

Young Artists Institute on the Rise!

In just two summers, the Young Artists Institute has blossomed from a fledgling program into a truly transformational experience for students and staff. Growing from 30 students in 2015 to an expected 100 students in 2017, YAI is meeting a need for talented students to explore their art form, refine skills, discover their own unique artistic voice, and learn from professional artists in an immersive, multi-disciplinary arts institute.



The number of artistic disciplines also has grown, and in 2017, we are adding the study of digital arts to the offerings in creative writing, poetry, visual arts, and theater.

The vision of the YAI is to give students access to the way artists work and see the world, to enable students to discover their unique artistic voice, and to help improve their skills as artists. Participants in this summer's program rated the program exceptionally high, with 100% of the students rating their experience as "outstanding." Students said they learned to "reframe failure as a springboard for success," to "shatter my comfort zone," and to "bend together to make beauty."



I really found myself and unlocked hidden talents within me. - Young Artists Institute 2016 student

SOU Pre-College Youth Programs

For more than 35 years, we have offered enriching and dynamic educational programs to K-12th grade students in southern Oregon. Our programs include summer camps, enrichment classes and workshops, regional academic competitions, and early college credit programs for high school students. We encourage students to get excited about college life, and begin dreaming about being a college student. Discover our many educational activities throughout this newsletter, or at

sou.edu/youth



More Highlights Inside:

- ACADEMY stays strong, serving 230 bright minds in 2016
- Academia Latina makes a difference, achieving new heights for alums
- AWSEM motivates girls to discover and pursue interests in science and math

And more....



Scavenger Hunt taught me to be persistent and never give up. – 2015 High School Scavenger Hunt Participant

OUR PROGRAMS

CÉSAR E. CHÁVEZ LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE Friday, March 10, 2017

Each year, over 250 Latino high school student leaders from southern Oregon attend this day-long conference. A highlight of last year's conference was a keynote address by Lydia Garcia, a former dramaturg at the Oregon Shakespeare Festival. She spoke of her personal journey as a Latina navigating an Ivy League education, and forging a path into the world of theater. The CECLC prepares Latino high school students to become leaders and develop their knowledge about contemporary issues within their community. It also encourages Latino youth to pursue educational opportunities beyond high school. Participants attend workshops focusing on leadership, cultural arts, and college preparation.



AWSEM Saturday, April 15, 2017 Symposium for Middle School Girls

Advocates for Women in Science, Engineering, and Mathematics

For more than 20 years, AWSEM has encouraged middle school girls to pursue their interests in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) fields. AWSEM reaches girls at a critical age, when they tend to become disinterested in STEM fields. At the AWSEM symposium, young women are encouraged to dive deeper and learn about career options by meeting and talking with professional women in STEM occupations, and taking part in a variety of hands-on workshops. Girls throughout southern Oregon are nominated by their teachers to take part in AWSEM.

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS EARN COLLEGE CREDIT AND SAVE MONEY

Early college credit programs benefit regional high school students by maximizing their high school years AND by helping them earn university credits at a reduced tuition level. **Plus, high school students who participate in early credit programs are more successful in college, with a 14% increase in their six-year college graduation rates!**

The Advanced Southern Credit Program (ASC) consists of university courses taught in high schools by SOU approved high school faculty, usually as part of the Advanced Placement (AP) or Honors curriculum. Fees are only \$41 per credit!

The High School Early Entry Program is for high school juniors and seniors who meet the qualifications to take courses on the SOU campus for college credit. All prospective Early Entry students, including home schooled students, meet with our SOU High School Coordinator, Stephanie Butler. Fees are only \$75.71 per credit!

In both programs, students receive standard university credits that are transcribed by SOU. Some students earn enough credits through these programs to cover up to a year of their college education--quite a head start towards college graduation!



