Every summer Matt Anticole, an instructor in C-MITES, Carnegie Mellon’s Institute for Talented Elementary and Secondary Students, plays a game in his “Amusement Park Physics” Workshop in which the winner is the student who traveled the farthest to participate. This summer he said a student from Cleveland would have won if not for three fifth-graders who traveled 8,000 miles from Doha, Qatar.

The three students in his workshop, Fayadh Kabir, Sahana Kanabar and Al Jazi Al-Thani, and three schoolmates from the Qatar Academy, a K-12 school in Education City, spent two weeks at Carnegie Mellon and Pittsburgh in early July participating in C-MITES workshops and the Athletic Department’s FITT Camp, where they enjoyed swimming tennis, hiking, racquetball, volleyball, golf and basketball.

With side trips to the Carnegie Science Center, the Carnegie museums, the Pittsburgh Zoo and PPG Aquarium, Kennywood Park and a Pirates baseball game, they got quite a workout, mentally, physically and culturally.

In the morning the gifted students from the Qatar Academy’s Talents in Ability, Aptitude, Achievement and Performance (TAP) program, took part in C-MITES workshops.

“I learned a lot about physics,” Kabir said. “We learned about circular motion and the three laws of Newton and how they explained the entire universe. It’s an enjoyable class.”

In addition to “Amusement Park Physics,” which included a field trip to Kennywood, some students enrolled in “Bridge Boom” and “Programming Using Alice.”

In “Programming Using Alice,” Tanya Shibu and Taran Kanabar learned computer programming skills by telling fun and creative stories using the 3-D Alice software. They also learned traditional computer programming concepts, such as loops, nesting, if/else statements and functions.

In “Bridge Boom,” third-grader Mursi Surag learned about the bridges in Pittsburgh.

“I liked the building bridges part,” Surag said. “I made it out of K’NEX (toys) and called it ‘Fort Cable.’”

The students, who were funded by the Qatar Foundation, were accompanied on the trip to Pittsburgh by their parents and siblings, who were impressed with the workshops, fitness camp and Pittsburgh.

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C-MITES NEWS

C-MITES News is published by the Carnegie Mellon Institute for Talented Elementary and Secondary Students. C-MITES sponsors a talent search for 3rd-6th graders as well as summer and weekend programs for K-9th graders throughout Pennsylvania.

- Director: Dr. Ann Lupkowski Shoplik
- Program Coordinator: Pamela J. Piskurich
- Web Designer: Raymond T. Budd
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Thanks to the ESTS Test Centers!

We would like to thank all of the schools that participated in the Elementary Student Talent Search this year by sharing information about our testing program with their students. Students in grades 3-6 took the EXPLORE test in January and February of this year at 43 test sites in 22 Pennsylvania counties. We would especially like to thank the following schools for allowing us to use their facilities for testing:

Aquinas Academy (Greensburg)  Saints Peter and Paul School (Beaver)
Berwick Middle School (Berwick)  Scranton High School (Scranton)
Blessed Sacrament School (Erie)  Torah Academy of Greater Philadelphia (Ardmore)
Campus School of Carlow University (Pittsburgh)  Trinity High School (Washington)
Candlebrook Elem. School (King of Prussia)  United Hebrew Institute (Kingston)
Carnegie Mellon University (Pittsburgh)  Valley School of Ligonier (Ligonier)
C. F. Patton Middle School (Kennett Square)  Waynesburg Central Elementary School (Waynesburg)
Centre County Christian Academy (Bellefonte)  Westmont Hilltop Elementary School (Johnstown)
Cumberland Valley High School (Mechanicsburg)  Wexford Elementary School (Wexford)
East Pike Elementary School (Indiana)  Windber Elementary School (Windber)
East Union Intermediate Center (Russellton)  The Wyndcroft School (Pottstown)
Eden Christian Academy (Pittsburgh)  Wyoming Seminary Lower School (Forty Fort)
The Ellis School (Pittsburgh)  
Fairfield Academy (Montoursville)  
Fort Allen Elementary School (Greensburg)  
Glenside Elementary Modular (Elkins Park)  
Harrisburg Area Community College (Harrisburg)  
Hillel Academy (Pittsburgh)  
Holy Child Catholic School (Bridgeville)  
Indian Valley Middle School (Harleysville)  
Linnrstown Elementary School (Lewisburg)  
Linton Middle School (Pittsburgh)  
Marshall Middle School (Wexford)  
Moon Area High School (Moon Township)  
New Castle Christian Academy (New Castle)  
Penn Christian Academy (Butler)  
Penn-Mont Academy (Hollidaysburg)  
Reading High School (Reading)  
Sacred Heart Elementary School (Pittsburgh)  
Saint Luke School (Erie)  
Saint Philip School (Pittsburgh)  

