

# **Camp Info Sheet**

STEAM Revolution Camp is organized by Curious-on-Hudson. We are a private organization that offers enrichment programs and products to schools and community organizations on a year-round basis. We develop our own rich curriculum focused on many topics from science and engineering to tech and arts. We serve many schools in the NYC area and have begun to offer our project catalogs in student kits (Curious DIY Kits), which are sold to schools and other organizations.



## **How Camp is Organized**

STEAM Revolution Camp is organized in weekly sessions. Enrollment is a minimum of one week and a maximum of seven weeks.

- The sessions run every week starting June 28 August 13, 2021.
- Enrollment runs all summer (you may register for any session, providing there is space available). Many times campers sign up for one week and then re-enroll for other sessions. The enrollment for any week closes the week prior. Typically, some sessions are full at the start of camp and others have available space.
- The camp is closed on July 5 (tuition is reduced for that week).
- While our Camp follows certain core themes, each weekly session offers unique activities. Therefore, campers can expect to have new things to do every week.
   Many (most) campers attend multiple weeks.

#### **Fees**

- o Camp is \$625 per week (\$500 for the week of July 5).
- o Various promotional discounts are offered and usually require a special code.
- Early-bird discount runs until April 11, 2021

- A new family trial discount of 25% off for one session is available.
- Siblings receive a 10% discount off all enrollment fees (applied automatically).
- Registration of more than one week offers a 5% discount off all fees (applied automatically).
- Scholarships are available: both partial and full. We encourage all families to ask about attending, regardless of their financial circumstance.

## **Health and Safety**

As concerns COVID, we will be following the safety protocols adapted by NYC schools at this time, which is as follows:

- All campers will be required to always wear masks and remain 3 ft distant during activities.
- Masks may be removed for eating and for outdoor activities, providing the distance can be maintained.
- If the COVID situation warrants it, i.e., if the virus continues to affect the general population and pose a risk of transmission, we will take daily temperature checks upon arrival at camp.
- Hand-sanitizer stations will be available in all our spaces.
- Protocols for sanitizing any shared equipment, i.e., computers, will be required of students and staff.
- Shared materials will be minimized.
- o Parents will be asked to complete a standard health check form daily.
- All staff will be fully vaccinated prior to the start of camp.
- No one outside our organization will be permitted to come in contact with the campers.

#### General health and safety and well-being:

- Our instructors are all certified in CPR and First Aid.
- o Background checks are completed on all staff members.
- We do <u>not</u> have specialists trained in dealing with special needs students. We can accept any student who attends a general class environment during the academic year. If you child does require support, please be certain to share that with us in as much detail as possible so that we are able to do our best in meeting those needs.
- The lunch menu offered by the College is nut-free.
- The campus security is available in the event of emergency. If a student requires medical assistance in an emergency situation, we will call 911 and campus security will intervene. We will immediately notify emergency contacts in such a situation.
- In a non-emergency situation, we will notify parents of any injury or other health concern during the day if possible. If not, we will notify at the end of the camp day.

 Due to the small size of our camp, we do not have an on-site medical professional.

## **Diversity and Inclusion**

We encourage and seek out a diverse camper population. Students come from different cultural and economic backgrounds and religious beliefs. We encourage them to share their culture and backgrounds with one another. Students with special needs are welcome in our camp providing we have the resources to meet those needs. We do not tolerate any form of bullying and most of our campers specifically choose our camp for its strong sense of individuality, i.e., we do not foster negativity, ridicule or competition that is not based on shared, fun and cooperative goals. Our campers are bright, curious, and unique, and offer us all a chance to meet some fascinating individuals.

