

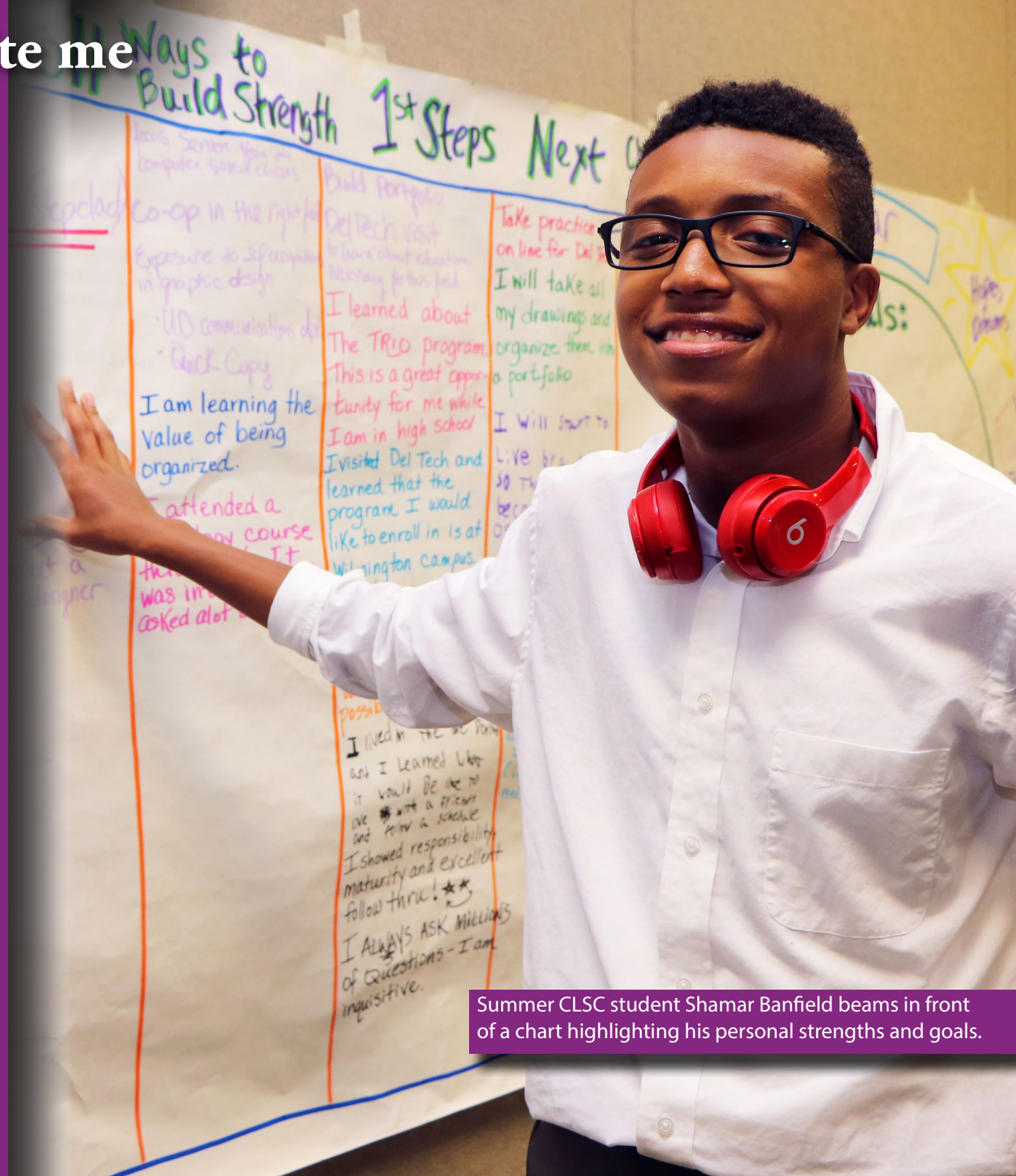
# More options excite me

Approaching the summer of 2016, high school students Shamar Banfield and Amy Hamilton – like so many of their fellow classmates – couldn't answer this question: How exactly should they pursue their futures?

After participating at UD in the Summer Career and Life Studies Certificate (CLSC) program and Edge Extension for students with disabilities, they came a lot closer to knowing what they wanted, and knowing how to succeed at it. "These programs, funded by the Delaware Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, allow students with disabilities to develop skills that will help them prosper as adults," says CDS Associate Director Brian Freedman. They're offered opportunities to set goals, get hands-on experience and receive needed supports.

A new addition to a CDS spring-to-fall program that gives qualifying high school students chances to explore campus and career options, Summer CLSC offers a weeklong UD residence experience to Banfield and other pre-college students. Banfield says he'd been "dead set" on a career in video game development. But after job shadowing experiences through Summer CLSC at a print shop, video production studio and with a graphic designer, he says "there are a lot more careers options that excite me."

Edge Extension, in its second year, gives college-bound students like Hamilton supports needed to navigate college classes and a collegiate environment for five weeks. Hamilton says "the classes were very intense." But the accommodations she received made her feel confident that she will remain "calm under pressure" once she enrolls in post-secondary education.



Summer CLSC student Shamar Banfield beams in front of a chart highlighting his personal strengths and goals.