The Student Page

Have you written a short story or poem you would like to share with other C-MITES students? Do you have a favorite puzzle or brain teaser you would like our readers to try to solve? Have you always wanted to be published? Well, here’s your chance! In each issue of the C-MITES NEWS, we will have a new section called “The Student Page” that will be devoted exclusively to C-MITES students.

We are looking for original work by our students, including, but not limited to, poetry, short stories, mind benders, brain teasers or puzzles. To be considered for the next issue of the C-MITES NEWS, submissions must reach our office by May 1, 2011. Submissions are best sent in a Word document or in the body of an email. Emails of your work should be sent to Ray Budd at budd@andrew.cmu.edu. If you do not have access to a computer, you may mail a hard copy to:

Ray Budd, Web Designer
C-MITES, Carnegie Mellon University
5136 Margaret Morrison St., MMP30
Pittsburgh, PA 15213

Any work submitted is subject to the approval of the editor and must include contact information for the person submitting the work. We reserve the right to reject any submissions that are inappropriate for our readers.
C-MITES Summer Program

O ne- and two-week summer programs will be offered throughout Pennsylvania for academically talented students in mathematics, science, and humanities. The tentative 2011 locations include: Ardmore, Greensburg, Harleysville, Pittsburgh, Pottstown, Sidman/Johnstown Area, Trafford, Washington, Warren and Wexford. C-MITES courses offer students a hands-on approach to math, science, and humanities.

C-MITES summer courses include: Advertising Edge, Amusement Park Physics, Bridge Boom, CO, Dragsters, Crime Scene Investigations, Discover Robotics, Dollars and Sense, eMissions, Explorations in Science, Forensics Science, Geo-Pardy!, Green Engineering, Harry Potter’s Science Adventure, Informal Geometry, K’NEX Geometry, Math Counts, Math Olympiad, Mathematics Through the Ages, Programming Using Alice, Problem Solving Using Puzzles and Games, Roaming Ancient Rome, Robotics Programming and Design, Solar System Astronomy, and Solve a Murder Mystery. For more information about the C-MITES programs, send email to cmites@cmu.edu, or call (412) 268–1629 or visit www.cmu.edu/cmites. Selection is competitive.

- Commuter program full-day and half-day sessions
- Some sites offer optional afternoon programs.
- June 13 – July 22, 2011 (one- and two-week sessions)
- Financial Aid Available
- Grades: completed 3-8
- Cost: $200 - $480
- Application Deadline: April 7, 2011

Reminder to students taking the 2011 C-MITES EXPLORE:
You will receive EXPLORE scores at the end of March.

Kumon Fox Chapel

We would like to thank Kumon Fox Chapel for generously donating the use of its facilities for one of the classes in our summer program. Kumon is a unique after-school supplemental program for math and reading. For more information about this program, which nurtures achievement and helps children perform beyond expectations, contact Mrs. Neelam Mitra at (412) 781-0850. Thank you for supporting C-MITES!

C-MITES on Facebook!

Hello, C-MITES families! Here at C-MITES we have some exciting news. We have started a Facebook page, and on it you will find information about our office, some wonderful pictures of C-MITES students hard at work, and a discussion board where parents and students alike are encouraged to share their C-MITES experiences. We would love to hear from you! We update the page at least once a week with information on upcoming C-MITES opportunities, other educational opportunities in the Pittsburgh area, and with fun educational links for our C-MITES students.

