~ Calendar ~

September
Weekend Workshops at Carnegie Mellon.

October
Weekend Workshops at Carnegie Mellon and Kennett Square.

November
Weekend Workshops at Carnegie Mellon and Ardmore.
11/28: Early registration deadline for EXPLORE testing

December
12/14: Final registration deadline for January EXPLORE testing.

January
Spring Weekend Workshops brochures and newsletters mailed.
1/16: Final registration for February EXPLORE testing.
1/26, 27: EXPLORE test

February
2/16: EXPLORE test

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Meet a C-MITES teacher . . . p. 5
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. . . and don’t forget to check out our website (www.cmites.org) and Facebook page for all the latest C-MITES information
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-10th graders throughout Pennsylvania.

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- Program Coordinator: Pamela J. Piskurich
- Web Designer: Raymond T. Budd
- C-MITES Program Assistant: Elizabeth Rheinfrank
- C-MITES Assistant: Evelyn Mann

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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? Here’s your chance! In each issue of the C-MITES NEWS, we will have a 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 October 1, 2012. 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.

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.

Professional Development for Teachers

C-MITES has planned several sessions for teachers this academic year in October, November and March. Sessions are held on the Carnegie Mellon campus and will include topics such as “Gifted Support: It’s Not Just for Pull-Out Anymore,” “Standards-Based GIEPs,” and “Gifted Education 101.” The cost is $75 per day and more information can be found at http://www.cmu.edu/cmites/professional_development.html or call the C-MITES office to have a brochure mailed to you.

Thanks to the Summer Program Host Schools!

C-MITES would like to extend a sincere thanks to the following sites that served as Summer Program locations:

Aquinas Academy, Greensburg
C. F. Patton Elementary School, Kennett Square
Campus School of Carlow University, Oakland
Carnegie Mellon University, Oakland
The Ellis School, Oakland
Forest Hills High School, Sidman
Indiana University of Pennsylvania, Indiana
Learning Enrichment Center, Warren
Linntown Elementary School, Lewisburg
Seton-La Salle High School, Mount Lebanon
St. Alexis Catholic School, Wexford
Wexford Elementary School, Wexford
Winchester Thurston North Campus, Hampton Township
Winchester Thurston School, Oakland

We really appreciate the support!
C-MITES Celebrates 20 Years!
by Ann Lupkowski-Shoplik, Ph.D., Director C-MITES

We are eagerly looking forward to the C-MITES 20th Anniversary Celebration dinner and silent auction. This fun event is scheduled for Saturday, October 13th from 6:00 to 11:00 p.m. We hope you’ll be able to join us!

We’re inviting former students and their families, current and ‘retired’ C-MITES teachers, current families, and other friends of the C-MITES program. The purpose of this event, of course, is to celebrate reaching the milestone of 20 years. In addition, we are holding a silent auction to raise additional funds for C-MITES scholarships and operating costs.

We are currently soliciting donations for the silent auction. We expect to have many baskets of items following various themes such as “Family Movie Night,” “Visit Pittsburgh” and “Vacation!” These baskets will be auctioned off, and we will provide additional activities to make this a fun evening for all who attend.

A buffet dinner will be held at the Rangos Ballroom, located on the second floor of the Carnegie Mellon University Center. Parking is free at the East Campus garage, which is next door to the University Center. Dress for the event is ‘cocktail attire.’ Parents are welcome to bring their children, although no specific activities are planned for children.

You may order your tickets using the form on page 8 of this newsletter or by visiting our website at www.cmites.org. We look forward to seeing you there!

As you can see from the photo, we have painted the fence! This is a fun Carnegie Mellon tradition. Fence painters meet at midnight to stake out their spot, quickly paint the fence, and then guard it the rest of the night. We were delighted to get to work one morning a few weeks ago and find some “elves” had painted the famous Carnegie Mellon fence in honor of the C-MITES 20th anniversary celebration. The C-MITES staff quickly posed for a photo!

