

Introduction



The TRIO and GEAR UP programs' TRIO Day celebration was a major success! Thanks to everyone who assisted with the celebration. Each TRIO and GEAR UP program made it possible to showcase its significance, share the importance of the students, and thank the community and university personnel.

During this special time, the accomplishments of the individuals who have worked to meet their goals, hopes and dreams, and who sacrificed short-term gains, were celebrated. The honorees may be: first generation, limited income families, have a disability, in foster care, a returning adult student, or in the military. The programs are proud of their phenomenal accomplishments.

Major gratitude to each of the Building Bridges honorees for their excellent remarks about the programs, their successes and accomplishments. They made the celebration and helped the staff members feel great about their commitments in what they do and how they do what they do. Program staff members continue to be pleased that the honorees graduated from the programs, went on to college, accomplished a successful career, and are happy about what life has produced for them. Special acknowledgement was made to three former TRIO participants for their participation in the Students Support Services program. These former participants are current staff members and contribute to the success of students.

Congratulations to the students from each program who received Student Recognition Awards. They will receive a medallion for their academic contributions and successes. Each of these students were acknowledged at the banquet. The Advocacy Award went to the ContempOh! band. The group has been a significant supporter of the TRIO Day celebration, with two of its members having been participants in the TRIO programs. Many "thanks" for their continued support.

The TRIO and GEAR UP programs are happy to take the opportunity each year to share their successes, recognize participants, and thank the community and university for their support. These programs are the life blood for many of the individuals who make a decision about college and their lives.

We are already planning for the 2019 TRIO and GEAR UP celebration and hope that many individuals can join the event. Thanks to all the staff who helped make this year's celebration a complete triumph!

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