

**EXPLORE**

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# **VIRTUAL TAG CAMP**

**HOSTED BY LONGWOOD UNIVERSITY**

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE: JUNE 8, 2020**

The 2020 Summer Virtual TAG Camp will offer twelve classes where students may choose two. Please see attachment for registration details and class descriptions. Registration Fee is \$75.00 per student. Classes start June 15th.

For Questions Contact Dr. Locascio at Longwood University at

[locasciod@longwood.edu](mailto:locasciod@longwood.edu)

## **Summer 2020 Virtual TAG information sheet**

We are excited to welcome students to the registration process for the Virtual Talented & Gifted (TAG) program for the summer of 2020! Due to the necessity of remote/ on-line instruction this year, the Virtual TAG program will run differently than the typical on-campus program. Please read this information before registering.

### **Class information**

The summer 2020 Virtual TAG offerings will consist of twelve classes, listed below. Students will be enrolled in *up to two classes*, with enrollment generally limited to 16 students per class. Some classes (those marked with an \*) may be open to an additional section or slightly higher enrollment. No classes will exceed an enrollment of 20 without a separate offering of the course being established with a different start date.

As parents/ students consider these twelve classes, please note the following;

- Classes vary in their start dates, ranging from mid-June through late-July, 2020. Regardless of the start date, the class duration will be approximately two weeks. While 100% attendance is not required in Virtual TAG classes, students should avoid signing up for classes that conflict with other scheduled summer activities.

- Students MAY sign up for two overlapping classes, but should only do so if they feel they have the time to devote to class activities for both classes simultaneously. The expectation of each class will be approximately 6-8 hours of engagement per week. This may consist of on-line activities as well as independent related work.

- Classes vary in their level of technology required for full participation, as shown in the class descriptions below. Classes designated as "HIGH" technology needs will likely have synchronous class meetings (e.g. Zoom or Skype) and/or involve on-line streaming video. For MODERATE or LOW technology classes, internet access is still beneficial for full participation, but most class activities can be completed with limited hardware or bandwidth.

- Classes are open to one or more of the following age ranges;

- Rising 3<sup>rd</sup> through rising 4<sup>th</sup> grades

- Rising 5<sup>th</sup> through rising 6<sup>th</sup> grades

- Rising 7<sup>th</sup> through rising 8<sup>th</sup> grades

Please do not request enrollment in classes other than those assigned to the student's age range.

- Supplies and additional materials vary by class. When materials will be provided by the instructors, these will either be e-mailed or sent to a home address. In some

cases, materials will be available for pick-up at centralized locations throughout the region.

### **Registering for classes**

The registration process will involve the “Google form” linked below on which Virtual TAG participants will identify their TOP FIVE choices for classes. This information will be used to assign students to two classes. All efforts will be made to assign to two of their top three choices, but depending on popularity of some classes this may not be possible. If students request placement in class(es) with a particular friend or sibling, we will also attempt to make the class assignments accordingly.

Google form URL; <https://forms.gle/N7SHgdympNiKD16p7>

Teacher contact information is included with the class descriptions below, but please do not contact the teachers with questions until after they have initiated contact with the class. Any questions about registration, class enrollment, payment, etc. should be directed to Dr. David Locascio at Longwood University at [locasciod@longwood.edu](mailto:locasciod@longwood.edu).

### **Payment of participation fees (\$75 per student)**

The participation fee for the Virtual TAG program has been reduced to \$75 per student, which covers up to two classes. Payment does not need to be made prior to registration. Directions for payment by check are below. We will not be able to accept payment by credit card at this time.

Several school divisions in the region are covering the participation fees for a given number of their students, however in some cases the number of enrollees from a school division may exceed the number of allotted slots paid by that division. By registering a student, the parent(s) agrees to pay the participation fee in the event that the school division does not.

Checks should be made payable to Longwood University. On the check, please note **account # 1C3424** and **2020 TAG Camp**. Submit all payments to:

Longwood University  
Office of Cashiering  
201 High Street  
Farmville, VA 23909

We will unfortunately be unable to accept credit card payments. Questions relating to the program, registration, and payment should be directed to Dr. Locascio at the Longwood University College of Education & Human Services ([locasciod@longwood.edu](mailto:locasciod@longwood.edu)).

## Class Descriptions

### Class Name: *Moving Monkeys and Healthy Hippos*

**Teacher:** Michelle Kellam

**Teacher contact info:** michelleskellam@gmail.com

**Starting date:** June 15

**Open to grades:** Only rising 3<sup>rd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup>

**Class size limit:** 16 students

**Class duration:** 2 weeks

**Technology needs:** Moderate

**Description:** *Calling all of our younger TAG learners! If you love PE during the school year then this course is perfect for you. During the class sessions you will have the opportunity to create, develop and demonstrate fitness and health related concepts including balance/dance, playground design, obstacle course design, and nutrition.*

**Supplies/ other comments:** Computer w/ Internet, printer, art supplies (paper, markers, poster board), and assorted household objects to substitute for typical PE equipment. PDF files will be sent and received via email. Students can attach pictures of completed activities.