If you already have a Facebook account, you can log in and search for C-MITES. We will be the first link under Pages. If you do not have a Facebook account you can still access our page through our main webpage at www.cmu.edu/cmites.

Professional Development for Teachers

C-MITES is continuing to offer its Professional Development series for teachers and administrators who work with gifted students. The sessions for the 2010-2011 school year will be held at Carnegie Mellon University. Check our website at www.cmu.edu/cmites for a registration form. You are also welcome to provide this information to a teacher who might be interested. C-MITES awards ACT 48 credit for participation in these workshops.

Franny McAleer will provide the March 23 workshop on differentiating instruction in the regular classroom. Participants may take one, two or three of the workshops.

The March 8 workshop, led by C-MITES Director Dr. Ann Lupkowski Shoplik, will focus on the topics of acceleration. The cost of each workshop is $75.

Save the dates:
March 8, 2011
March 23, 2011

C-MITES Named Best of the ‘Burgh!

C-MITES staff members were delighted to learn that C-MITES received the 2010 “Best of the ‘Burgh” recognition in the category, “Best Classes for Young Einsteins.” The Best of the ‘Burgh awards are given annually by Pittsburgh Magazine. C-MITES classes were honored for their focus on hands-on learning. Honorees were invited to attend a dinner and cruise on the Gateway Clipper Majestic. “C-MITES has offered fun and challenging, hands-on classes for young people for 19 years,” said Dr. Ann Lupkowski Shoplik, C-MITES director. “We are delighted to be recognized as the ‘Best of the ‘Burgh!’

Davidson Fellow Scholarships

Davidson Institute Seeks Extraordinary Achievers
to Receive $50,000, $25,000, and $10,000 Scholarships

If you are a student who will be under 18 as of Oct. 1, 2011, and are working on a graduate-level project in any field of study, please consider applying for the 2011 Davidson Fellows scholarship. The Davidson Institute for Talent Development is offering high-achieving young people across the country the opportunity to be named a 2011 Davidson Fellow, an honor accompanied by a $50,000, $25,000 or $10,000 scholarship in recognition of a significant piece of work in Science, Technology, Mathematics, Music, Literature, Philosophy or Outside the Box.

Applicants must submit an original piece of work recognized by experts in the field as significant, and it must have the potential to make a positive contribution to society. The scholarship must be used at any accredited institute of learning. The deadline to apply is March 2, 2011. To find out more, please visit www.DavidsonGifted.org/Fellows.
Those First C-MITES Students:  
What Were They Like  
and Where Are They Now?

Dr. Marty Hildebrandt, Chatham University

C-MITES began in 1992 with one class in Probability and Statistics taught at Keystone Oaks High School. Twenty students were selected from a group of 145 children who had taken the Secondary School Admission Test through C-MITES. The same course was offered to 20 more students that fall. The next year, C-MITES tested a new group of students and provided two summer classes: Probability and Statistics and Informal Geometry. Recently, we sent out a survey to these first and second year participants as well as to their parents. While the response was somewhat disappointing and the data too sparse to draw any significant conclusions, some interesting observations can be made.

We heard from 8 parents and 9 students, but with the overlap we had information on a total of 10 participants, 6 boys and four girls. The profiles of these students indicate that they were involved in many extracurricular activities throughout high school and college. Each was clearly talented academically, not only in math, but in other subjects as well. They all pursued a variety of outside interests from music to sports, and computer games to hanging with friends. Many were involved in academic competitions and they attended Governor’s Schools as well as PMEA and Pennsylvania Junior Academy of Science events.

All of the participants attended a four year college or university and completed a bachelor’s degree in a broad range of majors. Four of the ten are pursuing or have finished graduate degrees. They listed 10 different professions! These young people are now active in medicine, management, computer technology and academics. Outside of intellectual pursuits, these young people are proud of their involvement in helping other people through volunteerism and humanitarian outreachs, participating in crewing and marathons, and even producing a critically acclaimed musical album! Our graduates are successful, well-rounded individuals who care about their community and are anxious to make a difference in their world.

