PROGRAM UPDATES

- **9th Grade:** The ninth graders are beginning the process of identifying and investigating a research question.
- **10th Grade:** The tenth graders are committing to a community engagement organization and defining their future contributions.
- **11th Grade:** The eleventh graders are identifying and preparing for opportunities to publish or present their research work.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Bearcats Academy’s first Quarterly Event of the new year was on January 29th at UC.
  - Students attended the UC CECH Diversity Research Day where they engaged in activities about research with UC libraries and attended poster and oral presentations.
- Our 11th grade students will be taking the ACT on February 25th. We wish them the best of luck!
- 10 of our 12th grade students have been accepted to college and 4 have confirmed their decisions. Congratulations seniors!

PARTNER PIECE

**UC Libraries:** Regina Bourne

**Department Description:** The University of Cincinnati Libraries empower discovery, stimulate learning and inspire the creation of knowledge by connecting students, faculty, researchers and scholars to dynamic data, information and resources.

**Goal in Partnership:** We can help students learn how to find information and do research. Additionally, we would like to introduce them to the library profession as a potential career as an adult as well as a UC student worker.

**Words of Wisdom:**

Stay focused on your dreams, surround yourself with like-minded people who will be positive about your dreams and support your efforts.
What has been your favorite part of participating in Bearcats Academy

My favorite part of participating in Bearcats Academy has been learning new stuff. I love that we get to take field trips and visit college campuses. I also like how Bearcats Academy is hands on. The stuff that I learn I can use now but also in the future.

How has Bearcats Academy improved your educational experience?

It’s made me grow more mature, behavior wise but also academically. I’m getting all A’s and B’s. (I even have an A in Mrs. Thomas’ class!) Bearcats Academy has given me more opportunities. When I get older, I can’t wait to go to UC because Bearcats Academy has helped me see myself in college. Bearcats Academy also always makes me think.

What has been your favorite part of participating in Bearcats Academy?

So far, my favorite part of Bearcat Academy is getting to work with and get to know of all the students in the program, all of which have unique talents and ideas. Most of the students excel in IT, but also have activities outside of school like sports and jobs, and I love to be able to talk with them and get to know how they are doing.

How have your mentoring relationships with Bearcats Academy students impacted you?

Honestly, I think I would be more cynical if I was not a mentor! Helping prepare students for college has let me reflect on what high school was like and appreciate the effort the students are putting in. Also, it is relaxing to go into the community outside of CCM and interact with people who have wider interests than music.