### Class Name: *Writing your Heart Out*

**Teacher:** Angelina Rivera

**Teacher contact info:** angie.riv.323@gmail.com

**Starting date:** June 15

**Open to grades:** All grades, rising 3<sup>rd</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>

**Class size limit:** 16 students\*

**Class duration:** 2 weeks

**Technology needs:** Low/ none

**Description:** *Do you love to write? Do you want to learn how to write even better? Then this is the TAG class for you!! In this class, students will use the power of their words in a story, poem or essay to paint pictures, share ideas, and maybe even change the world!*

**Supplies/ other comments:** You will need lots of paper, writing utensils (or possibly a computer) to engage in online lessons, writing circles, and presentation of your writing. Students will be able to engage in writing using conventional paper and pen, with optional access to online class engagement for the purpose of interactive lessons, support during the writing process, feedback from the instructor, and sharing of writing with classmates. Submission of the assignments may be done conventionally by dropping off work at a designated site, or it may be submitted online. Opportunities to share their writing with an audience may be available via a class social media page.

**Class Name: *Belgian Art & Culture***

**Co-teachers:** Kelly Nelson  
Lieve Van der Veken

**Teacher contact info:** [nelsonkm@longwood.edu](mailto:nelsonkm@longwood.edu)  
[l.vanderveken@telenet.be](mailto:l.vanderveken@telenet.be)

**Starting date:** June 22

**Open to grades:** All grades, rising 3rd-8th

**Class size limit:** 16 students\*

**Class duration:** 2 weeks

**Technology needs:** High

**Description:** *Do you like Belgian fries, waffles and chocolates? Do you like comic strips like The Smurfs and Tin Tin? Do you want to travel to Europe and learn about famous artists and their work? Do you want to know more about the country with the number one ranked soccer team in the world? Would you like to virtually visit beautiful Belgian cities like Antwerp and Ghent? Do you wonder how the national capital in Brussels has also emerged as the capital of the European Union? Then "come to" Belgium! In this class, you will learn about the fascinating art and culture of Belgium from a pair of co-teachers that includes a Longwood Art professor and a native of Belgium currently teaching in Brussels. You will document your study in a handmade travelogue and sketchbook.*

**Supplies/ other comments:** Students will meet virtually, using zoom, with instructors and peers. We will create a travelogue book, a simple pamphlet stitch book, and those supplies (paper, needle and thread) will be available for pick up or will be mailed to you. Other supplies vary and include any materials for use in their travelogue book, like pencils, pens and markers. Both black and white and color drawing materials may be used. Any drawing materials you have at home will do. Students will also need a glue stick and scissors.

**Class Name: *Checkmate!***

**Teacher:** Alexander Morton **Teacher contact info:** [morton.alexander@nottowayschools.org](mailto:morton.alexander@nottowayschools.org)

**Starting date:** June 22

**Open to grades:** Only rising 5<sup>th</sup> – 8th

**Class size limit:** 16 students

**Class duration:** 2 weeks

**Technology needs:** High

**Description:** *Want to up your chess game? By the end of this class, you will have some handy skills and experience to understand and win a variety of chess positions. We will be using a martial-arts inspired curriculum that thousands of chess coaches have used to enhance their student's learning over the last two decades. Before long, you will acquire the deadly skills that chess masters are well known to possess. Topics will include concepts taken from the Orange and Green Belt Books which include the following: checkmate in two puzzles; middle-game tactics (Greek Gift, skewers, etc.); endgame strategy (Fox and the Chicken Coop); positional chess play; sportsmanship and tournament etiquette; and more.*

**Supplies/ other comments:** We will be using either Google Meet or Zoom to conduct face-to-face online interactions for facilitating certain activities and to provide live instruction. That being said, the actual game portion of the course can be completed on any electronic device, including smartphone. Students may want to download the online chess playing apps I will be referencing throughout the program (Lichess or ChessKids). Lastly, I am willing to offer students the opportunity to play offline with a family member and be willing to share their game electronically later if they are unable to meet the other technological needs. For this reason, a home chess set is also preferred. Students will be expected to play chess as much as possible to hone and practice the skills learned during the TAG course, either online or over a real board.

