



Off Da Beaten Path Learning LLC
Summer 2023 Newsletter

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Graduation, College & a Strange/Dream/Art Program:

On knowing Tara. Gather 'round for a tale that's as full of twists as a labyrinth, as captivating as a mystery novel, as inspiring as a symphony in the rain. I want to share my remarkable relationship with Tara, a now-college-accepted filmmaker, one of my learners, and the first person to suggest this company exist. When I met Tara, they were finishing the 8th grade. They were as staunch an advocate for the complex truth then as they are now. That has not changed. But so much else has.

With dreams as vast as the universe, they managed to navigate the treacherous waters of adolescence with remarkable grace and wisdom. Amid the turbulence of the world, Tara stood firm. They are an award winning playwright, a writer halfway done with their debut novel draft, an accomplished young filmmaker, a vibrant actor, and a talented musician. They are a multimedia magician that investigates the absurdity of life.

As their trusted Mentor, Executive Assistant, Talent Manager, Study Buddy, & Editor, I watched with admiration as Tara forged ahead. With every challenge, their determination grew, and their vision of the future shone like a beacon. And guess what? The universe took notice.

Ai, the hurdles! Program applications, building a creative portfolio that shines like a constellation, juggling extracurriculars that would make a Cirque du Soleil performer dizzy, and committing to skills and standardized tests that felt like galactic riddles. Tara met every trial, and barely looked back. (That's my job.)

Imagine the moment when Tara received that acceptance email to their dream gap year program. They also secured acceptance to college, passed their GED, aced their College Now class, and took four AP exams in one year. Okay, grad! & BIG shout-out to mom for [the killer portfolio website](#). Presentation on point!

As we honor our working partnership, let's remember that each one of us carries the power to shape our destiny. To Tara, the universe bows in respect, for they've shown us that even amidst chaos, innovation and honesty light the path.

To Tara, the cosmic adventurer, the resilient unicorn, and the brilliant star illuminating our Off Da Beaten Path Learning constellation. Your journey reminds us all that even in the darkest nights, stars shine their brightest.

Eternally honored to know you,
Your friend & mentor, Dom



Collage description:

Five pictures of Tara and Dom. Starting from top left: Tara and Dom at Coney Island Beach, Dom with the Wonder Wheel in the background, Tara and Dom on the Wonder Wheel, Tara and Dom posing indoors, Tara smiling after hitting submit on college applications.

Transitions: Saying See You Later

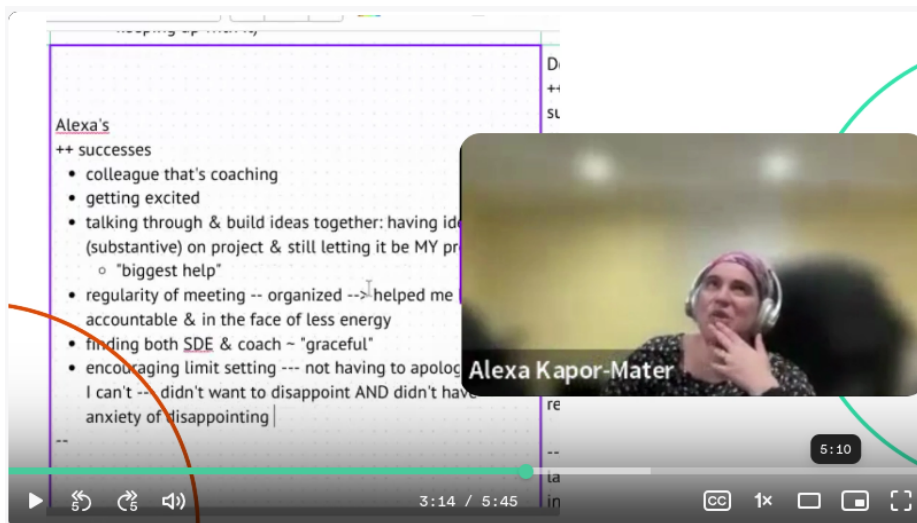
to [Faith](#) (pictured top left, with NK and Dom to her right)

Photo description: Mentors and learner sitting at a table smiling. From the left to right: Enkay Iguh, Dominique Paloma Bible, and learner, Faith. Photo is a still shot from a feedback video.



& [Alexa](#) (pictured below)

