December, 2019

Dear Educators,

The University of Virginia Curry School of Education announces the upcoming season of the Summer Enrichment Program (SEP) for gifted and high-ability children rising into fifth through eleventh grades. In talking with previous participants, they fondly describe not only our rigorous and often unusual academic course offerings, but also the welcoming social environment at SEP and the lifelong friends they made during their time with us. We look forward to hosting students in Summer 2019—this will be our 41st summer!

The curriculum for each course is based on best-practices for gifted instruction. Our teachers specialize in fields ranging from engineering and economics to linguistics. SEP students have a unique opportunity to engage a topic they would not usually encounter at their stage of learning, with a specialist in that field as their guide and mentor. During each twelve day session, students stay in UVa dorms with one roommate their age, in suites of eight students and one residential counselor, who is a university student. SEP suites form a strong bond that facilitates learning and encourages the students’ love of academic engagement. Classes are held at a nearby private school with state-of-the-art classroom facilities, but all other activities are organized on the UVa Grounds. This experience in the University of Virginia setting can be powerful, as students imagine themselves returning here, or to another university, when they graduate.

The application will be posted online starting December 15, 2018 with a submission deadline of February 15, 2019. Candidates must respond to a writing prompt and request a recommendation from one teacher. Tuition for the 2019 summer is $1375 with a $25 application fee. Financial aid is available based on need. The financial aid form is available on our website and should be submitted no later than March 1, 2019. In previous years we have included copies of the paper application in this mailing, but last year we received so few applications on paper we have left those out of this packet. However, they are always available on our website.

Students hear about the program primarily through their schools. Please share the enclosed flyer with your students and their families and with gifted coordinators, school counselors, and teachers who may have students that are interested and may benefit from this program. Applications are completed online through our website at: http://curry.virginia.edu/sep. If you have any questions please email us at curry-sep@virginia.edu or call us at 434-924-3182. Thank you!

Tracy Missett, Director