTURE student Joe LaCombe will be the host and cover a wide range of topics regarding college life and independence for individuals with a disability. The first episode is set to come out at the beginning of February and features an interview with the associate dean of the college of education, health and human sciences, David Cihak. Check our social media pages for a link to the first episode!
CARE Club Aims to do More for the I/DD Community at UT

Along with the new Circle of Support mentoring system implemented this semester, a new club was created that involves peer mentors from the FUTURE Program. Natalie Campbell and MICKayla StogsDill have started CARE, which stands for Creating Accessibility, Respect, and Education. While there are many great campus clubs that support people in the I/DD community, such as Best Buddies and Advocates for Autism, Natalie and MICKayla wanted to create a club that would take things a step further. They hope this club will help promote inclusive policy at the administrative level, while also educating students and faculty on campus about inclusive practices.

Each FUTURE mentor becomes an automatic member of the club, but will have opportunities to take bigger roles by joining a committee. Committees include outreach committee, research committee, campus climate committee, as well as may others. FUTURE is excited to see how CARE’s work will change the University of Tennessee for the better.

Let’s ask a FUTURE student
What is your favorite thing to do for fun?

I like to eat at Chick-fil-a! -Caleb

I like playing with my marbles at home! -Katie

I play on my phone and take a lot of quizzes. -Karlee

I love to play any kind of card game or board game. -Emily
Fun Fridays
The month of January brought FUTURE many great Fun Friday opportunities. The students practiced their budgeting and eating etiquette during a trip to The Tomato Head, a local pizza and sandwich restaurant on Market Square. They also got the chance to make new friends while practicing their interview skills with a Best Buddies “speed buddies” event, where students talked to multiple associate members of Best Buddies in a fast-paced conversation rotation. Perhaps the most exciting Fun Friday was a tour of Neyland Stadium. The students got to visit the locker rooms, the media room, and some of the boxes overlooking the stadium.

Student Newsletters
For this newsletter, we decided to do something different from our usual FUTURE Profiles. Last semester, students in the Digital Literacy 1 class designed their own newsletters describing themselves and their experience at FUTURE. We have decided to highlight a few students who did fantastic work and include their newsletters rather than the normal FUTURE Profiles. Enjoy learning about some of our students in their own words and design in the following pages.
Karlee Beets

The day in the life of Karlee Beets:

Classes I take

I take theatre, Psychology, Career and life planning, Life Skills and Social Dance.

People I hang out with

I hang out with Molly, Nikita and Rachel.

My day in Future

In the morning I have Theatre and Life Skills. In the afternoon I have Psyc, DL1 and CLP.

My favorite thing about Future

To plan ahead for 10 years
FUTURE NEWSLETTER BY
Rachel

Class I take
1. cip
2. phy
3. sports management
4. digital literacy
5. Life shills

Who do you hang with
1. I play with my phone and hang out with my friends

What does your day look like
1. Study session
2. digital literacy
3. lunch
4. psyc
5. elc internship

What is your favorite thing about future
Being a vol
FUTURE Newsletter

Classes I take
1. Anthropology - is hard
2. African Studies - I like this class
3. Life Skills
4. DL1
5. CLP1 - is kind of boring and hard to stay awake
6. Conditioning - sometimes hard fun class to be in
7. Anthropology discussion group - is also hard
8. Internship at Vol Dining - is fun to do I'm making pizzas at this place

Who I hang out with at FUTURE
1. Molly Carter
2. My mentors
3. Computer when working on homework
4. Other friends I have

My day in FUTURE
I get there at around 8. On Monday's and Tuesday's I go to Anthropology class then go to DL 1. Then I go to a study session after that I go to African Studies class. Before this class I have lunch. On Monday's I go to my Internship after this class. On Wednesday's I have lunch then go to a discussion for Anthropology then go to my Internship. On Tuesday's and Thursday's I have a study session in the morning then I go to Life Skills. After this I have lunch and a break until CLP1 class. Right after this I have PE class it is conditioning. On Thursday I leave and go home. On Tuesday's I go back to FUTURE or I leave and go home.

Favorite Thing about FUTURE
I don't have a favorite thing but I like hanging out with friends, going to classes and working on homework. I also like just being at college and having a college experience. College is fun to be in and it's hard to be in.

Spare time at FUTURE
I sometimes do homework on computer or hang out with friends or wait for a person to come.
The Wonderful Things of Future
By: Aley Sasport
11/5/18

What classes do I take?

I take many classes, on Monday, Wednesday and Friday I have theatre, Digital Literacy and soccer. Those classes start at 9:05 a.m. for theatre, 10:10 a.m. for DL1 and 12:20 p.m. for soccer. Tuesday’s and Thursday’s. I have Journalism, Life Skills and Career and Life planning. Those start at 8:10 a.m., Life Skills at 9:40 a.m. and Career Life planning at 12:40 p.m.

Who do I hang out with when I have spare time?

I hang out with my friend Archer when she isn’t busy. I also hang out with my other friends as well.

What does my schedule look like? (What is my schedule look like?)

On Monday, Wednesday and Friday I am not as busy as Tuesday and Thursday. Thursday’s and Tuesday’s I’m packed.

What is my favorite thing about the Future program?

My favorite thing about the Future program is the new people I meet everyday along with the fun Friday’s.

My favorite thing about UT is kinda hard to think about because there are a lot of things. Like the fact that it is a huge campus. It’s kinda confusing at first but it is a fun school to be at.

There are lots of things you can be included in at the University of Tennessee.
Take me for an example, I’m at the daily beacon as a contributor. I may not have been to go to the meetings that they have every Sunday at three-thirty cause I have other stuff at that time. I am also with the best buddies program. My best buddy is Archer and in my opinion she’s pretty cool.
This is my best buddy Archer. She is an amazing friend to have. Last night Archer and I went to go see a movie, the movie we saw was Bohemian Rhapsody. It was a mind blowing movie. This is one of the photos of a photo of Archer and I in a photo booth at the Regal Rivera theatre.

I also like to listen to music when I have free time. The music I listen to is kinda long but I'll name a few. I listen to Camilla Cabello, Halsey, Falling in Reverse, Lauren Jauregui, Andie Case, e.t.c. My music taste is weird I know but I love it.

February Calendar ❤️
6th- Welcome Wednesday at the Alumni Office
11th- UT Job & Internship Fair at Thompson-Boling Arena
14th- Valentine’s Day
22nd- Vol Night Long