



THE COLLEGE DROP IN PROGRAM

Implemented in Partnership With The Ralph Bunche Center for African American Studies at UCLA

DESCRIPTION: The Kanye West Foundation implemented the *College Drop In Program* in collaboration with the Dr. Ralph Bunche Center for African American Studies at UCLA during the 2009/10 academic school year. This program exposes students from the Lou Dantzler Middle School to UCLA faculty who are conducting research pertaining to hip hop, jazz and African American culture and will introduce them to college level curriculum, activities and campus life. The program will occur during four weekends throughout the year. By giving middle school students first hand exposure to the college atmosphere, both academic and fun, the Foundation hopes to spark their continued interest in their studies and help them create connections to a world class university located right in their city.

LOGISTICS & OTHER INFORMATION:

- KWF will engage thirty 8th grade students from the Lou Dantzler Middle School. These students will participate in all 4 sessions of the College Drop In Program.
- The Ralph Bunche Center and its faculty will create 4 lectures that focus on African American contributions to music and the arts and will teach these lectures as a part of each Saturday experience.
- Lectures will be supplemented by campus activities such as: tours, scavenger hunts and sporting events
- All activities will be held on four Saturdays throughout the 2009/10 school year. The first 2 dates have been set for November 14th, 2009 and January 16th, 2010 with additional dates to follow.
- Students will also engage in classroom work at their school to prepare them for each session of the program.

BRIEF OVERVIEW OF TOPICS:

1. Topic: An Introduction to African American History Using Music (Followed by a Campus Tour)

Date: November 14th, 2009

Objectives/Description: Students will learn about African American history through a musical context. The session will inspire creative thinking and expose students to college life. UCLA Student leaders will also interact with participants to share their college experiences.

2. Topic: Jazz and Hip Hop, an Intersection (Followed by UCLA Basketball game)

Date: February 6th, 2010

Objectives/Description: Drawing upon the Center's faculty which includes noted jazz musician Professor Kenny Burrell and Professor Scot Brown, students will be exposed to works in the Center's Kenny Burrell Archives and interact with UCLA students during Black History Month (also Hip Hop Appreciation Month at UCLA). Cohort participants will survey the history of hip hop with UCLA students and begin to understand the correlations among the musical art forms.

3. Topic: By the People: Diversity at UCLA (Following Activity to be Determined)

Date: To Be Determined (Tentatively late Feb/early March 2010)

Objectives/Description: On the occasion of the 40th Anniversary of the Ralph J. Bunche Center for African American Studies, students will attend an exhibition highlighting the past, present, and future struggles for change and diversity on campus. Students will be exposed to the rich historical legacy of activism and its impact on broader society through a guided tour of memorabilia with the Center's director at UCLA's Fowler Museum.

4. Topic: The Future of African American Culture (Followed by a UCLA Scavenger Hunt)

Date: To Be Determined (Tentatively late March/early April 2010)

Objectives/Description: The final cohort will consist of participants from previous lectures. Dr. Darnell Hunt, director of the Ralph J. Bunche Center for African American Studies and Dr. H. Samy Alim. This lecture will engage students about the experience and summarize their experience. Students will also receive a certificate of completion from the program.