



Turning the Corner...

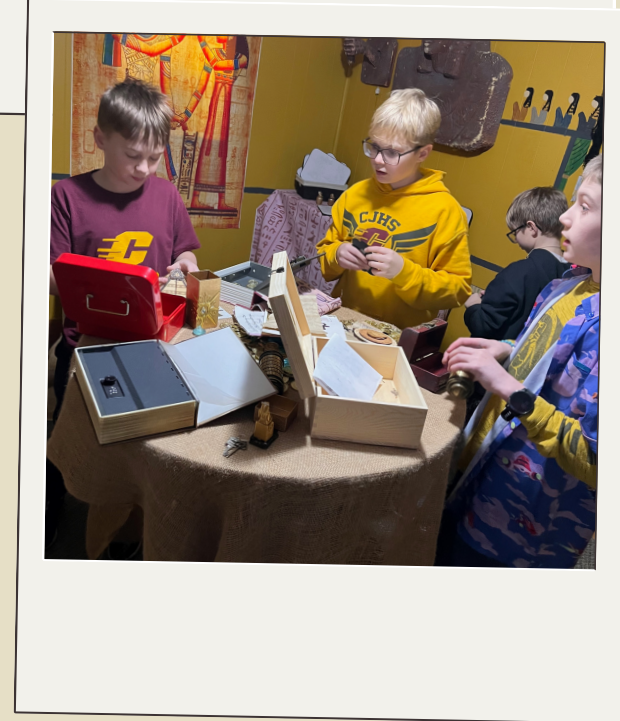
As we turn the corner into spring, I think it's safe to say it's been a pretty nice winter here in Central Illinois. We also had a pretty nice winter here at The Vault! The students were treated to an After Hours of backyard games on one of our February 75-degree days, and waiting outside to check into The Vault hasn't been nearly as chilly as past winters! As the seasons change, so do our offerings here at The Vault. We are always striving to mix things up and offer programming that is fresh and engaging for our students. Our After Hours programming has been a big hit on Mondays and Tuesdays as students get the opportunity to participate in programs such as cooking lessons, robotics, and fitness classes. Chelsea Irwin, our Education Liaison has put together an engaging line-up of activities for the rest of the school year! In the lower level, we have added a new ping pong table generously donated by an anonymous donor along with a new Pac-Man arcade game. Student volunteers helped put both together and had a blast trying them out. One of our biggest projects has been our virtual reality program. Our program Director, Jason Kitson, and student volunteer, Mason Costello, have been working long hours to get the equipment set up and have been training students on how to use the equipment. We started rolling the program out in February, and it's been a huge hit! This program would not have been possible without a generous donation from Enel.

As we move into spring, our Envision U Summer Camp sign-ups begin. This year, we have five exciting summer camps that give students hands-on experience in animal careers, culinary arts, military service careers, STEAM (Science, technology, engineering, art, and mathematics) activities, and small business creation. All of these camps are made possible through generous sponsorships from local businesses and donations from community members. If you'd like to support us with a sponsorship, more information is listed on the following pages.

Henri Nouwen, Dutch priest and theologian, stated, "Fundraising is proclaiming what we believe in such a way that we offer other people an opportunity to participate with us in our vision and mission." As always, we are eternally grateful to you for believing in our mission to provide teens with a place where they can recognize their value, realize their purpose, and reach their goals! We simply could not do this without you!

Connie Unruh, CEO

Winter Highlights from our Hangouts, Community Serve Days, and After Hours Enrichment Classes





NEWS FROM THE VAULT

Spring, 2024

Meet Kaitlin Burton, Program Assistant...

Kaitlin has been “with” The Vault since its beginnings. First, as a volunteer, helping remodel our building, then as a student attending programming. She quickly became a Student Ambassador and then our Student Cafe Manager. As Kaitlin went off to college, she was asked to continue working at The Vault as a Program Assistant. Kaitlin is currently a sophomore at ISU studying Psychology. She hopes to someday have her own counseling practice, but in the meantime, she thoroughly enjoys her role as Program Assistant. She hangs out with the students during programming time, helping them be aware of the rules, and guiding them to better behavior choices. Kaitlin also provides

a listening ear for students who may be struggling with issues and provides encouragement along with tools to cope and overcome obstacles in life. We appreciate Kaitlin and all she provides for our students! They seem to love her as much as we do!



