

# WELCOME!

We're glad  
you're here.



willie & vivian  
**Gaddis**  
Foundation



## Jump Start College Experience Info Meeting

**EXPANDED FOCUS  
SAME COMMITMENT TO YOUTH**

# Starting Soon



# Alethea E. Gaddis

With a diverse professional background, Alethea Eunice Gaddis is a Co-Founder and CEO of the Willie and Vivian Gaddis Foundation, a Licensed Insurance Broker, and a Non-Profit Consultant.

**Education:** Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice, Corrections Specialization, Bowling Green State University (OH), Master of Business Administration with Project Management Certificate from Ashland University.

**Affiliations** include a life-long active member of First Church of God, Columbus, OH, and an active member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated.

**Interests:** Writing. Time with family. Servant Leader. Youth Advocate. She seeks to empower the next generation to see their future.

#BeAtPeaceWithAllMen #LegacyBuilder #YouthEmpowerment  
#FaithDriven #LiveToDieEmpty #CommunityImpact

Gaddis Foundation





# Our Mantra

*"Succeeding is inevitable for me.*

*Success is my reality"*

*Forward Ever. Backward never.*

# Gaddis Foundation Our Mission

At the Willie and Vivian Gaddis Foundation, we believe every scholar carries a divine spark. Through education, entrepreneurship, and intentional exposure, we equip youth in Central Ohio to discover, affirm, and live out their purpose. Our programs are designed to build legacy, foster leadership, and create multigenerational impact—one scholar at a time.







We heard young people and parents asking for more!

The Jump Start College Experience is more than a tour!

**The Jump Start College Experience is NOW a structured, year-round program designed to equip Franklin County youth with leadership, academic, and personal readiness skills necessary for long-term post-secondary success.**





Jana Foster-Harrell, Jump Start Alum facilitating a session at her HBCU! #LivingstoneCollege

## Cohort 1 – 2025 | March – June Highlights

**The Jump Start College Experience is more than a tour!**

- 65 scholar engagements | 50 scholar participants | 37 completed full program | From 13 School Districts
- Visited 8 colleges & universities | International Civil Rights Museum
- At least 3 of 6 College Navigation Sessions, + 1 Teen Socratic Circles + 1 Team-building Experience
- Scholar received a greeting and handshake from President Dr. Anthony Davis at Livingstone College
- Received full-ride scholarship offers for scholars with 3.7+ GPA
- Offered our first JTCE session on two college campuses, a PWI (Otterbein University) & an HBCU.





# What Makes The 2025 Jump Start College Experience Different



## Extended Programming:

Now offering **10 months** of year-round engagement—more time, more depth, more impact for grades 9 – 12. The **college tour is optional**, but the transformation is universal.



## College & Career Focus:

We've expanded beyond college prep to include **career pathways**, skilled trades, and entrepreneurship—because success isn't one-size-fits-all.



## Two College Tours:

More exposure, more opportunity. Scholars will visit campuses across multiple states to explore academic and cultural fit.



# What Makes The 2025 Jump Start College Experience Different



## DEI Advocacy & Awareness:

We're strategically addressing the impact of dismantled DEI policies—helping families navigate changes in **admissions, scholarships, and campus climate**.



## Plan B Exploration:

For students not pursuing college, we offer **in-depth guidance** on skilled trades, certifications, and alternative career paths.



## Scholar Touchpoints:

Focused follow-up with **juniors and seniors** to support application deadlines, FAFSA completion, and post-secondary planning.





# JUMP COLLEGE EXPERIENCE START

## Fall College Navigation and Career Sessions and Teen Socratic Circles

*Note: Stay tuned to our messaging platforms for schedule updates. We are intentional about communication and committed to keeping our families, scholars, and partners informed every step of the way.*

**08/23/2025**

**“Jump Start Journey: Parent & Scholar Connect” (Replay Available)**

**9/6/2025**

**Teen Socratic Circle - Shepherd Library, 790 N. Nelson Road| Meeting Room 1**

**9:45 Check-In, Session 10:00 AM - Noon**

***Campus Vibes & Future Tribes - College 101: Your Path, Your Pick***

Facilitator: Mrs. Fawn Harris

Capacity: 30

**9/13/2025**

**College and Career Navigation Session - F101 – Bexley Library Auditorium – 2411 E. Main Street|**

**10:30 Check-In, Session 10:45 AM - 12:45PM**

***Pathways in Progress: Exploring Careers & Internships with Purpose***

Facilitator: Mr. Jae Denson

Capacity: 30



## Fall College Navigation and Career Sessions and Teen Socratic Circles

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**9/18/2025**

**Special Session for Parents and Scholars (Scholars who attend and participate satisfy Teen Socratic Circle and College Navigation Session requirement to attend November tour)**