## **Our Space**



Camp takes place on the campus of the College of Mt. St. Vincent, 6402 Riverdale Avenue, Bronx, NY. We occupy the bottom floor of the Science Building, which includes a full lab, classrooms and a common area. We also occupy a computer lab and an additional classroom in the computer science building. We also have two large studios in the Printshop – one will be used for creative arts and the other for woodworking. In addition, we have full access to spacious outdoor areas, fields, play areas, etc. The college has a well-equipped dining hall where lunch is served. However, groups

may choose to have their lunch outdoors or in the base areas. The college offers a catered bagged lunch to campers or they may choose to bring their own food. Overall, the college is secure, clean and well-maintained. Cleaning takes place in all of our spaces on a daily basis and additional cleaning will be implemented for 2021 season.

All of our spaces are equipped with Wi-Fi. The computer lab provides up-to-date desktop computers. All classrooms have large displays, projectors and ample space.

### **Our Staff**

Our Camp Director, Joe Morciglio is as unique as our camp – a visual artist, "MAKER", parent, all-around handyman and so much more. He is kind, intelligent, funny and has a way with kids. There is not much Joe cannot do. The rest of the staff are either regular instructors at Curious-on-Hudson or hired for the summer term. All of our instructors are specialists in their fields, woodworkers, artists, techies and more.

In addition to the Camp Director the camp staff includes these positions:

- Woodworking instructor
- Coding and tech instructor
- Visual and creative arts instructor
- Science and engineering instructor
- Special guest instructor: writing and other humanities themes classes
- Special guest instructor: outdoor education

## **How Students are Grouped:**

Students are grouped with their peers by age/grade. That group will pretty much stay together throughout the day. We are a small camp, and we will usually have one group per age band (grades 2-3, grades 4-5 and grades 6-8). If enrollment increases for one session, we will split groups into further grade ranges (we do not plan to have more than 12 students in any group). The overall camp population is small – under 50 students at any one time. Each group has their own counselor. This is typically a college-aged person who we hire to be most supportive, fun, and interested in the individual well-being of the students. In the past, counselors have had their own talents/skills, which they have readily shared with students.

#### **Schedule:**



Camp meets everyday from 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM

The campers will attend what we call "core" classes every day. The core classes are coding/tech, science, creative arts, woodworking. Each core class meets 3x per week. Students also choose their electives, which are classes that they wish to delve deeper into one of the core subjects. The electives vary week by week and the instructors try to make new and different choices based on student interest.

 creative tech (a maker-space style class involving creative use of electronics and 3D printing, microcontrollers and other

gadgets)

- o creative arts (varies and includes drawing, cartooning, photography, sculpture)
- woodworking challenge (a studio-style class)
- design challenges (an engineering style class)
- o an outdoor activity (natural and environmental sciences or games)
- o a humanities-based class (creative writing, mythology, paleography, etc)

To broaden the camper experience, we offer these electives both as in-person classes and via remote instruction. If students choose to take a virtual elective, we provide all necessary computer access to attend that program.

We provide all materials and supplies for our program. Occasionally, we may ask students to bring something from home for a special purpose.

## **Weekly Challenges (Themes)**

Many parents ask about themes on a week-to-week basis. While we have had themes like "Potter Week" in the past, we now lean more towards challenge-based themes, which we feel offer more educational experience. As we are still in the planning stages for our programming, these are subject to change. So far these include:

#### • Historical Survival Challenge

 The challenge is how to survive in another time period using modern ingenuity: adapt modern knowledge to a remote historical period, i.e., Medieval Europe or Ancient Egypt.

#### Tinkering Challenge

 Make something work differently than it was meant to, for example taking a watch and making it do something other than tell time or count down or using a bicycle to generate power.

#### • Space Exploration/Fly Me to the Moon

 We would like campers to come up with different ways we could accomplish big goals such as colonizing an uninhabitable planet or flying to the moon. Students create their ideas, designs, and models.

#### Conservation

 We only have one Earth; how can we ensure it stays around? Students will take ordinary and unusual discarded objects or garbage and reuse them in eco-friendly ways.

#### • Flea Market Flip

HGTV/DIY are well liked by kids who are inspired to create new ideas. The theme
challenges them to take something old and repurpose it into something new. This might
be something from home or something we provide at camp.

