



Saturday and Summer Enrichment Program

University of Virginia
P.O. Box 400264
405 Emmet Street South
Charlottesville, Virginia 22904-4264

TO: Advocates of Gifted Education
FROM: Julie Baird, Director
RE: University of Virginia's Summer Enrichment Program

The University of Virginia Curry School of Education is celebrating the 30th anniversary of the **Summer Enrichment Program (SEP)** for rising fifth through rising eleventh grade gifted students. We are working to put together an innovative and stimulating program for this anniversary year 2009.

For the upcoming summer we are piloting an on-line application available now at our web site at <http://curry.edschool.virginia.edu/sep>. **Attached is a flyer to distribute** to all students who you believe would be interested in this program. The flyer describes the program and guides them to the on-line application. Of course, we also welcome paper applications from those who prefer that process. The paper applications are available to download from the web site, and I have attached a sample of each that you can make available to any of your students and teachers who simply wish to make a photocopy.

In order to help pay for the on-line application system and to spread that cost across all applicants, we have instituted a \$25 application fee. However, if you know of any students who cannot afford this application fee, please contact me directly and I will discuss waiving the fee for individual, eligible students. One of the basic missions of this program is to keep tuition as low as possible in order to reduce barriers for all students. In addition to low tuition, we give between \$30,000 and \$40,000 per year in financial aid based on need. Please encourage your gifted and high-ability students of limited means to apply!

The following information may be helpful to you regarding the application process:

1. Since we receive many more applications than there are spaces available, our selection process is competitive. In summer of 2008, for example, we received 1400 applications for 936 spots.
2. Students are competing against a new pool of applicants each year; therefore, they should put forth their best effort when completing their applications.
3. Previous application to or attendance in our program does not guarantee acceptance, nor does participation in their school's gifted and talented program.

With the introduction of the on-line application, we will be asking that the completed Teacher Recommendation Form be mailed directly to our offices. The student and their family should provide the Teacher Recommendation Form to the school with a stamped, addressed envelope. All aspects of the application are due to our office postmarked by February 15, 2009.

Thank you in advance for your efforts. Feel free to duplicate the enclosed materials or contact our office for additional supplies. If you have any questions please write to the address above, email me at jsb9a@virginia.edu, or call me directly at 434-924-7177.



The University of Virginia Curry School of Education
Proudly Presents
The 30th Anniversary of the
Summer Enrichment Program
SEP 2009

Summer residential programs for gifted students rising into grades 5-8 or 9-11
On Grounds at the University of Virginia

Session I: June 21st – July 2nd, 2009

Session II: July 5th – July 16th, 2009

Session III: July 19th – July 30th, 2009

Deadline for applications is February 15, 2009

Notification of acceptance is April 15, 2009

JUNIOR PROGRAM:

For rising 5th – 8th grade, classes in:

- * Science and Technology
- * Social Sciences
- * Mathematics
- * Fine and Performing Arts
- * Literature and Writing

SENIOR PROGRAM:

For rising 9th – 11th grade, classes in:

- * Medical Ethics
- * The Art of Speech Making
- * Chemistry
- * Associated Press Writing for Magazines
- * SEP Live! Writing/Performing Comedy
- * Ethnographic Study of Global Teen Cultures

NEW THIS YEAR: ON-LINE APPLICATION

At: <http://curry.edschool.virginia.edu>

If preferred, a printable application is also available on the website

Or by contacting us at curry-sep@virginia.edu or at

Summer Enrichment Program

University of Virginia

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The mission of the Summer Enrichment Program is to create an educational program which models best-practice instruction and to offer a social-emotional climate for gifted and high ability learners. SEP accepts applications from students currently enrolled in grades 4-10 and welcomes a broad and diverse group of students from across the country and internationally. The SEP application includes multiple components: aptitude, achievement, and/or standardized test scores, teacher rating, and student responses to prompts. Selection to SEP is competitive. SEP selects students based on evidence of the following in the application: creative thinking, problem solving, critical thinking, task commitment, and outstanding achievement. Tuition for the twelve day program is \$1100, and includes room, board, materials, recreation activities, and secondary accident insurance. There is a \$25 application fee. Financial aid is available based on need.

Please visit our web site for more detail about our programs.