So what was the impact of C-MITES on these students? All agreed that they enjoyed the experience and in particular appreciated being exposed to higher level concepts, working with other students to solve problems, and doing fun, hands-on activities. Participants also expressed appreciation for the opportunity to be involved in activities with other gifted students who shared their interests.

Both parents and students commented that the C-MITES experience was valuable in building confidence and self-esteem in the young people. They felt that C-MITES offered the opportunity to be academically challenged and also to make school districts more aware of the particular needs of the gifted community. Additionally the participants noted the long range effect of the classes which encouraged their interest in mathematics and challenged them to grow in new ways. All of the respondents would involve their own gifted children in similar opportunities.

As a parent of a current C-MITES student, what advice might you garner from this? First and foremost, keep doing what you are doing! Involve your child in opportunities that enable them to interact with other academically talented students and that stretch their minds by exposing them to challenges and higher level concepts. Second, encourage them to pursue broad interests. Keep them involved in sports and the arts, if your child likes those activities, and promote all areas of academic pursuit. Above all, let them discover what they enjoy! Help them to explore and to develop their talents and, most importantly, to have fun in the process! That is what C-MITES is all about!

Center for Rural Gifted Education, IUP

The Indiana University of Pennsylvania Center for Rural Gifted Education serves high achieving/gifted/talented students, their families, and their schools. Center services include educator training, child and family counseling, assessment, consultation, information and referral. The Center also seeks to enhance community awareness of the needs of gifted children and youth, to provide easy access to relevant educational materials for parents and educators, to facilitate the training of pre-service educators regarding gifted education, and to contribute to the body of scholarly literature related to the educational, social, and emotional strengths and needs of gifted children and youth. For further information or to learn about gifted education courses available at Indiana University of Pennsylvania, contact the Center at 724-357-2300.

C-MITES Goes Global

Continued from page 1

Judith Hallinen, Director of the Leonard Gelfand Center for Service Learning and Outreach, coordinated the outside-of-class experiences for the students and their families.

“The program has been excellent,” said Paula Brunning, mother of Sahana and Taran Kanabar. “From the day they came home with lots of enthusiasm. Taran was extremely excited to show what he’s been doing. This is our first time to Pittsburgh and I’m really impressed,” she said.

“She’s enjoyed her stay and she enjoyed her lessons,” said Rooma Shibu, mother of Tanya Shibu. “It’s been good exposure for her to meet different kids. She found the Alice programming a bit challenging, but that’s the idea. She has to push herself.”
A C-MITES Welcome to Barbara Matthews
By Elizabeth Scales Rheinfrank

We are very happy to welcome Barbara Matthews to the C-MITES staff. Barbara has been working as a program assistant since July. You may have already heard her friendly voice on the phone, as she helped you with your class registration or met her at one of the fall Weekend Workshops, where she frequently works at the check-in table.

Barbara is a native of Pittsburgh. She took C-MITES classes when she was younger and is excited to now be in the position of giving other children the exciting learning experiences that C-MITES gave her as a child. “I love working with the kids and getting to see how much they learn and the enjoyment that they get out of the classes that we offer,” said Barbara. “The teachers are always great, and the classes are completely enthralling, even from an adult perspective.”

Barbara graduated from Carnegie Mellon University in May 2010 with a bachelor’s degree in social and cultural history. She is currently working on her Master of Library and Information Science degree at the University of Pittsburgh. She loves music and traveling, and to date, she has seen over 200 concerts on multiple continents. Her favorite band to see in concert is the Dave Matthews Band, because each show is unique and she has met so many amazing friends from all over the world at these concerts. Two of Barbara’s favorite places to visit are Berlin and Prague. “Berlin is a wonderful city with so much history. It was thrilling to be there,” she said, “and Prague is hands-down the most beautiful place that I have ever been.”

Bright and full of energy, Barbara is a wonderful addition to our team. Please join us in welcoming her to C-MITES!