Closeup of the C-MITES staff at the fence
A C-MITES Welcome to Evelyn Mann

We are very happy to welcome Evelyn Mann to the C-MITES staff. Evelyn joined our team as a C-MITES assistant in January. However, we’ve known Evelyn since October 2009 when she first started working with us as an undergraduate student at Carnegie Mellon. You may have already spoken with Evelyn on the phone, as she helped you with your class registration or met her at one of the spring Weekend Workshops. “My favorite part of the job is when I get to witness kids leaving with their parents at the end of the day, skipping out the door with papers and craft projects filling their hands...” she says. “It’s fulfilling to know that children find the C-MITES program fun, educational and worth sharing with their parents, siblings and peers.”

Evelyn graduated from Carnegie Mellon University with a bachelor’s degree in chemistry from Chatham College for Women and a bachelor’s degree in civil engineering with a minor in environmental engineering and sustainability from Carnegie Mellon. She is returning to Chatham in the fall to pursue a master’s degree in sustainability, with a possible focus in either education or green building design.

Evelyn has worked with young people since the seventh grade when she began babysitting. “I’d bring a craft project with me to do with the children,” she recalls, “sometimes one I invented myself.” She worked at a youth camp in Michigan for five consecutive summers, taught vacation Bible school in two states and worked as both a teacher and teaching assistant for C-MITES classes since 2010. For the past few years, she has also served as the assistant music instructor/director for the Rankin Junior Tamburitzans, an Eastern European dance ensemble, where she teaches music theory, voice and instrumentation to students age four to eighteen.

Evelyn grew up in Pittsburgh. “I haven’t strayed too far from Squirrel Hill,” she explains, “except to travel the world through study abroad in Belgium and the Netherlands, touring with the Rankin Junior Tamburitzans in Croatia or organized trips to Peru and Ecuador. I love to travel—the adventure, the simplicity, the cultures and food.” In her free time, Evelyn also enjoys watching movies and playing with Lucian, a six-year-old black cat, and Luna, a two-month old kitten, that she recently adopted.

Please join us in welcoming Evelyn to C-MITES! She is a wonderful addition to our team.

Spring Philadelphia-Area Classes

This spring C-MITES held Weekend Workshops at two locations in the Philadelphia area, Patton Middle School in Kennett Square and Lower Merion High School in Ardmore. We offered eight classes at Lower Merion High School and five classes at Patton Middle School, with 390 students in kindergarten through the eighth grade participating. The students had a blast turning liquid into delicious, edible ice cream, programming robotic animals to move, solving a crime as junior investigators, and making a life-sized samurai helmet. We were pleased to offer four new classes this spring: Basic Robotic Mechanisms, The Mysterious Human Heart, A Rockhound Adventure, and The Tiny World of Nanotechnology. The classes were well received, and we hope to offer them again in the fall. Another highlight of the event at Lower Merion High School was the parent workshop entitled A Guided Discussion on the Characteristics of Gifted Children, conducted by Lauren Shive and Carolyn Kottmeyer, both SENG certified support group facilitators and parents of gifted children. They provided parents with a lot of useful information and tips. We would like to thank all of the C-MITES families, teachers, and staff, especially Ramaa Nathan, the site coordinator at Lower Merion High School, and Jim Fulginiti, assistant principal of Patton Middle School, for making the spring Weekend Workshops in the Philadelphia area such a success!

PAGE
(Pennsylvania Association for Gifted Education)

If you are looking for more resources for your academically talented or gifted child, you should consider becoming a member of PAGE, the Pennsylvania Association for Gifted Education. The annual conference for PAGE will be held April 18-19, 2013 in Moon Township near Pittsburgh. It will be at Robert Morris University and the Holiday Inn, Moon Township. The theme will be Shooting for the Moon: Reaching New Heights in Gifted. Save the dates! For more information, see www.giftedPAGE.org.

