

SRYS Scoop

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

- Mondays
2:30 - 5:45 pm
- Tuesdays
2:30 - 5:00 pm
- Wednesdays
2:30 - 5:00 pm
- Thursdays
2:30 - 5:00 pm

DAILY SCHEDULE

- 2:30 - 3:30 pm—Homework
- 3:30 - 4:00 pm—Snack/Hot Meal
- 4:00 - 5:00 pm—Daily Activity

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First Day: Getting to know your Student

It will be much easier to tutor students once you get to know them. While few students will open up right away, the first day is a good time to start a bond. Below are some suggestions about how to start your first meeting!

1. Spend a good portion of the first day getting to know each other and getting a general idea of the participant's interests, likes and dislikes.
2. Learn the participant's name and make sure you pronounce it correctly.
3. Before you start asking questions, tell the student something about yourself.

4. Learn about the students by asking open ended non-judgmental questions.



An Alvernia volunteer helps a participants with their homework.

6. Ask the student what they need help with and make sure the student knows that it is okay to ask questions whenever something is unclear.
7. Explain to the students that you have made a commitment to be at after-school programming on the day(s) you have picked. Ask the students to make the same commitment.

5. Try to gauge how your tutee feels about school. Ask questions like: Who is your teacher? What do you think about school? Do you participate in sports or other activities?

Here are a few good topics to help start conversation:

- My favorite song is...
- My major is....
- My favorite sport is...

ACTIVITY IDEAS

Short Energizer Games

http://classroom-activities.suite101.com/article.cfm/icebreaker_energizers

Mad Libs

These can be a fun way to practice grammar and vocabulary.

<http://www.madlibs.com/> or <http://www.wordlibs.com/>

More game ideas:

<http://www.genkienglish.net/games.htm>

<http://www.eslcafe.com/idea/index.cgi?Games>

READING MUSICAL FOUNDATION

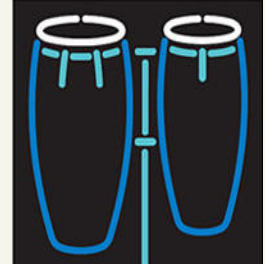
On Tuesdays for six weeks, the Reading Musical Foundation will come down to SRYI programming and teach the participants about Latin percussion.

This program will provide the participants with their own chance to learn Latin rhythms on a range of instruments including bongos, maracas, and claves.

The Reading Musical Foundation is over 80 years old and believes in musical outreach through programs in Berks County. To find out more about the [RMF](#) check out their website.

The instructor for this programming will be Tammi Hessen. Her impressive list of accolades include playing in a steel drum band, and traveling to Africa to learn

how to play the West African hand drum. She also teaches both individual and group lessons. Locally, she works with the Olivet's Boys & Girls club. If you would like to learn more about [Tammi](#) or what classes she has to offer please check out her website.



*"The years
teach much
which the
days never
know."
Ralph
Waldo
Emerson*

READING TENNIS



South Reading Youth Initiative participant poses with her tennis racquet during a session at St. Peter's Church.

During 2009 and continuing this year the SRYI participants will partner up with Reading Tennis. Everyone will get a chance to try their own hand at playing tennis. The participants really enjoy the time that they get to spend learning a new sport.

When the weather is bad or too cold to go outside,

the participants play on makeshift courts in Marciano Hall. When it is nice outside we will travel to Centre Park and play on the public tennis courts that the city offers.

A local tennis coach and tennis players from Reading High School work with our participants during these sessions.

READING PUBLIC LIBRARY

The South Reading Youth Initiative will be visiting the Reading Public Library on Wednesdays throughout the semester.

The participants will be walking down to the library where they will be able check out books which they can

read during programming or take home with them.

7-10 year-old participants will visit the library on:

- Wednesday, September 22nd**
- Wednesday, October 27th**
- Wednesday, November 24th**

11-14 year-old participants will visit the library on:

- Wednesday, September 29th**
- Wednesday, November 3rd**
- Wednesday, December 1st**

For more information on the [Reading Public Library](#) please visit their website.



South Reading Youth Initiative participants read with a volunteer.

READING PUBLIC MUSEUM



SRYI Participants make clay pots during our visit to the Reading Public Museum in 2009.

The South Reading Youth Initiative will be traveling to the Reading Public Museum starting Monday September 13th and ending on Monday, October 18th. We will leave from St. Peters Church after homework help at 3:45 and return to the church at 5:45pm.

Throughout the six-week program the students will have the opportunity to tour many of the museum exhibits. They will also have the opportunity each week to create something of their own.

The first week the participants will tour the Pennsylvania German Gallery where students will learn about the artistic heritage of the area through Pennsylvania German artwork.

The participants will then make their own sgraffito ceramic plates.

For information on the [Reading Public Museum](#) please visit their website.

CREATIVITY CAMP 2010

This summer the Holleran Center held its fifth annual Creativity Camp. This year's theme was "Pod Squad: Going for the Goal." Mike Nerino, Assistant Professor of Computer Information Systems was the faculty instructor for the camp.

Camp participants had the opportunity to explore digital

media using various technological mediums, such as podcasting and blogs. In addition to learning about technology, participants gained knowledge about the 2010 FIFA World Cup. The participants also had the opportunity to travel to Washington, D.C. where they had the chance to tour the U.S. Capitol and meet Congressman Jim Gerlach.

A short video presentation was put together to highlight the two weeks.

[Watch the highlight video from Creativity Camp 2010.](#)



*It is hard to fail, but it is worse never to have tried to succeed.
Theodore Roosevelt*

JUNIOR CREATIVITY CAMP 2010

This summer was the third annual Junior Creativity Camp. This years theme was "All Aboard: Technology on Track." Mike Nerino, was the faculty instructor for the camp.

Camp participants had the opportunity to learn about technology. They also had the chance to learn about trains and how they operate.

Trips included two local trips; one to the Pagoda and the other to Berks Community Television. The participants also had the chance to visit the Strasburg Railroad and ride a steam locomotive.

The week ended with a ceremony where Mike Toledo, Executive Director of Centro Hispano, gave the closing remarks.

A short video presentation was put together to highlight the camp week.

[Watch a highlight video from Junior Creativity Camp 2010.](#)



Junior Creativity Camp 2010 "All Aboard: Technology on Track" visits the Pagoda to get a bird's eye view of the City of Reading and the train tracks.

CHECK US OUT ON FACEBOOK
[Holleran Center](#)

THE HOLLERAN CENTER
FOR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
ALVERNIA

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Please look at the [Holleran Center](#) webpage on Alvernia's site. Here you will find more information about the Holleran Center and upcoming events.

**SOUTH READING
YOUTH INITIATIVE
GOALS**

- Provide a positive, educational “safe haven” for young people through mentoring and support for health choices.
- Cultivate leadership development in the South Reading Hispanic Community as a partner with St. Peter’s Roman Catholic Church.
- Promote continued education completion of high school degree, post-secondary possibilities and career development.
- Utilize existing arts and community partnerships to broaden the cultural education of the young people of South Reading.
- Help grow and sustain the outreach program by infusing talent and energy from Alvernia students, faculty and



Participants create their own “newscast” during Creativity Camp 2010.