Save the Date:
PAGE Conference
Charting Vital Frontiers for Gifted
April 14 - 16, 2011
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

Teacher Feature

The teacher featured in this issue of the C-MITES Newsletter joined our program in the summer of 2003. When C-MITES started a summer camp at the Valley School of Ligonier, David Kirkland stepped up to teach in his first ever C-MITES course, What Are the Chances? Actually, the chances were pretty good and David has remained an active and important member of the C-MITES teaching staff.

David taught that first probability and statistics course and he also taught a Structures class, engineering and bridge design, before he developed his own course, CO₂ Dragsters. The class was a real hit that first year and since then CO₂ Dragsters has become one of our most popular classes making David our C-MITES CO₂ Dragsters guru! In the class, 4th through 6th graders design two different dragsters powered by two different sources of energy. They design and build a car using a mouse-trap as the energy source that powers it. Then, they build an aerodynamically-designed dragster out of balsa wood and power it using a CO₂ cartridge. Students learn about the history of the automobile and discuss aerodynamics. They apply what they learned to build their own dragsters and race them. Students also are able to determine the speed of their cars based upon distance and time.

Students who have taken David’s courses have commented on how much they were able to learn and how exciting it was! Teachers who have worked with David want to work with him again, because he is enjoyable to work with and is truly a fantastic teacher! One parent remarked, “Mr. Kirkland was enthusiastic and energetic. He ran a great program and it was very fun!”

When David is not busy teaching his C-MITES course he teaches general mathematics, Algebra and Geometry at the Valley School of Ligonier in Rector. He has been teaching at Valley for 16 years. He’s the Ninth Grade Advisor and manages the stage crew for the school’s spring musicals.

David was born in Southern California and moved to SW Pennsylvania to attend St. Vincent College. He graduated in 1994 with a degree in Mathematics and a minor in Secondary Education. He received his Masters in Education with a concentration in supervision from Duquesne University in 2001.

Being a life-long lover of math and with the mindset that every child has great potential, David believes that EVERY child can experience success in mathematics. He teaches with a passion for mathematics and truly wishes to inspire his students to also love math. He enters his classroom and shouts “Who loves math?” and with all

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Outside the Box Gifted Education
By Jane Ferris, Director, University Scholars Program

The Pennsylvania Leadership Charter School's University Scholars Program is designed to challenge and celebrate the individual scholar with an understanding of the complexities of gifted/talented learners – both their phenomenal strengths and very real challenges. We believe that gifted students, like all students, have a right to be challenged so that they may reach their fullest potential. At the University Scholars Program, we provide the opportunities and support for scholars in a setting where like-minded peers and teachers encourage and inspire.

At University Scholars, we:
• Tailor instruction and opportunities to the individual needs and goals of the scholar
• Develop the capacity of the individual by providing challenges
• Know that scholars are constantly learning from each other
• Encourage authentic scholarship – true investment in the process and products of learning
• Encourage and develop leaders with the understanding that leadership manifests in diverse ways
• Know that student leaders have a positive role to play in the learning of others, like a geometric expansion of knowledge through interaction with other gifted people
• Believe in the importance and power of student/teacher collaboration in small learning environments

The University Scholars Program celebrates the uniqueness of the individual scholar! Academic classes are offered via the Internet as well as onsite in West Chester, Pennsylvania at the Advanced Ideas Center.

“I’m Emmie Moffitt,[T]his is my sixth year with the University Scholars family. … The teachers do everything they can to help the individual needs of the students, just like a family. They are flexible, and realize that the students here are unique learners, and treat them as such. University Scholars is a rigorous program, but it is every bit as rewarding as it is difficult. I have learned much more here than I would have ever learned anywhere else, and I think that it is USP itself that has given me this desire and need to learn.”

For more information, please visit www.universityscholars@palcs.org.

Teacher Feature:
Continued from page 5
of their hearts, his students respond, “WE LOVE MATH!” This fun start to the class gets everyone in a good mood and on the right path to experience success!

In his spare time, he enjoys being outdoors and with his family. Landscaping and taking care of lawns, flowers and borders are his hobbies. Spending his summers at the beach remind him of his carefree youth in California.

When he's not in school, David likes going to the movies and enjoys the challenge of puzzles. He and his wife, Cheryl (also a teacher in the C-MITES program), teach Religious Education to 8th graders at their parish in Forest Hills.

