

POC Newsletter

1585 N. Rand Road, Palatine, IL 60074

Summer
2017

Summer Learning

During the school year, most of our learning is done in the confines of the classroom whether at a college level, high school, middle school, or elementary school. When summertime arrives, in many cases it becomes a new season and a more magical way to learn. This learning may be different than the knowledge of just a subject matter. This learning is not only about an area of focus but of furthering our knowledge of our community and the world we live in. This active learning takes place in new places, outside, field trips, and within oneself. Many of our various groups, took the opportunity to learn outside of the box. In some cases, they learned to improve themselves and how they interact with the rest of the world. Many had first time experiences that perhaps frightened them at first but possibly made them stronger in the end. POC learners spent their summer . . .



ROLE Moms at the garden.

The Roots Community Garden

Through the donations of many collaborative partners, The Roots Community Garden, run by the women of ROLE (POC's women's leadership program), continues to thrive and is in its 5th year. Twice a week the Garden is buzzing with individuals who are planting, watering, weeding and soon to be harvesting. This program includes all ages and many different cultures and became a connection point for families to gather and work on their individual plots. The children help in the garden, but also have time to play in the early evenings of summer surrounded by friends and families. We are supported with volunteers from the Harper College Promise Program and our CCSD15 Bilingual Liaisons who have been teaching STEM activities to the children.

Scholarships to Space Camp - Community Consolidated School District 15

Thanks to a scholarship from Northrop Grumman Corporation, two students had the opportunity of a lifetime at Space Camp in Huntsville, Alabama. Amelia and Leslie earned a scholarship to attend the camp based upon academic performance in school and interest in science and space. Both of these students happen to be children of POC's ROLE (women's leadership) program and are in leadership positions at POC. The learning that happened was fabulous and will be a forever memory for these young women.



Amelia and Leslie with their instructor.



A group discussing in the Learning Lab.

CYBERPATRIOTS

Through a grant from Northrop Grumman Corporation, we provided a Cyber Camp. Kim Haas, a ROLE member taught the class and Dr. Bob Small of the POC Board of Directors assisted. CyberPatriot is the National Youth Cyber Education Program created by the Air Force Association to inspire K-12 students toward careers in cybersecurity or other science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) disciplines critical to our nation's future. On the last day Harper College a great partner to POC and CCSD15 provided the Mobile Unit that the students worked in using their state of the art computers to access their learning. The students learned new skills and hope to have the CyberPatriot Club in their school so they can explore further.



Students learning at CYBERPATRIOT CAMP.

Adult Literacy

Typically the Learning Lab is quiet in the month of July, with Harper College on summer break. This year our fabulous volunteers decided that they would continue their volunteer work on a summer schedule with our Adult Literacy program. One group led by Bonnie and Kathy meet twice a week with a small group of women from China who are pursuing their English education. The group covers many areas of education including basic English instruction, vocabulary, dictation, life skills, exercise, and songs. Everyone who has the pleasure of interacting with this group - wants to be a part of it! Our goal is to have each student that is interested, be able to transition to Harper College, GED or ESL classes and continue their formal education.

For the last year there has been a large ESL Conversation group that meets regularly. Volunteers Chris and Ruth come in on Wednesdays to connect and discuss current events and everyday life issues. The conversation is more intellectual than typical because of the attendees, and everyone is thoroughly engaged. Our volunteers routinely comment as to how they learn so much from our adult students; who have backgrounds in medicine, nursing, engineering, etc. and have so much to share.

POC provides programs at multiple sites in Palatine and Hoffman Estates.

Ask us for more details!

(847) 776-9500

**<http://www.poc.news>
 Email us at info@poc.news**

4-H Learning

For the second year in a row, we have the experience of watching eggs hatch. This is truly a highlight of the year and it is through the generous donors from our friends at Deer Grove Covenant Church, Countryside Church Unitarian Universalist, and Prince of Peace Lutheran Church. From young to old, everyone was interested in their daily progress. One of our last days with the chicks, Dr. Cates, Superintendent of Township High School District 211, was kind enough to come and play his guitar for the chicks, read a book and immerse himself with our baby chicks and the children.



Dr. Dan Cates from D211 reads to children at POC at the Community Resource Center.

A Hero's Journey

A huge thank you to Linda Bruce, a ROLE member and owner of Soulful Prairies in Woodstock who so generously opened up the farm to students from the POC Community School. The students participated in a program that helps to explore trust, confidence and the hero within each of us. The kids seemed to flourish in this peaceful environment. Linda has generously hosted POC's Farm to Table Dinner for 5 years.



Students participated in the Soldering class.

BEST (Business Electronics Soldering Technologies)

Bob Wettermann, a great friend to the POC offered a Soldering Class to our students. Four of our GED/ESL students took advantage of this opportunity. The students attended the program for one week and earned their certificate. The class and the benefits of hands on learning will enable these individuals to pursue an entry level job in soldering.





Our campers learning at Falcon Park

Northeast Palatine Summer Camp

The 2017 Northeast Palatine Summer Camp took place from July 17 - July 28 with 100 campers registered! Campers spent ten full days being introduced to new experiences outside of Palatine. New trips this year included the Wendella Boat Tour, Bartlett Aquatic Center and a Chemtastic morning hosted by Discovery Center. IComplete staff, Palatine Police officers, and volunteers brought forth positivity, energy, and most importantly an investment essential to not only the youth, but also their community. Northwest Community Healthcare and Community Consolidated School District 15 offered a free breakfast program. Summer Camp is a collaborative effort between IComplete partnerships and local donors.

IComplete Teen Summer Camp

IComplete Teen Summer Camp is in its 2nd year and has a record number of 35 teens ranging from 7th grade - to 9th grade for 10 days in July and August. Cristina Correa facilitates this group with her staff - Anthony Trevino and Erick Flores. This camp brings students together to work on life skills. Whether it is the 9th graders sharing experiences with the younger students on what to expect in Middle School or the 8th grader who shares knowledge with the new 7th grader. The relationships they are building are all part of the plan so that these students can learn leadership and life skills. In a cooking demonstration the students focused on what makes a good leader in a group. It is not just being the BOSS - it is learning to share information, listening to each other, delegating responsibilities and showing respect even when you disagree with someone else's position.



The POC 5th Annual Farm to Table Dinner

Saturday, September 30, 2017
 5:00 pm – 8:00 pm
 Soulful Prairies in Woodstock, IL
 \$175 per person

This event supports POC's Women's Leadership program (ROLE).

Tickets go on sale August 1, 2017.

For tickets and more details go to <http://www.poc.news> or call (847) 776-9500.