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The Malcolm Jenkins Foundation extends its partnership at Drexel University with the Lindy Center and 21st Century Community Learning Center for Summer S.T.E.A.M. Camp

Area elementary and middle school students in the Promise Zone participate in a 6-week long summer program

PHILADELPHIA, PA (March 24, 2017) – The Malcolm Jenkins Foundation is expanding its partnership with Drexel University’s Lindy Center for Civic Engagement, Expressive and Creative Interaction Technologies (ExCITe) Center, and 21st Century Learning Center to offer a summer camp for local students to learn, experiment and experience the interplay between science, technology, engineering, arts, athletics and mathematics.

Initially piloted with the ExCITe Center in 2016, the TMJF Summer S.T.E.A.M. camp collaboration, called Young Dragons, offers elementary and middle school students living near Drexel’s campus the opportunity to participate in the FREE six-week program. This summer’s camp merges the Summer S.T.E.A.M. curriculum piloted in 2016 with the established literacy and enrichment programs of 21st Century Learning Center and Lindy Center for Civic Engagement.

The day camp, which is open to students entering first through eighth grades, will be held at Drexel from June 26 to August 4.

“The goal of this unique transdisciplinary program is to engage, educate and inspire students, regardless of their background or financial resources, to explore science, technology, engineering, arts, athletics, and mathematics — STEAM — in a creative and engaging format,” said Youngmoo Kim, Director of the ExCITe Center.

As part of the six week camp, students in Young Dragons will explore Music Technology (Acoustics and Sound Synthesis), Visual Arts (Geometry and Drawing/Painting), Computer Game Design & Coding, and Dance (Biology and Movement). The program’s Athletics module will illustrate how science and technology can enhance physical health and training. All participants will have the opportunity to develop individual inquiry-based projects and participate in a student showcase on the last day of camp. STEAM enrichment would compromise a two-week portion within the six-week camp.



The Young Dragons program has been designed specifically to meet the needs of children living in close proximity to Drexel, in a two-square-mile area called the Promise Zone that has been federally designated for support due to the challenges it faces associated with persistent poverty.

The Malcolm Jenkins Foundation is thrilled to be part of this unique collaboration, which will have a tremendous impact on Philadelphia youth. “When youth are exposed to new experiences like Summer S.T.E.A.M., they can see what’s possible, whether that’s a future career in music technology or coding or another S.T.E.A.M. field. It’s our vision and goal to provide them with a unique, innovative program that will open their minds and motivate them to complete their education,” said Malcolm Jenkins, Eagles Safety and the Founder & Chairman of The Malcolm Jenkins Foundation.

The mission of The Malcolm Jenkins Foundation is to effectuate positive change in the lives of youth, particularly those in underserved communities, by providing resources, innovative opportunities and experiences that will help them succeed in life and become contributing members of their communities. The Young Dragons program is an extension of the educational programs currently offered by the Foundation, including Project R.E.W.A.R.D.S., a life skills curriculum and the Malcolm Jenkins Scholars.

Prior to the start of the camp, students from McMichael School will participate in a creative Young Dragons Logo Design Competition. The student winner will be announced at ExCITE’s Open House on June 2 and have his or her logo design showcased on the program tee shirts.

On Friday, July 21, the Young Dragons will also have the opportunity to take an interactive tour of the Eagles facility and practice field. While at the facility, students will engage in athletics and technology-focused learning modules, such as tracking their power outputs using the Eagles athletic training technology and participating in a special obstacle course, to gain first-hand experience of the importance of STEAM in a professional sports setting.

“The expanded offerings in the Young Dragons program allows us to reach more children in the Promise Zone and engage them in the 21st Century skills enabled by STEAM learning,” Kim said.

About The Malcolm Jenkins Foundation

Founded in 2010, The Malcolm Jenkins Foundation (TMJF) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit public charity with a mission to effectuate positive change in the lives of youth, particularly those in underserved communities; by providing resources, innovative opportunities and experiences that will help them succeed in life and become contributing members of their community. The Foundation is committed to youth development initiatives and programs, which emphasize character development, leadership, education, life skills health and recreation. With a presence in New Jersey, Louisiana, Ohio and Pennsylvania, the Foundation’s work is guided by the



mission of Project REWARDS: Reinforcing Education with Activities, Recreation, & Developmental Supports.

For more information visit: <http://www.themalcolmjenkinsfoundation.org/>

About the 21st Century Community Learning Center

The 21st Century Community Learning Center grant provides academic and recreational enrichment opportunities to children during non-school hours, particularly students who attend high-poverty and low-performing schools. This program helps students meet state and local standards in core academic subjects, such as reading and math. In addition, it offers students a broad array of enrichment activities that can complement their regular academic programs as well as offers literacy and other educational services to the families of participating children.

For more information visit: <http://www.21stcclc.org/index.cfm?pageid=4242>

About the Lindy Center for Civic Engagement

Drexel's vision of a comprehensive and progressive urban university striving to be the most civically engaged in the nation comes to life through the Lindy Center for Civic Engagement. The Lindy Center for Civic Engagement is housed within the Office of University and Community Partnerships at Drexel University. In collaboration with the community, and in support of Drexel's strategic plan, the Lindy Center for Civic Engagement furthers the public good on the local and national levels while enriching the scholarship and character of Drexel students. The Lindy Center works with more than 75 community partners on 200-plus civic engagement projects annually. The Center's personnel also lead several student leadership programs, and support community-based learning through course development and faculty research projects.

For more information visit: <http://drexel.edu/lindycenter/>

About the ExCITe Center

The Drexel Expressive and Creative Interaction Technologies (ExCITe) Center was established in 2013 as a University-wide strategic initiative for research innovation. The Center pursues activities at the intersection of Technology, Design, and Entrepreneurship, reframing Drexel's founding pillars of art, science, and industry for the modern era. The transdisciplinary approach of ExCITe employs a diversity of perspectives to foster creativity, personal expression, curiosity, and group collaboration. The Center incubates novel research activities and academic initiatives and brings into proximity individuals whose work exemplifies a diversity of perspectives and who will lead others to embrace collaboration across disciplines. The academic activities of the ExCITe Center emphasize the arts-integrated approach of STEAM.

For more information visit: <http://drexel.edu/excite/>