More to come!

## **What Campers Should Bring to Camp**

Campers should have a backpack, re-usable water bottle, sunscreen and bug repellent. If campers have phones, we will ask them not to use them during classes and activities (other than photography). They may use them during breaks and lunch. Campers may choose to bring their own lunch, in which case they should have a lunch bag marked with their names and that does not require refrigeration.

## **What Campers Should Know in Advance**

In this camp, we do actually build and MAKE many things. We do not use pre-made kits! You will be doing a lot of different things, using tools (non-power), working with your hands (a lot), learning new things, and meeting new people. Keep an open mind and know that you will be exposed to many different topics – you will like some better than others and hopefully, you will have an experience that excites you about a certain topic or talent you didn't even know you had before camp. If you have ideas for your group or really want to make a suggestion about something we should teach or do, please let us know. We welcome your input before, during and after camp. Go right ahead and write to the Camp Director, Joe Morciglio, at <a href="mailto:joem@curiousonhudson.com">joem@curiousonhudson.com</a>.

#### **What Parents Should Know**

We try to create an inspiring, creative, and motivating environment for our campers. Our camp is not a general day camp but offers many specialized activities taught by knowledgeable people. Groups are small and there is plenty of individual attention. The program is challenging and modeled after a true academic enrichment program. This is a camp where students are actively being taught every day, but it is not a traditional school environment in the sense that students have more freedom to move around, to add their own take to the projects, to choose their own activities, to talk openly with their peers and instructors, to relax between classes, and most importantly, nearly every class involves some sort of hands-on project.



(A few do not, for example, creative writing, storytelling, literature, etc. as well as coding, which is computer-based). This is not a high-tech camp in the sense that students have many non-computer based activities – all using different tools. Where computers are involved, it usually has something to do with the program, i.e., a 3D drawing app, a sketch app for woodworking project, a coding app to control a microcontroller, etc.

In addition, we try to create group FUN whenever we can. Summer is about playfulness and experiences that enrich students. We do our best to combine the two as much as possible.

Should you accompany your child to camp?

As you might expect, we would prefer that you drop off your child at the designated area (that info will be sent to you) and let us do the rest. We want to build your child up and give them a strong sense of engagement and confidence with the program. We would like them to form friendships with new people and with the instructors. As you already know, your child behaves differently around you than they do with others. Unless there

is a reason why you need to be near your child, please refrain from doing so. If your child has never attended a camp before and needs reassurance before leaving you, please try to address this at home before coming to camp. Once at camp, please provide the transition outdoors and before the groups convene so as not to be a distraction to others. Also, due to COVID policies, we will be minimizing the number of people who have indoor contact with our campers.

How do you know what's going on?

We hope your child shares their activities with you and they will be taking lots of things home with them. We also strive to have the kids post their own blog posts throughout the week, which is shared with parents all summer long. The blog posts are their own – their thoughts, comments and they may add photos. Not all kids choose to participate in the blog, which is okay with us although we do try to encourage it. In addition, we will hold a family evening picnic one night this summer and all families are welcome to attend.



## **Refund Policy**

Our refund policy is geared for cancellations that take place before camp starts. If you cancel your enrollment before May 1, you will receive a 100% refund. If you cancel your enrollment more than two weeks prior to the start date of that session, you will receive a 50% refund. The full policy is at this link. Refund Policy | STEAM Revolution Camp

## Curious-on-Hudson

## **Key Links and Contact Info:**

Camp Website: <a href="http://steamrevolutioncamp.com">http://steamrevolutioncamp.com</a>
Curious-on-Hudson Website: <a href="http://curiousonhudson.com">http://curiousonhudson.com</a>

Email: info@curiousonhudson.com

Telephone: 914-246-0333

Camp Director: Joe Morciglio < joem@curiousonhudson.com >

Curious-on-Hudson Founder: Adele Falco (adele@curiousonhudson.com