

## Welcome to the Saturday Enrichment Program!

Welcome to the Robinson Center Saturday Enrichment Program. We are excited to have you with us this quarter, and we look forward to getting to know your children and you over the course of the term.

In this short presentation, you will hear about the Robinson Center, and receive some special instructions for the first day of the program.

The mission of the Robinson Center for Young Scholars (RC) at the University of Washington is threefold: **teaching, research, and service**. The RC is a leader in the nation for developing programs that serve highly capable young pre-college and college students.

The Robinson Center is an integral part of the university and overseen and supported by the Dean and Vice Provost of Undergraduate Academic Affairs, Dr. Ed Taylor. Dr. Nancy Hertzog is the Director of the Robinson Center and is also a full professor in Learning Sciences and Human Development in the College of Education.

The Robinson Center for Young Scholars has been serving students who choose to go to college early since 1977. Our oldest and most radical acceleration program is called the Transition School. Students after 7th or 8th grade, leave middle school to come to Transition School and go on to enter the University of Washington the following year as fully matriculated freshman, generally at the age of 15! Our second early entrance program to the university is our UW Academy Program for students who choose to leave high school after 10th grade, and enter the university as fully matriculated students and graduate college without ever receiving a high school diploma.

Some of your children may have participated previously in our Summer Programs. We offer *Summer Challenge* for 5th and 6th graders, and *Summer Stretch* for 7th – 10th graders. The summer classes are designed to engage students in a meaningful learning experience in a topic of interest to them.

Some of our summer courses such as Chemistry, Algebra 1, or Algebra 2, are self-paced and provide an opportunity for students to cover material that is a full year in high school over the course of just five weeks. Other summer courses are inquiry based and allow students to dive deeply into interdisciplinary issues or problems such as sustainability, equity, or social justice. We encourage you to explore our selection of summer courses in January when new courses for the upcoming summer become available.

In our Saturday Enrichment Program, we offer a wide variety of courses that are open to all K-8 students. The Robinson Center has a commitment to serve the Puget Sound region by providing educational opportunities for students ready and willing to challenge themselves and explore topics and ideas that interest them. These classes are intended to provide intellectually ambitious students with challenge, inspiration, and fun in a collaborative, supportive learning environment. Our classes are not intended to move students ahead in the standard curriculum but rather to explore topics not usually covered in the K-8 classroom. Subjects including math, science, creative writing, and philosophy are taught with an emphasis on students' questions and hands-on activities. There are no grades or homework. All are welcome! We also offer full tuition and fees waived for all students qualified to receive free or reduced lunch.

As part of the registration process, all parents are required to complete two forms. One is entitled **Acknowledgement of Risk and Consent for Treatment**. This form gives us permission to seek medical services should there be an emergency and provides us with emergency contact information. Please feel free to update this form at any time should phone numbers change or should you decide to add or delete an emergency contact on this form.

The **Personal Release** offers you an opportunity to provide or deny permission to the staff to take photos of your child while engaged in class activities. We want you to know that your child's name will never be associated with any photo and the primary purpose of the photos is to share our instructional strategies with others (part of our teaching mission) or to market our programs. It is the same form that all university students are required to complete when they come on campus. If ever there is research conducted on our classes, you will be informed and provided an opportunity to consent to participate. At no time will research be conducted without your consent.

Finally, we'd like to get you ready for the first day of Saturday Enrichment Classes. Most Saturday classes are located in Loew Hall. Some may be held at the Robinson Center, which is located in the Guggenheim Annex.

The first day is different because **we invite you to stay in your child's classroom for the first 10-15 minutes** of the class. At that time, the teachers will introduce themselves, their teaching assistant, and share the syllabus with you. When you leave the class, feel free to explore the university, have coffee in the HUB, or enjoy the libraries. Please remember that we do not supervise your children between or after classes.

If for any reason, the class is cancelled, you will be notified by email. In case of inclement weather, we will also post information on our website. If you ever have any questions or concerns, please feel free to email the Robinson Center Enrichment program at [rcenrich@uw.edu](mailto:rcenrich@uw.edu), or call the main office at 206-543-4160 Monday through Friday 8am to 5pm.

Parking is free on campus after noon on Saturday. The closest parking lots are near the HUB and the Padelford Parking Garage. You may also park at the UW Central Plaza Garage.

If you have any questions, please email the program Director, Jana Lamon at [jlamon@uw.edu](mailto:jlamon@uw.edu).

We look forward to seeing you soon on campus!