



July 2017 Newsletter

Fall 2017 Open House Dates:

Tuesday, November 14, 2017 (2:00 - 3:30 p.m.)
Thursday, December 13, 2017 (2:00 - 3:30 p.m.)
*Tours depart from the One Magnolia Circle (OMC) building.

Register for Open House

Apply to Next Steps!

Next Steps at Vanderbilt is currently accepting applications for Fall 2018! Students who would like to apply should submit an application by November 15th, 2017 for the early consideration deadline or January 15th, 2018 for the regular consideration deadline. For more information and to apply, please visit <https://webbook.vanderbilt.edu/departments/nextsteps/admission/index.php>.



Highlighted Alumnus

Connor Dixon is a member of the Next Steps at Vanderbilt Class of 2016. After graduation, he began working with the Nashville Sounds baseball team. Connor greets the fans at the door, scans their tickets, and helps them find their seats. He enjoys his job because he likes meeting new people. When Connor is not working, he enjoys doing puzzles with his sister, spending time with his family, and attending sporting events.

Student Interview

Two current students were interviewed about their experiences as Next Steps at Vanderbilt college students. Peach, a sophomore student, and Elise, a freshman student, share their perspectives below.



Next Steps students meeting the Vanderbilt Meladores (left to right: Michael, Devon, Peach, Shaan, and Elise)

What has your Next Steps experience been like?

According to Peach, Next Steps has made her more independent; she has grown in just the short year that she has been a Next Steps student. She enjoys being able to mentor the freshmen on campus. Elise agreed with Peach, saying that she feels that she has become more independent since she arrived on campus. She explained that in high school, students do not have much independence and the teachers watch over them at all times; as a college student, Elise has experienced more freedom and has embraced more responsibilities on her own.

What has been the highlight of your semester so far?

Both Peach and Elise agreed that their semester highlight was getting to have lunch with members of the Meladores, an Acapella group on campus, and watching them perform at the Fall for the Arts event.

What is the difference between job shadowing and internships?

Job shadowing exposes students to a variety of career clusters, allowing them to explore potential career interests and work preferences through observation and reflection; internships, on the other hand, are semester-long career experiences conducted at the same placement. According to Peach, when students participate in job rotations, they mostly observe job environments. During internships, students are expected to perform work-related tasks with the help of a job coach. Peach mentioned that during her sophomore year, her job coaches allowed her to be more independent and provided supports only when needed.

How have you liked your classes so far?

Peach, who is taking a Transition to Adulthood course, enjoys her Vanderbilt elective. She said that her professors, Dr. Bethune and Dr. Carter, have helped her learn the course material by breaking it down and making it easier to understand. She said that even though it is a three-hour class, her professors keep it interesting so it does not seem so long. Elise mentioned that she has enjoyed her Career and Community Studies classes and her Vanderbilt elective. Although she found that classes were hard at first, they seemed to get easier as the weeks went on and she got used to the environment.

What are you most excited for this semester?

Peach is most excited to go to the football games. Elise, however, is most excited to meet new people and professors.



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