SUMMER ENRICHMENT INSTITUTE (SEI)

A free summer program sponsored by the University of Iowa, Center for Diversity & Enrichment (COE); designed to enhance the academic experience of local ICCSD secondary-level students of underrepresented populations.

The University of Iowa
319-335-3555
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“SUCCESS IS NOT A DESTINATION, BUT THE ROAD THAT YOU'RE ON. BEING SUCCESSFUL MEANS THAT YOU'RE WORKING HARD AND WALKING YOUR WALK EVERY DAY. YOU CAN ONLY LIVE YOUR DREAM BY WORKING HARD TOWARDS IT. THAT'S LIVING YOUR DREAM.”

~ Marlon Wayans
JUNE 18TH - JUNE 22ND

WEEK 2 OF 3: TIME FLIES WHEN YOU'RE HAVING FUN (LEARNING)

When the wheels of thought are turning, progress is being made. It is always exciting to see our students' enthusiasm as their thoughts start to become action towards their completed projects. While there is still some trepidation about this year's projects having a public speaking focus, it is evident that our 2018 SEI students are nonetheless eager to share what they've learned via their research, self-reflection, and skill-building.

Reminders:
- This coming week is our final week;
- **Science Fair** will be this coming **Thursday, 6/28 in Van Allen** in our current classrooms - more information to be shared by your teachers. Program Hours that day will be **9am to 12pm**.
- **Closing Ceremony** will be this coming **Friday, 6/29 at Seamans Center room 1505**, same room where we had Orientation; **9-12pm**, followed by lunch and departure for our end-of-program trip. More information will be provided via Remind and email.

*Cultural centers field trip...*
This week, in addition to having classes and working on projects SEI toured four cultural resource centers within the University of Iowa: LNACC, Afro House, APACC, & the LGBTQ Resource Center. As our students think about their future and consider college campuses, we want them to be aware of such centers which can be beneficial in providing students a place where they can feel at home while away from home. Cultural centers such as these offer students cultural reaffirmation, a safe space to re-energize in a healthy, caring, supportive environment, as well as space conducive to studying.

More information about the various cultural/resource centers can be found below, just click on the Center's name.

AFRICAN AMERICAN CULTURAL CENTER

The African-American Cultural Center, aka the Afro House, provides a supportive & inclusive environment w/programs to empower students, faculty, staff & community members to excel, experience diversity, engage in activism, & much more.
The Latino Native American Cultural Center (LNACC) provides a supportive, inclusive environment as well as programs that empower students to excel and stretch themselves in diversity while offering opportunities to serve their community.
APACC: ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN CULTURAL CENTER

The Asian Pacific American Cultural Center serves as a center for Asian American & Pacific Islanders at the University of Iowa to have a space to interact with other 'minority' students & enhances their educational experience at the Univ. of Iowa.

LGBTQ RESOURCE CENTER

The LGBTQ Resource Center provides intra- & cross-cultural education, leadership and organizational development opportunities, social justice education, a "home away from home" for students, & a safe space for cultural & psychosocial development.
“DISCIPLINING YOURSELF TO DO WHAT YOU KNOW IS RIGHT AND IMPORTANT, ALTHOUGH DIFFICULT, IS THE HIGHROAD TO PRIDE, SELF-ESTEEM, AND PERSONAL SATISFACTION.”

~ Margaret Thatcher

PROJECT UPDATES...
Sakinah Ellickson, Science

This week was the most exciting week of science! Students began collecting their data. The science room was a whirl of excitement each day! We had projects with plants, oils, contaminated water and clean water, and so many other things being experimented upon. Students did really well helping each other by acting as test subjects in each others' projects. Groups were testing memory based on drinks, time of day, individual/group work, and correlations between dreams and stress. Three groups were analyzing the water quality of different

I am most proud of the students' work in the following areas: (1) everyone did really well helping each other. Even though they are technically competing against each other in the talk, students readily assisted each other in their projects, were enthusiastic about each others' results, and were very positive. (2) In a few instances, students' had to "get firm" with others to make sure that data was collected in a timely fashion. However, they were able to practice their leadership voices in a positive manner. I saw students who are normally quiet suddenly take a leadership role. This is a life skill that will develop and open doors if they choose to follow it.

Next week we begin to craft our speeches and present them on Thursday. I'm so excited to see the final products!!