David is truly an outstanding C-MITES teacher, and we are very lucky (and thankful) to have him as an instructor in our program.

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Thank You to Our Donors!

Once again, C-MITES staff members would like to thank Dr. Bernard Meisner, Carnegie Mellon class of 1971, for his generous donation of $2,000 to the C-MITES scholarship fund. His donation enables many financially disadvantaged students to participate in our classes.

We are also very happy to report that C-MITES has received a three-year grant from the Grable Foundation. The $15,000 per year grant will be used for scholarships as well as for purchasing materials used in our classes.

We would also like to thank Mr. Mark Gelfand, another Carnegie Mellon graduate, for his generous $45,000 donation to C-MITES last year. His gift was used for scholarships, purchasing equipment for our classes, and producing and mailing this newsletter.

In addition, many C-MITES families have made donations from $5 to $250 over the past year. These donations have totaled over $2,220, and they go directly to our scholarship fund. 'Thank you so much!'
Order your C-MITES apparel today!

Order your very own tie-dye C-MITES t-shirt, sweatshirt and/or backpack and be the envy of all your friends! Simply fill out the order form and return it to our office with your check made payable to “Carnegie Mellon University.”

* The C-MITES tie-dye t-shirt has white lettering saying “C-MITES Carnegie Mellon.” Cost is $17.
* The C-MITES sweatshirts are forest green. They have a hood and zipper and feature the Carnegie Mellon C-MITES logo. Cost is $27.
* The C-MITES backpack is a black string backpack with a red and white C-MITES logo. Cost is $17.
* Proceeds from these sales go to the C-MITES scholarship fund.

Make check payable to Carnegie Mellon University

Send to:
C-MITES
5136 Margaret Morrison St., MMP30
Carnegie Mellon University
Pittsburgh, PA 15213

Name: _______________________________
Address: _____________________________
City: __________ State: _____ Zip: ______
Telephone: ___________________________

T-shirts Quantity:
_____ youth size M  _____ adult size M
_____ youth size L  _____ adult size L
 _____ adult size S  _____ adult size XL

Sweatshirts Quantity:
_____ youth size M  _____ adult size M
_____ youth size L  _____ adult size L
 _____ adult size S  _____ adult size XL

Number of t-shirts X $17 =$___________
Number of sweatshirts X $27 =$_________
Number of backpacks X $17 =$_________

TOTAL ENCLOSED =$____________ (Shipping & handling included in prices)
Your Child’s Name on a C-MITES T-Shirt

Surprise your child! Have your family name listed on the C-MITES 2011 Summer Program t-shirt! For a $100 donation, we will list your name as a “Friend of C-MITES” on the back of the t-shirt. You might list your child’s name or your family name (for example, The Smith Family).

You could also have your company’s logo included on the back of the t-shirt. The cost of the logo is $1,000. Logos will be approximately 6” to 8” wide and several logos will be displayed on the shirt. Logos should be sent in a jpeg, pdf or Photoshop file to the C-MITES email address, cmites@cmu.edu.

Donations must be received by March 1, 2011. Donations are tax-deductible. Make checks payable to Carnegie Mellon University. Thank you for considering this!

C-MITES reserves the right to limit advertisements on our t-shirts.

Name: _____________________________________________________
Address: ___________________________________________________
City, State, Zip: ______________________________________________
Telephone number: ___________________________________________

____$100 enclosed. Name as we would like it to appear on the t-shirt (please limit to 25 characters and print clearly): __________________________________________________________

____$1,000 enclosed. Company name to be included in the logo: _______________________
Email the logo to cmites@cmu.edu in a jpeg, pdf or photoshop format.

____$50 donation. Name as you would like it to appear on the ‘thank you’ page of our newsletter:
___________________________________________________________

____$25 donation. Name as you would like it to appear on the ‘thank you’ page of our newsletter:
___________________________________________________________

____other donation enclosed: ________________________________ C-MITES welcomes donations such as grocery store or craft store gift certificates to be used for purchasing classroom supplies.

Thank you!