Program Overview

**Discovery’s vision** is to provide a quality summer experience for diverse youth to learn on an urban campus, challenging and supporting them to Dream, Explore and Investigate.

In 2013, Discovery was re-launched at the Mary and Frances Youth Center (MFYC). The mission of MFYC is to be a national leader in university-community collaboration for positive youth development making Discovery a strong fit. This program provides rising 6th – 8th graders an opportunity to explore future career opportunities in Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts, Math and Health Sciences (STEAM-H) through half-day and full-day, week long courses taught by VCU faculty, students and community members on the college campus.

Reflecting Our Values

**Fun:** Most students (96%) strongly agree or agree that the Discovery Summer program was a positive experience.

**STEAM-H Career exploration:** Discovery Students demonstrated knowledge and interest in STEAM-H coursework after completing the program.

**Diversity:** Most students in the Discovery Summer program reported having classes with other children who looked like them, but most strongly agreed or agreed that they became friends with someone who was different from them.

Program Model

Youth Across the Richmond Region

- VCU Faculty, Staff, Alumni and Students
- Local teachers and other community members

**Discovery:** STEAM-H Career Exploration

Engaged and career conscious youth exploring STEAM-H careers through community – university partnership.

Impacting Summer Learning Loss

- 73% of Discovery students agreed to using information gained during the school year during their time in Discovery.
- 81% of Discovery students agreed that they would be able to use ideas from Discovery in the upcoming school year.
- 94% of students agreed that they were exiting the Discovery program with an idea of how people use the skills they practiced in their career.
Summer Highlights

*Taken from 2016 Evaluation Report*

- 95% of students liked their teacher.
- 97% of students agreed that they were given opportunities to participate in discussions and activities.
- 90% of students agreed that they did something they are proud of.
- 92% of students agreed that they learned something new.

### General Statistics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td># of Weeks</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of Unique Classes</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Students</td>
<td>227 (average of 52 students per week)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gender</td>
<td>46% Male, 53% Female</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade Level</td>
<td>28% 6th, 34% 7th, 37% 8th, 1% 9th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Ethnicities</td>
<td>African American (42%), Caucasian (29%), Other/Unknown (19%), Asian (5%), Multi-racial (3%), Hispanic (2%)</td>
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<tr>
<td># of Scholarships</td>
<td>51 full, 4 partial</td>
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</tbody>
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### Fall 2016 Grade Distribution

- 9th Graders 1%
- 8th Graders 37%
- 7th Graders 34%
- 6th Graders 28%
- 5th Graders 1%

### School District Distribution

- Richmond 36%
- Henrico 32%
- Chesterfield 24%
- Hanover 2%
- Out of State 3%
- Broader Virginia 3%
- Other/Unknown 19%
- Asian 5%
- Multi-racial 3%
- Caucasian 29%
- African American 42%

For more information, visit our website at mfyc.vcu.edu, or contact us at discovery@vcu.edu.