ACADEMIC COMPETITIONS

Each year, more than 1200 students from all over southern Oregon enhance their skills in communication, collaboration, and research by participating in challenging academic competitions including the Middle School and High School Scavenger Hunts, Middle School and High School Brain Bowls, Spelling Contest, and the Best of the Best Art Show. Competitions inspire students to achieve their best and most competitions culminate on the SOU campus, giving students a pre-college experience that includes contact with SOU Faculty, Admissions, and staff.



The overall experience was incredible. I learned so much, and not all academically. I improved myself as well.

– 2016 Academy student

SUMMER 2017

ACADEMY

June 25–July 1, 2017

Students completing grades 5 - 8

This popular week-long residential camp for students in grades 5-8 has long been recognized for its high-caliber educational experience. Academy offers talented and highly able students a week of rigorous academic, recreational, and cultural experiences that go beyond the standard school curriculum. In 2016, 231 students in grades 5-8 attended Academy, exploring classes in the humanities, science, mathematics, social studies, the performing arts, team-building and leadership training.

“At this camp I have met so many people who helped me become an original person.”

– 2016 Academy student



SEA CAMP

NEW! Spring Break Session: March 27–30, 2017

Summer Session I: Aug 21–24
Summer Session II: Aug 26–29

We celebrate 20 years of providing this traveling residential camp, for students ages 10-13, to stay and learn at the Oregon Institute of Marine Biology located in Charleston, Oregon. Students explore tide pools, go hiking and crabbing, observe marine wildlife, and visit the bio-rich South Slough Estuary. Registration for the new Spring Break session will begin in early 2017.

“This camp has definitely gotten me interested, not just in Marine Biology, but in Biology as a whole.”

– 2016 Sea Camp student



ACADEMIA LATINA

July 30 – Aug 5, 2017

Leadership: July 28 – Aug 5

This week-long residential program immerses Latino youth in a residential academic program that exposes students to a broad range of classes, lectures, cultural experiences, and recreational activities. Academia Latina students consistently report that the program inspires them to work harder and achieve their goals.

Students who attend Academia Latina have significantly higher rates of graduating from high school and enrolling in college than Latino youths statewide.

Each year about 100 youths in grades 7-12 attend Academia Latina.

KONAWAY NIKA TILlicum

Native American Youth Academy
July 15 – 22, 2017

Started in 1995, this eight-day summer academic residential program offers students Native American perspectives and values within a core academic curriculum. Konaway immerses the Native youth population in a university setting and encourages them to pursue higher education.

“I learned what self-determination is, and what I can do to help with schooling and college.”

– 2016 Konaway student

SUMMER DAY CAMPS

July - August, 2017

Hundreds of students participate in our hands-on, inquiry-driven day camps and classes that stretch the mind and expand horizons. The catalog includes outstanding offerings in art, computers, video/ photography, literature/creative writing, science, performing arts, and sports/ recreation. Most instruction is on the SOU campus, giving students a peek at college life, and motivating them to reach their full potential.

Highlights from 2016 included students building DIY hoverboards; working with animal specialists; using maps, compasses and GPS coordinates to create a real life scavenger hunt; and much more!

Thank you 2015-16 Donors

for supporting the Southern Oregon University Youth Programs Tuition Assistance program. With your help last year \$229,746 in tuition assistance was awarded to 769 students!

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There are two different ways you can support SOU Pre-College Youth Programs:

- Endowment Fund
- Tuition Assistance Fund

To donate please send a check to:
SOU Pre-College Youth Programs
1250 Siskiyou Boulevard
Ashland, Oregon 97520

Or you may donate online at:
sou.edu/youth/donate



2017 summer catalog and registration coming in April.

We offer a highly popular summer day camp program consisting of more than 50 different hands-on programs with curriculum in drama, art, recreation, science, and technology for ages 6-16. Kids can look forward to programs such as: Kids in the Kitchen: Culinary Institute, Minecraft, Lego Robotics, Vet Med Camp, Video Game Design, and more!