



STEM YEA CLASS OF 2022 FACT SHEET

STEM YEA is a four-day three-night residential STEM-focused Academy providing equitable opportunities for rising eighth grade students. The Academy delves into intriguing STEM areas while inspiring and engaging the students. These young people and their parents may not otherwise have an opportunity such as this. The program, sponsored by Rotary Clubs in District 7430, was held at Albright College in Reading, PA July 8 through July 11, 2022. The theme was “Astrobiology: the Search for Life on Mars”.

STUDENT PARTICIPANTS

Forty-one fully vaccinated or boosted students attended the first Academy. There were 18 girls and 23 boys from 26 public middle schools in 20 school districts. One female student was from a private Catholic school. All students stayed through the entire Academy. There were no accidents or injuries.

Students received STEM YEA tee shirts, backpacks, water bottles, lab manuals, drawing pencils, antimicrobial pens, and copies of the session manuals.



CURRICULUM

Nine STEM sessions were held over a 2 and ½ day time period; six project-building sessions were held over a 1-day time period. Students built habitats, rovers, and landers from ordinary materials.

Twelve astronomers from the Delaware Valley Astronomer’s Association brought their telescopes to the Science field at Albright on Saturday, July 9 for a Moon Watch Program.

Students and team leads were bussed to the Reading Planetarium on Sunday, July 10th for an evening program.

ROTARY VOLUNTEERS

Thirteen Rotary volunteers monitored the students in the dorms overnight. Thirty Rotary volunteers worked with the students during the day time sessions.

SPONSORS/DONORS

Fifteen sponsors/donors contributed to the Class of 2022 program.

Twenty Rotary Clubs in District 7430 donated to the STEM YEA Program to underwrite initial costs. We have named these clubs “Founders’ Clubs”.

SPECIAL GUESTS (and donors)

Jared Isaacman, CEO of Shift4 Payments and Commander of the 2021 SpaceX Inspiration4 spaceflight, created a personal video directed to our STEM YEA students.

Dr. Terry Hart, a former NASA astronaut, attended a reception preceding the Celebration Dinner on July 11; Dr. Hart signed autographs for the students and took pictures with them.

FUN FACTS

One hundred sixty-seven students, parents, grandparents, a great-grandparent, volunteers, sponsors/donors, and Rotary District 7430 leaders attended the Celebration Dinner.

Rotary Clubs who sponsored students have invited them to participate in local Rotary Club events such as picnics and pizza parties.

Many sponsoring Rotary Clubs have invited the students to speak at Rotary Club meetings. Parents often attend and provide thank you and favorable comments about the STEM YEA experience.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Press and news releases were submitted to the media; several local newspapers followed up with the local Rotary Clubs to learn more about the program and the students.

Please check our website, www.stemyea.com, for current information.



Please join us to sponsor STEM YEA 2023 scheduled for July 6-9, 2023. This may be the only chance to open possibilities for additional students and their parents to participate in a program such as this which will build STEM-focused future citizens.