***Shifting Ground: Navigating College & Career Paths in a Changing Landscape of Access & Opportunity***

**Ohio Dominican University|1216 Sunbury Road|  
Sansbury Hall-Colonial Room**

6:45 PM - Check-In

7:00 PM - 8:30 PM

8:30 PM – 9:00 PM - Scholar Meet and Greet

(Tour participants should attend Scholar Meet – see who you know – begin looking for your roommate)

Facilitator: Dr. Tiffany Polite





# JUMP

## COLLEGE EXPERIENCE

# START

## Fall College Navigation and Career Sessions and Teen Socratic Circles

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**9/20/2025**

**College and Career Navigation Session - F103**

**Otterbein University| Roush Hall, 27 S. Grove, Westerville**

**9:45 Check-In, Session 10:00 AM - Noon**

**I Am Focused On A Brilliant Legacy: *Designing Impact, Innovation and Influence***

Facilitator: Dr. Nathan Harris

Capacity: 30

**10/04/2025**

**College and Career Navigation Session - F104 Otterbein University**

**Roush Hall, 27 S. Grove, Westerville**

**9:45 Check-In, Session 10:00 AM - Noon**

**"The Scholar Circle: Rooted & Ready"**

**Career Profile & Assessments - *discover the path that fits you best.***

Facilitator: Mr. Duan Witcher

Capacity: 30



## Fall College Navigation and Career Sessions and Teen Socratic Circles

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**10/11/2025**

**“The Pre-Boarding Brief”**

**Final Parent and Scholar Meeting – Mandatory for Tour Participants**

**Final Updates and Q & A**

**9:55 AM – Check-In - Session 10:00 – 10:45 AM**

Location: Virtual

**10/25/2025**

**College and Career Navigation Session - F105**

**Main Library|96 S. Grant Avenue, Room 3A**

**9:45 Check-In, Session 10:00 AM – Noon**

***Your College Application - Your Voice, Your Application Make It Count***

Facilitator: Mrs. Sasheen Phillips

Capacity: 25





## Fall College Navigation and Career Sessions and Teen Socratic Circles

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**11/01/2025**

**Teen Socratic Circle**

**Location: TBA**

**Branding Without the Filter: Leading Authentically in a Digital World - F110**

**Facilitator: Nate Jameson**

**11/15/2025**

**College and Career Navigation Session – F10**

**Otterbein University Roush Hall, 27 S. Grove, Westerville**

**9:45 Check-In, Session 10:00 AM - Noon**

**The Testing Edge: ACT & SAT Success Strategies - *Tips, tools, and timing — we've got you.***

**Facilitator: Mrs. Shasheen Phillips**



# JUMP

COLLEGE EXPERIENCE

# START

## Fall College Navigation and Career Sessions and Teen Socratic Circles

*Note: Stay tuned to our messaging platforms for schedule updates. We are intentional about communication and committed to keeping our families, scholars, and partners informed every step of the way.*

**12/06/2025**

**College and Career Navigation Session - F107**

**Secure the Bag: FAFSA & Financial Aid**

***Your college journey starts with free money — let's claim it.***

Facilitator: Mrs. Shasheen Phillips

**TBA – Teen Socratic Circles**

**Should AI be a No-No? The State of Artificial Intelligence in Education Today - F109**

Facilitator: Mrs. Erica Grimes

**The Transition Toolkit: Body, Mind & Mission - Balancing Wellness While Building What's Next - F111**

Facilitator: Ms. Latasha Washington

**College and Career Navigation Session**

**Plan B, Built to Lead: Workforce Development & the Power of the Trades-College isn't the only ticket to success – F106**

**Explore high-demand careers, financial stability, and purpose-driven work — often with less debt and faster entry into the workforce.**

Facilitator: Mr. Ted Murdaugh





## Proposed Itinerary (Always Subject To Change) November 4 – 8

**You can expect**

**Walking tour – Admissions, Cost To Attend  
– Scholarships Offered – Engagement With  
Students and Campus Personnel**

**Scholars will gain insight on what to look for in  
a college or university. Then home where the  
real work begins!**



BOWIE STATE  
UNIVERSITY, BOWIE,  
MD



HOWARD UNIVERSITY  
(WASHINGTON, D.C.)