Sneha Bhansali, Data Analysis

This week was focused on three tasks. First, students looked at various data sets and analyzed the given data to decide what could be true or what must be true based on the information provided. When a conclusion is not a must be true conclusion, students worked on anticipating possible conclusions that could be true. They also analyzed various representations of the same dataset to construct the raw data and answer questions about the raw data. Simultaneously, students finished their projects' data collection and started working on their own data analysis.
PROJECT UPDATES, CONTINUED...
Second week has flown by! Wow, we are down to the home stretch, yet it feels like we just started. This week, we read and discussed topics from excerpts of Trevor Noah’s *Born a Crime*. It was so amazing to hear all the stories that we shared in our discussion and how much we could relate to the stories in the book. Thank you to everyone for contributing your ideas, opinions, and experiences.

This week, we also worked on using poetry in place of our speech to address different issues; it was a challenge, but in the end, there were some great poems! I truly appreciate the talent and the efforts as well as the willingness to collaborate and listen. We had some deep conversations and a few light hearted ones that kept us laughing and plugging along. I loved the way, every day, someone reflected back to something we read or discussed in a previous lesson. I hope that everyone has grown and developed their skills in the process.

We heard sketches and drafts of speeches this Thursday (6/21); I think the feedback was fair to what was presented. Look forward to seeing some awesomeness on Monday, as we start the last week of of the program!

**Jorge Hernandez, Public Speaking**

During the penultimate week of SEI in Mr. Hernandez’s class, students began to put the theory of communications into action. Also, students were given multiple suggestions on what to do before, during and after a speech.

This week, everyone was given an excerpt from a famous speech and the assignment was to deliver the speech daily with their own interpretation. Not only that, but students participated in multiple daily class activities with each activity serving a specific purpose. The theme of this week’s activities was to get to know each other. Once students felt comfortable getting to know their classmates, it allowed for students to worry less about who is on the other side of the podium and more about the content being presented.

Students really enjoyed “The Human Knot” activity. In this activity, students have to think critically about their next step and how sometimes it can have an undesired result. “The Human Knot” brought out the various personalities in group. This activity was so popular, students were requesting to play this ice breaker the next day during their down time.
“I TRULY BELIEVE THAT EVERYTHING THAT WE DO AND EVERYONE THAT WE MEET IS PUT IN OUR PATH FOR A PURPOSE. THERE ARE NO ACCIDENTS; WE'RE ALL TEACHERS – IF WE'RE WILLING TO PAY ATTENTION TO THE LESSONS WE LEARN, TRUST OUR POSITIVE INSTINCTS...”

~ Marla Gibbs

LESSONS LEARNED

Everyone is welcome in the UI cultural houses we went to.

There are many opportunities to try new things; and to experience a new type of environment with new people.

Today, I learned about the history and importance of cultural resource centers. Before today, I didn’t even know that they were a thing, but after getting to tour and learn about them, I know they are going to play a large role in my college experience. I think they will be an important
factor when looking for colleges, because they can provide me with a community and support system (“home away from home” was the most common phrase today) to turn to during my years on a college campus.

I learned how to write a speech and different ways to start depending on the audience.

At the UI Cultural Centers I learned about the history of people that made those centers possible. It was amazing to learn new history but also to be standing in a place with a lot of history.

I learned that puzzles are hard work.

I learned the importance of helping out in any way I can, whether it’d be a group of people, a community, or just an individual.

Different ways of how to make a speech memorable.

I learned that communication is everything.

In SEI I’ve learned to not to give up just because something is hard and it might be easier to take the easier path but instead keep trying. Because once you achieve it it will be worth it.

I’ve learned that speaking about a topic in front people is hard and even though its a topic that you are passionate about its still hard to express your ideas.

I learned how to use google docs to graph.
In SEI, I've learned a new way of how to give a good speech, ted talk style. Also, I have learned to not let my self be afraid when I talk in front of people.

TED TALK CAME TO QUAD CITIES, MARCH 7TH

THE FOREIGN LANGUAGE OF FINANCIAL LITERACY - A MUST SEE

The concept of financial literacy can be difficult to comprehend, bringing up an array of emotions. Ms. Torres-Haddad advocates for financial literacy & aims to uplift those feeling overwhelmed by the idea of debt/actual debt - & college planning.

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