**Class Name:**    *How Pictures Work*

**Teacher:** Joy Utzinger

**Teacher contact info:** joy.utzinger@pecps.k12.va.us

**Starting date:** June 22

**Open to grades:** All grades, rising 3<sup>rd</sup>-8th

**Class size limit:** 16 students\*

**Class duration:** 2 weeks

**Technology needs:** High

**Description:** *This hands-on art course will explore some of the ways that drawing, illustration techniques, and design studies can transform the two-dimensional picture plane (aka empty sheet of paper). Exaggeration, foreshortening, and placement can create a sense of movement, action, or mood to characters and costumes in story illustration. The use of perspective, overlapping, and shading can give the illusion of depth and 3-dimensional form. In "How Pictures Work," students will explore and develop their skills using these drawing and illustration techniques. In addition, 2-D pictures can become plans for 3-D construction and sculpture. Students will be challenged to create three-dimensional sculptures from some of their 2-D sketches using everyday recyclable materials found at home.*

**Supplies/ other comments:** Students will need a laptop for synchronous and possibly some asynchronous meetings. Although this will be a hands-on art-oriented class, the supplies will be limited to those that most students will have at home. Each student will need a supply of copy/ printer paper or other non-lined paper. Students will use basic drawing tools-- particularly pencils, black ball point pens. They will need some kind of color media such as crayons, colored pencils, and/or markers. Adhesive of some kind such as Elmer's glue and masking tape will be used. Students will collect and use recyclable sculptural materials found at home such as box board (from cereal or cracker boxes), cardboard, paper towel tubes, plastic and paper grocery bags. Paint and brushes are not necessary but could be included.

**Class Name:**    *Electronics, Paper, and Fabric. OH MY!*

**Teacher:** Paula Leach

**Teacher contact info:** paula@ittip.org

**Starting date:** June 29

**Open to grades:** Only rising 5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>

**Class size limit:** 16 students

**Class duration:** 2 weeks

**Technology needs:** High

**Description:** *Come join this course to learn how you can use electronics, circuitry, and coding to make paper and fabric designs! You will need no background knowledge of electronics, circuits, or sewing, to enroll in this class; however, you will need your problem-solving and creativity skills! The course will begin with building circuits with lights on paper, then expand into a sewing and programming e-textile project with LilyPad Arduino. That is right, lights on fabric!*

**Supplies/ other comments:** Materials needed for this course will be included, but a computer that you can download open-source software on with a USB port (a Chromebook will not work) and an internet connection will be required for participation in this course.

**Class Name: *Dramatic Play: Creating the Virtual Scene!***

**Teacher:** Karen Feathers

**Teacher contact info:** featherskh@longwood.edu

**Starting date:** June 29

**Open to grades:** Only rising 5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>

**Class size limit:** 16 students

**Class duration:** 2 weeks

**Technology needs:** High

**Description:** *This course is full of playful dramatic exercises, role plays, and improvisations within a Zoom synchronous classroom. The participants will guide the audience through a scene created by both individual students and student groups working virtually together to design a setting, write a script, and develop characters. Students will work together within designated class times but will also work on their drafts and designs outside of class. Through their scenes, they will guide participants through an experience of exploring a real-world conflict leading to a resolution that is meaningful to them. Using both technology and hands-on materials, students will create backgrounds, special effects, costumes, props, and accents of music and/or dance to enhance themes through their own artistic expression. Groups and individuals will prepare videos of their scenes for an audience as a culminating activity.*

**Supplies/ other comments:** Some basic art supplies, such as sketch paper, pastels or tempera paint and brushes, props gathered as students develop their ideas. I would work with them to help gather what they needed. I would work with students to adapt for their varying levels of technology to figure it out. Technology (Internet) is not a barrier and would not prevent a student from the benefit of some aspects of the class (writing a script, designing the setting, developing the characters, etc.).

**Class Name:    *Escape to the World of Words: Fiction & Poetry!***

**Teacher:** Zoey Dorman

**Teacher contact info:** zdorman@umich.edu

**Starting date:** July 7

**Open to grades:** All grades, rising 3rd-8th

**Class size limit:** 16 students\*

**Class duration:** 2 weeks

**Technology needs:** Moderate

**Description:** *You may not be able to travel this summer because of coronavirus, but books can transport you to another world! Reading can allow you to escape a hot summer day in Virginia and travel through the wardrobe to the wintery wonderland of Narnia, or step from your own school library into the restricted section of the library at Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry. You might lose yourself in the nonsense of a silly rhyme or find a way to express whatever you're feeling in a poem. In this class, we'll read a novel and a selection of poetry that build alternative worlds or offer new ways of looking at our world. Before the class begins, you'll get to choose from a selection of novels, and we'll read whichever book most members of the class select. We'll discuss the novel and poems together, and you'll get the chance to write your own poetry. Together, we'll ask: how can fiction about strange, fantastical worlds help us understand our own world better? How can poetry describe the world in new ways? How do the words we read change our thinking?*

**Supplies/ other comments:** The class will vote on the book we read and discuss, with choices including *The Lightning Thief* by Rick Riordan, *The Giver* by Lois Lowry, *Artemis Fowl* by Eoin Colfer, *Nameless Queen* by Rebecca McLaughlin, *The Wee Free Men* by Terry Pratchett, and *Tuck Everlasting* by Natalie Babbitt. Students will supply their own copy of the selected book(s).