Evelyn, the latest addition to C-MITES

Evelyn, the latest addition to C-MITES

AMERICAN EAGLE OUTFITTERS

FOUNDATION

C-MITES NEWS  ●  Fall 2012
C-MITES Summer Program

As we began the summer program this year we had over 1120 requests for summer placement. Some of the classes had well over 50 students who applied. The C-MITES Summer Program has become quite popular! We had students from as far as Qatar send in applications. This year’s summer group included 14 students from Qatar, 3 from Virginia, 2 from Ohio, Florida and Missouri, and 1 each from Texas, North Carolina, Georgia, Connecticut and New Hampshire. Friendships extend across the country and even the ocean! Applications for the first and second grade classes totaled well over 140. This is the first summer C-MITES has ever conducted classes for the first and second grades and it looks like it will not be the last!


There were fourteen different classes on the CMU campus. For five weeks students participated in the classes and made new friends while exploring many interesting math, science and technology topics. Bridges were built and computer games were created by the students. The green engineers discussed ways to improve the environment while the solar system astronomers studied the starry night. Let’s not forget the togas the Ancient Rome class wore for their last day party. They looked pretty awesome! Some of the students who participated in the morning academic classes also participated in the FITT camp for the afternoons. Those students were literally very tired campers when they left the campus for the day.

There were 31 classes at 14 different sites during the program. Twenty-five were in Allegheny County and six were in other Pennsylvania counties. In June there were 19 classes and in July there were 12 classes. A total of 8 math classes, 16 science classes, 1 humanities course, and 6 technology classes were offered and enjoyed by the 470 students who participated. Thanks to those students who shared a part of their summer in the C-MITES program and to the teachers who made it possible!

Teacher Feature

The teacher featured in this issue of the C-MITES Newsletter began her career with the program in the spring of 2008. Now, five years later, Mrs. Stephanie Farmer has created several math and science courses to make them more enjoyable for all of the students who participate.

Stephanie has taught in the programs that C-MITES conducts in the Philadelphia area of the state. She is active in the summer program and has taught several of our weekend classes. Stephanie has developed workshops for many of our students. The courses she teaches include: Bottle Biology, Get a Clue, The Human Body, Rocketry and Spacecraft, Rockhound Adventure, Skeletal Remains, and Origami: The Art and History. Yes, we keep Stephanie very busy throughout the year!

Stephanie Farmer - C-MITES Teacher

In her Get a Clue class, students become crime scene investigators and receive training in the most effective crime scene investigative practices including two types of fingerprinting, dental indentation techniques, tire tread identification, observation skills and crime scene paperwork. The culminating activity is a mock crime scene which requires students to solve a murder of the city mayor. Students who participated commented that they really learned a lot of cool stuff and are going to continue pursuing their interests in forensic science.

Stephanie is a certified in Elementary (K-6), ESL Program Specialist, Mid-Level Citizen Ed. (7-9), Mid-Level English (7-9) and Mid-Level Science (7-9), K-12 Special Education as well as holds her K-12 School Leadership Certifications. Currently Stephanie is a 3rd Grade Gifted Teacher in the Brandywine School District in Delaware. She has also taught K-6th grade Gifted Pull Out, 4th Grade and was a K-6 Life Skills instructor. Ten years ago she also worked as a security law enforcement officer with the United States Air Force.

In her spare time, Stephanie is an avid reader. She loves to travel with her husband Chris to far off locations in search of a great scuba dive site. She also spends much of her time with her two doxies: Weaner Dog and Gertie Mae. In Mount Pleasant Elementary School, she also volunteers with the elementary theatre group, Girls on the Run, and the National Elementary Honor Society.

Stephanie is truly a wonderful C-MITES teacher and we are very thankful to have her as an instructor in our program.

Next time you are in Ardmore or Kennett Square, if you’re not in class with Stephanie look for her, because she’s probably just down the hall!
Thank You to Donors
The C-MITES staff would like to thank the following donors: Mark Gelfand, The Robert M. Thompson Jr. Family Fund of the Pittsburgh Foundation, The Grable Foundation, Dr. Bernard Meisner, the American Eagle Outfitters Foundation, The Spectroscopy Society of Pittsburgh, and the Bright family. Many C-MITES families have also given gifts of $5 and more to our scholarship fund. We thank all of you!