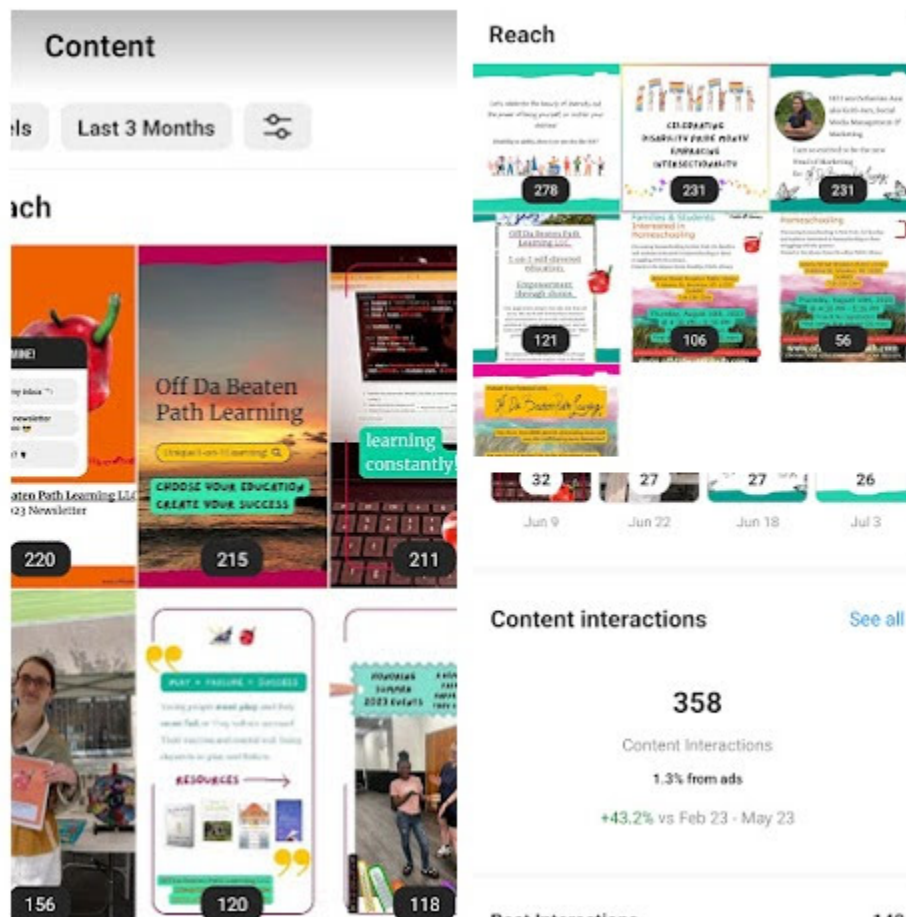
Photo description: Text and image from a still shot of a Zoom recording with coaching client, Alexa.



Keiti-Aen, Head of Marketing, Transitioning Soon! We Thank You BIG!

What Keiti has overseen:

- *36* new followers and counting!
- Steadily climbing engagement rate
- New content
- An added touch of brilliance to our already-amazing branding!
- An added voice to our vision and mission!



Collage description: Four images of data/insights from Dominique's Instagram dashboard.

As Keiti-Aen exits the Off Da Beaten Path Learning stage next month, she is increasing efforts to leave a legacy. Her goals are to reach more accounts and to help welcome in a new learner and/or family through my [@bklyn.edu.dom Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/bklyn.edu.dom), which she is managing brilliantly.

Events All Over the Goshdarn Place!

Read-aloud at Freedom School 2023 at [Red Hook Initiative](#) — thank you for welcoming me back with a big hug and a warm smile. I chose to read a short passage from *Warmth of Other Suns* by Isabel Wilkerson about the legacies from the amazing United States historical period of the Great Migration.

Play + Failure = Success — thank you to [Natural Born Champions](#) and The Food Project! The kids are geniuses and the mentors are caretakers of gold. Keep going places! Stay true. Stay playing. Stay open to failure and ready to learn. Believe in your success.



How to find your genius? Neurodiverse Unschooling: Q&A with Neurodivergent Educator, Dom

Shoutout to Maria for inviting me to this talk and for hosting + Meghan for being Queen Bee of [The Unschool Files](#) + everyone who attended the Q+A + the entire Unschool Files discord community! I had a great time. LOW FLOOR HIGH CEILING! A final and greatest shout out to the person who told me about this concept, Sushmita, the amazing mom of one of our amazon learners. All the shout outs.

[Homeschool Yo Kids Expo](#) — Jae, thank you for this pop up! I love meeting so many parents that were choosing self-direction through homeschooling for their children. I loved the answers from “What’s your favorite aspect of homeschooling?” I will not forget 9-year-old Anna’s answer. After deliberation, she looked at me and said:

“I like art.”

In my mind, I heard a whole speech: “I have the time and freedom to access my own power to decide what I do and why. I decided I like art and that’s what homeschooling allows for, is that decision and therefore that exercise in power.”

[New York Public Library](#) and I partnered to host an event, Information For Families and Teens Interested in Homeschool. — Thank you to the library staff at the [Stavros Teen Center](#)! For supporting in making this happen and for hanging out with me. I created this [homeschool resource packet](#) just for the occasion.

Make sure to download it if it’s helpful to you!

Upcoming Event!

Podcast interview with [Homeschool Yo Kid’s Jae Carter](#). We’re recording Aug 28th. Jae’s instructions to me were: show up as yourself and we’ll just talk! I love it. Make sure to subscribe to her podcast!



Off Da Beaten Path Learning LLC

www.offdabeatenpath.com

1-on-1 self-directed education. Empowerment through choice.



Thank you!

Dominique Paloma Bible (she/they)

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