



MST@MSU

Math, Science and Technology

July 5—July 18, 2015

Audience

The Math Science Technology at Michigan State University (MST@MSU) Program is a two-week summer residential and commuter program for academically talented students who have completed grades 6-9 with a minimum age of 12. The eligibility criteria are: ACT Math score of 21 or Composite of 23, or SAT score of Math or Critical Reading 530 or Combined Total of 1010. In 2015, fifty-two (57) males, and twenty-nine (33) females were in the program; six (6) 6th graders, forty (40) 7th graders, thirty-one (31) 8th graders and thirty (13) 9th graders. Twenty-three (23) students received financial aid to attend the camp.

Funding

MST@MSU programming and scholarships are funded by the MSU Provost, the W. B. and Candace Thoman Foundation, and the Dorothy Lawshe Endowment. Student tuition covers the remaining program costs. Fifteen (15) students were awarded financial aid scholarships.

Objectives

The academic focus of the MST@MSU program is on mathematics, science, technology and the applications in these areas. The goal is to match the intellectual abilities of talented adolescents with rigorous and challenging coursework which provides enrichment, but does not duplicate coursework that is part of the regular K-12 school curriculum.

MST@MSU offers opportunities for students

- * to experience active learning as they investigate problems that can be solved through a better understanding of mathematics, science, engineering, and technology
- * to focus on intensive areas of study that allow for interdisciplinary research using tools of mathematics, science, and technology
- * to link the tools of many career fields while focusing on real world problems

Description

MST@MSU students select two academic courses and one special session clinic to attend each day for the two weeks of this residential program. Classes are held on the MSU campus, using campus classrooms, labs and special facilities. Taught by MSU faculty who were assisted by area high school teachers, students participate in two-hour lectures/labs in the morning and afternoon, followed by a 90 minute special clinic. There were eighteen (18) instructors.

Each evening has time scheduled for homework, presentations or use of campus facilities. Students attend a presentation by the Honors College on college, an evening at the MSU Observatory, the Abrams Planetarium, use of the IM pool and gymnasiums plus nightly activities planned by the program on-site coordinators and residential assistants. Students are placed in groups of ten, with 24/7 supervision in the dorm, to and from class, and during the evenings.



2015
MST@MSU
Participants,
Instructors, &
RAs

Outcomes

- * 95% of parents stated their child enjoyed the program
- * 83% of parents stated that their child enjoyed the residential option of this program
- * 86% of parents rated the overall quality of the program as Excellent

One parent stated, "the variety of choices for topics was great, and each topic seemed to have a great hook and some "wow" factor for the kids that would keep them engaged and give them great inspirational stories to take back to their own home schools"

Students completed an optional gender/ethnicity form.

- * 48% were Caucasian, 12% African American, 28% Asian, and 10% responded Other.

When asked what their child enjoyed most at MST@MSU, some of the comments submitted by parents were:

"The MST program made my child enthusiastic about trying new challenges and attending college as well as gaining insight on a wider variety of fields of study to pursue."

"The strength of the academic programs challenging our son and environment that encouraged collaboration."

Academic courses included: Nuclear Astrophysics, Math is Smart, Experience Engineering, Phenomenal Physics, Genetics and Biotechnology, Astronomy, Video Game Design, Disease Detective

Workshops included: Language of Music and Sound, Culinary Connoisseurs, Mixed Martial Arts, Writing Fiction, Sights and Sounds of MSU, Soccer, Studio Arts, Mobile App Design

Additional Information

2015 was the 26th year for the MST@MSU program on the MSU campus. The program drew students from Virginia, Iowa, Oregon, New York, Ohio, Illinois

Contact Information

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