MORGAN STATE  
UNIVERSITY,  
BALTIMORE, MD



HAMPTON  
UNIVERSITY,  
HAMPTON, VA



GEORGETOWN  
UNIVERSITY  
(TENTATIVE)

**The deposit holds your space if payment schedule is met, and all required forms are submitted on time.  
The College Navigation Session dates will be released by Friday, February 28, 2025! Registration opens Friday, February 28, 2025!**



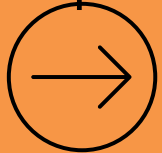
# How You Can Participate

## Program Access & Tour Eligibility

Our **College Career & Navigation Sessions (CCNS)** and **Teen Socratic Circles (TSC)** are open to **all high school scholars (grades 9–12)** at **no cost**, thanks to the generous support of our funders and investors.

### Tour Participation:

Participation in the college tour is **optional**, but scholars must meet the following criteria to be eligible:



**Apply with deposit** while seats are available (Tour capacity: 40 scholars)

**Attend at least 2 CCNS sessions**

**Participate in at least 1 TSC session**

**Be on time and actively engaged**

**The Pre-Boarding Brief” - Virtual Final Parent and Scholar Meeting – Mandatory**

**Final updates - Full itinerary- Q & A**

**9:55 AM – Check-In      10:00 – 10:45 AM**



# Costs & Next Steps

## •Payment Information & Schedule

- Non-Refundable Deposit Due with Application Submission: \$50

**Full Payment - \$645**

**Or**

**Installment 1 – By September 15, 2025 - \$215.00**

**Installment 2 – By October 15 - \$215.00**

**Final – Mandatory by November 1 - \$215.00**

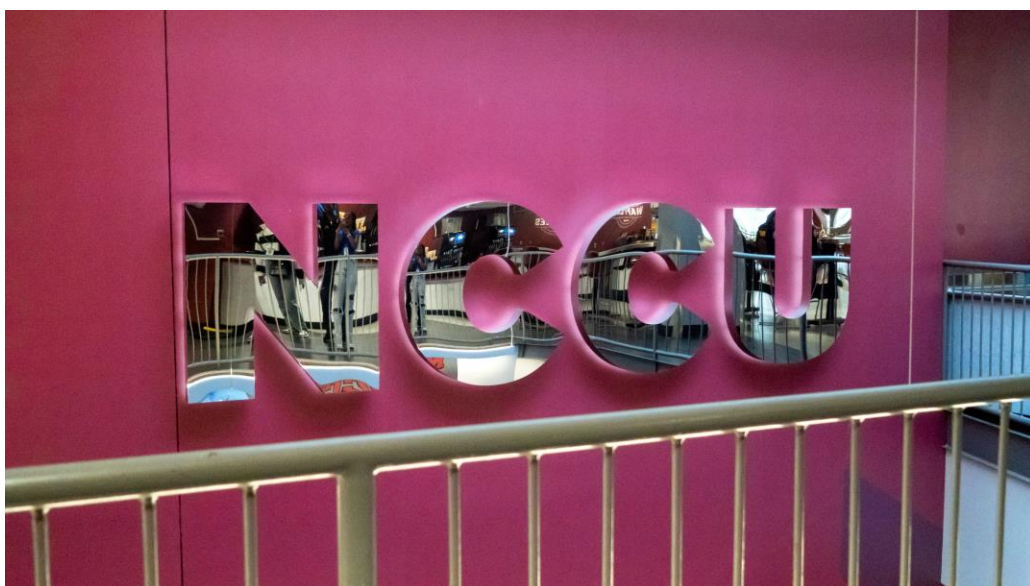
**Cost includes chartered motor coach transportation, double occupancy hotel accommodations and 3 meals daily (except travel day), snacks and 1:10 chaperone ratio.**

**Total program value is approximately \$1900 per student.**

**REFUND POLICY – 50% If requested in writing (email) by 10/15/2025**







# APPLICATION NOW OPEN

– RESERVE YOUR SEAT!

- DEADLINE:** Open until capacity is reached (40 seats available)
- DEPOSIT REQUIRED:** Secures your seat only if all terms are met

## ✓ TO CONFIRM YOUR SPOT

✓ Submit deposit While seats last	Attend required sessions 2 CCNS + 1 TSC
✓ Make timely payments As outlined	Submit all required forms By stated deadlines



## WHY A DEPOSIT?

Your deposit helps cover snacks, driver gratuity and other incidentals—ensuring a smooth, affirming experience for every scholar.

# FAQs

Frequently Asked Questions



## Q How do I receive program updates to stay informed?

A We earnestly strive to be intentional about taking sure we keep you In The Know. Questions? Reach Out and monitor your email and text messages. We are planning to primary send any communications on Wednesday's. Do we have your correct email address?

We utilize email (make sure gaddis4kids, gaddis4kids.org, info@gaddis4kids.org isn't blocked).

We also utilize our CRM to send text messages.

You can call or text : (614-470-2825)

You can reach us through FB Messenger on our Jump Start page.