**Class Name:    *Songwriting!***

**Teacher:** Gregory Robey

**Teacher contact info:** gregory.robey@live.longwood.edu

**Starting date:** July 6

**Open to grades:** Only rising 5<sup>th</sup> – 8th

**Class size limit:** 16 students\*

**Class duration:** 2 weeks

**Technology needs:** Moderate

**Description:** *Do you love listening and singing to popular music today? Do you often wonder how they create the songs you listen to? Do you often have ideas you think that could be in a song? This class will be a project based music appreciation class where we take a look at how songs are written, composed and produced and students will have the chance to try and create their own song.*

**Supplies/ other comments:** Computer access with sound and mic preferred.



**Class Name:** Words at Work

**Co-teachers:** Averill Frederick  
Seth Hobson

**Teacher contact info:** mrsmafederick@gmail.com  
sethhobson339@gmail.com

**Starting date:** July 6

**Open to grades:** Only rising 5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>

**Class size limit:** 16 students\*

**Class duration:** 2 weeks

**Technology needs:** Moderate

**Description:** *Have you ever wondered what makes a language work? Do you want to know why the languages they speak in movies like Star Wars sound like real languages instead of like gibberish? Are you curious about how weird words like “fjord” and idioms like “kick the bucket” came to be? Have you seen how different the English language looks in older literature, such as Shakespeare or Poe, and wondered how it became the language we speak today? If you’ve found yourself in any of these boats (and then wanted to know why you were even “in a boat” in the first place), this course is for you! This course covers the basic rules of language, the study of word origins, and the history of the English language.*

**Supplies/ other comments:** While we can adapt to low technology access, the nature of our course does have some associated technology needs for online reference materials and some short video clips. We would like students to have either digital or physical access to "Frindle" by Andrew Clements (ISBN-10: 0689818769; ISBN-13: 978-0689818769). We also strongly recommend that students also have access to a device with a digital camera and microphone. It isn't required, but it will make some activities easier.

**Class Name:** Hummingbird Robotics: It's a bird! It's a plane! It's a...

**Teacher:** Paula Leach

**Teacher contact info:** paula@ittip.org

**Starting date:** July 13

**Open to grades:** Only rising 5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>

**Class size limit:** 16 students

**Class duration:** 2 weeks

**Technology needs:** High

**Description:** *Create and program your own moving robot using the Hummingbird Robotics kit! During this course, you will learn about robotic inputs and outputs as you build your own masterpiece to share with your classmates, friends, and family. No coding experience? No worries. All you need is your imagination and you will master the block coding necessary in no time! All participants will receive a Hummingbird Robotics kit and additional materials to build your robot.*

**Supplies/ other comments:** A computer or Chromebook (that you can download open-source software on) with a USB port and an internet connection is necessary for participation

in this course. Students will also need to have some recyclables on hand (i.e. cardboard, plastic, etc.). There is no soldering involved in the Hummingbird Kits, but hot glue and duct tape will be used (and provided).

**Class Name: *Funky Fibertastic Art!!***

**Teacher:** Carley Fetty

**Teacher contact info:** carley.fetty@pecps.k12.va.us

**Starting date:** July 13

**Open to grades:** Only rising 5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>

**Class size limit:** 16 students\*

**Class duration:** 2 weeks

**Technology needs:** Moderate

**Description:** *Get wrapped up in yards of fun with amazing textiles and techniques. From the comfort of home we will explore and discover all kinds of fiber-art mediums including weaving, sewing, felting, and everyone's summer favorite tie dying! Students will receive a care package include most of the materials needed, and parents will be given a list of other required materials. The list will be minimum, easily accessible, and you may even have some of the materials at home already. Along with your materials Mrs. Fetty will be creating a You-Tube channel with instructional videos, and she will also conduct scheduled video demonstrations using the Zoom platform. You won't be-weave how much fun we are going to have creating fiber-art together, from home!*

**Supplies/ other comments:** Students will be responsible for supplying:

- a cotton item for tie dying (shirt, pillow case, bandana, etc.)
- thin cardboard like a cereal box
- washable markers
- a black sharpie
- 4-5 felt craft sheets in any colors (available on Amazon, at Walmart, and at any other craft supply store)
- white or clear school glue (glue sticks will not work but hot glue will if parents are available to assist the student)

All other materials will be provided to the students via care-packages. We will be creating full video demonstrations to post on YouTube, so if a student can't access Zoom for the live demo they can in theory still complete the projects as long as they can watch YouTube on their device or their parent's device.

\*- designates a class with a potential for enrollment above sixteen.