



### Lily Price

TRIO Upward Bound

I entered the Upward Bound program at Peninsula College the summer after my 8th grade year. I was shy, scared and pretty lost when I joined. That first summer in UB helped me realize what my dream was thanks to my favorite class. I wanted to become a writer. Now that I'm in college and have my major declared, I'm excited to continue my dream. I haven't and won't ever forget the things I learned in Upward Bound's creative writing class. That first summer, my first class in the program, I recall being given very constructive criticism in the first critique session. I might have thought my feelings were hurt at that time, but now I know that the advice everybody gave me that day helped shape my craft into what it is now, which is, at the very least substantially better than it was at the time. I am so very grateful for my time in Upward Bound and owe them a debt of gratitude for walking with me as I became the strong woman I am now.

Currently I am majoring in English with a creative writing emphasis and I will be minoring in women's gender and sexuality studies (WGSS) at Western Washington University. A side note to my experiences with TRIO Upward Bound at Peninsula College, inadvertently my mom was inspired to return to college by the staff at UB as I was. While I am attending college in Bellingham she is at University of Washington Tacoma working on a Bachelor's in Criminal Justice.

 <http://www.pencol.edu/upward-bound>



## Upward Bound

In 2007 Peninsula College was awarded its first TRIO Upward Bound grant to serve 50 first-generation and low income yearly. Peninsula College is the only postsecondary institution based in the 3,553 square miles known as the Olympic Peninsula. Within such vast geographic reach the PC Upward Bound program serves high school students from small towns and rural communities in Clallam County including students from 5 distinct Native American Tribes. The program, now in its 9th year, serves students from five target high schools of the Port Angeles, Quillayute Valley, and, Quileute Tribal School Districts. The area population income levels are very low, especially for students who live on tribal reservations. In an area where only 8.34% of residents have attained a Baccalaureate degree or higher, it is imperative to prepare first generation, low income students for postsecondary education. Upward Bound sees to the academic, social, and emotional needs of its students by tutoring, mentoring, and encouraging students to become lifelong learners, remove barriers to success and discover their passions and hidden strengths. PC Upward Bound students have consistently exceeded the program's objectives for secondary school retention and graduation as well as postsecondary enrollment rates. With a small but powerful, caring and dedicated staff, all who were also first generation students including 2 UB alumni, they work hard to build relationships with students and make an impactful difference in each student's postsecondary preparation and persistence.

# TRIO