Although most of the income for C-MITES is generated from tuition families pay for our classes, about 15% of our income is derived from grants or donations. The majority of these funds are used to provide scholarships for students who could not otherwise afford to participate in C-MITES classes. Last year, we awarded over $40,000 in scholarships to low-income students!

The Davidson Fellows Scholarship
The Davidson Fellows Scholarship awards $50,000, $25,000 and $10,000 scholarships to extraordinary young people, 18 and under, who have completed a significant piece of work.

Application categories are Mathematics, Science, Literature, Music, Technology, Philosophy and Outside the Box. Davidson Fellows are honored every year in Washington, D.C., with Congressional meetings and a special reception.

To be eligible for consideration as a Davidson Fellow, applicants must:
• Be 18 or younger as of October 10, 2012.
• Be a U.S. citizen residing in the United States, or a Permanent Resident of the United States residing in the United States, or be stationed overseas due to active U.S. military duty.
• There is no minimum age for eligibility.
• The Davidson Institute is looking for students whose projects are at or close to the college graduate level with a depth of knowledge in their particular area of study. This scholarship is not geared toward students at the novice level.
• The application deadline is February 1, 2013.

For more information, visit the Davidson Institute website at www.davidsongifted.org.

A Sincere Thanks to Amy Stimmell
For the last four summers, students from Warren County have been eligible for a special scholarship to attend the C-MITES classes offered at the Learning Enrichment Center in Warren County. These scholarships have been provided by the Community Foundation of Warren County. Mrs. Amy Stimmell, principal of the Learning Enrichment Center, Warren County School District, wrote the grant that provided these funds. Thanks so much for your hard work and support of C-MITES students, Mrs. Stimmell!

Like C-MITES?
Become a fan on Facebook
• Weekly games and experiments
• Announcements and pictures
• Educational opportunities
• And more!
Order your C-MITES apparel today!

Order your very own 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 the “C-MITES Carnegie Mellon” logo. 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.
* 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 $27 =$_________
TOTAL ENCLOSED =$____________
(Shipping & handling included in prices)
See page three of this newsletter for details about the 20th Anniversary Celebration. If your family would like to attend, please return this form to the address below. You may also register at www.cmites.org.

Name: ___________________________________________________________________________________________________

Email: ______________________________________________________________  Phone: ______________________________

Address: _________________________________________________________________________________________________

City: _____________________________________________________________  State: _______  Zip: _____________________

Names of all those attending in your party:
(please indicate any dietary restrictions)

________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________

Dear Friend of C-MITES:

As you may know, C-MITES is funded by grants, gifts, and income received from course tuition. Although approximately 85% of our income is derived from tuition, we still depend on grants and gifts to pay for our ongoing office expenses and for scholarships.

If you would like to make a donation to C-MITES, whether you can attend the banquet or not, please complete and return this form to the address below. You may wish to ask your employer whether they would match your contribution. Any amount would be greatly appreciated. Please indicate whether or not you would like your name published as a donor in the next issue of our newsletter. Your contribution is tax-deductible; you will receive a letter from Carnegie Mellon University acknowledging your gift. People making a donation of $100 or more can have their names listed on the C-MITES 2013 Summer Program t-shirt.

Thank you again for supporting C-MITES!

Sincerely,
C-MITES Staff

Amount _____$25 _____$50 _____$100 _____$1,000 _____Other

Credit Card (circle):      Mastercard      Visa

Credit Card Number: __________________________________  Expiration date: _______________________________________

Telephone (required if using a credit card): ____________________ My employer will match my contribution ________________

Please make checks payable to Carnegie Mellon University, and send to:

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

I would/would not (circle) like my name to appear in the C-MITES Newsletter as a donor to the program.

For donations of $100 or more: I would/would not (circle one) like my name to appear on the back of the 2013 C-MITES T-shirt.

Name as you would like it to appear in the newsletter or on the back of the T-shirt (if donation of $100 or more):

Name ________________________________________________________

Thank You!