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram

We post regularly on Face Book and Instagram.

We may institute another communication option when we are traveling.

*Note: Scholar school email addresses often block our transmissions.*

**Note: Locations for sessions will be updated soon. Registration will be required and limited based on meeting space.**

# FAQs

Frequently Asked Questions



**Q How will I know the tour application and payments have been received?**

A. You will receive an auto-response. Please save it for reference.

**Q How are roommates matched?**

A Scholars have the option to select their own or we will help match them. Same sex rooms only. Selections are final.

**Q How much extra money do they need?**

A Our response is based on your family budget. Scholars like to visit college bookstore gear, toiletries, *more* snacks, etc. 😊

**Q Is there a luggage limit?**

A No. However, everyone is responsible for toting their own luggage once bags are unloaded.

**Q What other forms are required?**

A Permission and medical forms, and Student Pledge.

**Q: What is the Student Pledge?**

A: As a professional organization, we uphold a clear set of standards reflected in our Code of Conduct and Dress Code. This fall, following several summer violations, we will enforce strict adherence to these expectations. All scholars and parents are required to sign the Student Pledge, affirming their understanding of our standards and the consequences for non-compliance. The pledge reinforces our commitment to excellence, accountability, safety, and legacy-building.

Forms will be made available by September 15 and must be received no later than October 31.

**Q. Are there assigned seats on the bus?**

A During boarding, scholars select their seat for duration of trip.



# FAQs

Frequently Asked Questions



## **Q Is there a curfew?**

A Yes. The curfew will be clearly listed on each scholar's schedule and is expected to be followed without exception. We reserve the right to adjust curfew times as needed to ensure safety, accountability, and alignment with program activities. Scholars are expected to honor these boundaries as part of our commitment to professionalism and respect for the group experience.

## **Q Are snacks, blankets and a toiletry/medicine bag permitted?**

A Absolutely! Note, that once the bus has been "locked and loaded" below, accessing any of these items isn't permitted.

## **Q Will parents and scholars have access to chaperones mobile number?**

A. Absolutely! Your caring staff is always accessible. Chaperones will also have each of their group's mobile numbers.

## **Q Why are students asked to arrive to sessions early?**

A We have an attendance check-in that positions us to start and end sessions on time. We value your time and

***"To be on time is late. To be early is on time."***

***This is one of several principles we teach and model.***

This principle reflects our commitment to excellence, respect, and readiness. Scholars are expected to arrive early to all scheduled activities, demonstrating leadership, accountability, and pride in their participation. Timeliness is not just about punctuality—it's about honoring the opportunity and the people who made it possible.

## **Q Is there a refund policy?**

A Yes, %50 if requested in writing (email) by 10/15/2025.

# FAQs

Frequently Asked Questions



**Q Are virtual options available for students who resides out of the area?**

A We are working on it. Unfortunately, we do not have expertise or capacity to readily offer this option. We are open to suggestions.

**Q Can parents volunteer to chaperone?**

A This isn't an ideal option. On the tour, the scholar is on the tour. We are working will be exploring an option for families to travel. It is certainly more cost efficient than driving or flying multiple places.

**Q Are their volunteer opportunities?**

We are looking for qualified chaperones, meeting space volunteers to assist with the sessions, organize/secure donations for snacks for sessions and tour. If it's YOU or someone you know, please email Ms. G. at [agaddis@gaddis4kids.org](mailto:agaddis@gaddis4kids.org).

**Q: What is “2 x 2”?**

A: “2 x 2” is our non-negotiable safety protocol: no scholar should ever wander off alone or without chaperone awareness. This is a critical precaution, especially while traveling. While some scholars may be used to more flexibility at home, college tours and group travel are different. A tour bus, can attract a range of risks. Staying in pairs and keeping staff informed ensures everyone's safety and peace of mind.

**Q. My scholar attended CCNS and TSC in the spring. Are they required to begin again?**

A. No, once we verify attendance. They do need to attend the Pre-Boarding Brief, and we are encouraging everyone to attend the special session on September 18. There is also a slight price increase to satisfy. If this is YOU, please email Ms. G at [agaddis@gaddis4kids.org](mailto:agaddis@gaddis4kids.org).

# FAQs

Frequently Asked Questions



**Q Will there be a closing program to celebrate scholars who participated in both Cohorts 1 & 2?**

**A Yes, we are planning for December where we will also acknowledge the class of 2025 graduates and award scholarships to selected graduates as they return to school in January 2026.**





# Thank you for joining us.

Stay tuned to your email and text for future updates.

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Check the website: [www.gaddis4kids.org](http://www.gaddis4kids.org)