Kaitlin Burton, Program Assistant

Thank you to all the mentors, volunteers, and donors who make our programming possible!



Connie Unruh with Justin Fentress, President DeWitt Savings Bank



Heath Poole & daughter. Thank you for this awesome backpack rack!



Greg Mauer and Daniel Bugner, talented volunteers!



Connor Patterson, Student Ambassador, with Chelsea Irwin, Education Liaison



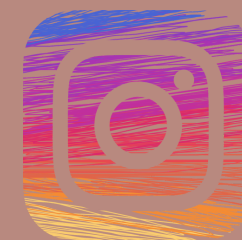
Gail Bowman, Clinton High School



Tim Holl, Mentor

The Queen Has Been Dethroned!

Tammy Wilson, our COO and resident ping pong champion gave up her crown last week as Jack Youngberg finally beat her in a game! He’s been practicing for quite a while and finally eclipsed Tammy handing her her first defeat! Teaching students how to reach goals is something we love to do here, even if it means losing our throne! Way to go Jack!



Connect with Us on Social Media!



If you'd like to be added to our weekly text or monthly newsletter list, please contact our Director of Marketing and Finance at wdement@thevaultclinton.com

Envision U Summer Career Camps

The Vault's Envision U Summer Career Camps give students in 7th - 12th grades an opportunity to explore different careers and learn from professionals in each field. Through your support, we can offer the following week-long camps free of charge! All supplies and transportation for off-site field trips, instructors, and personnel are provided. Students will also receive a morning snack, a full lunch, and a parting camp experience gift from each camp they attend.

June 3-7: Animal Careers Camp

Students will learn about careers related to caring for and engaging with animals. These experiences include learning from zoologists, groomers, veterinarians, and university-level specialized animal care!

Students will also go on field trips to a local zoo and a wildlife park!

June 10-14: Culinary Arts Camp

Students will learn cooking skills, kitchen safety and hone their baking skills with help from professional chefs and bakers. They will take tasty field trips to learn about culinary careers and owning a restaurant. The week will end with a community luncheon for family and friends that students will prepare and host!

June 24-28: Military Careers Camp

Students will have a packed week of experiences and training from local recruiters and veterans. They will learn about the different career opportunities and benefits available through the various military branches. Students will experience things like a survival trek and learning from air mechanics in a maintenance bay for military aircraft!

July 8-12: STEAM Camp

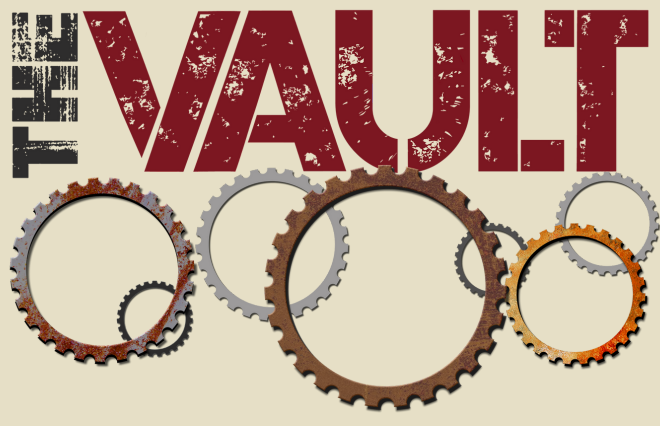
Students will explore and experience a variety of STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics) activities throughout the week, rotating through training sessions of programming and coding robots and sessions exploring the creative realms of virtual reality and video game creation!

July 24-28: Small Business Creation Camp

Students will visit local businesses and collaborate with small business owners to establish their own unique businesses! Students will develop effective marketing materials to showcase their business venture and pitch their idea to "investors" Shark Tank-style!

We can't offer these engaging camps without the help of our local businesses and community members. If you would like to sponsor our camps this summer, please fill out the enclosed Sponsorship Form.

Questions about sponsorships or the camps? Contact Connie Unruh, CEO at connieunruh@thevaultclinton.com or 309-750-3735.



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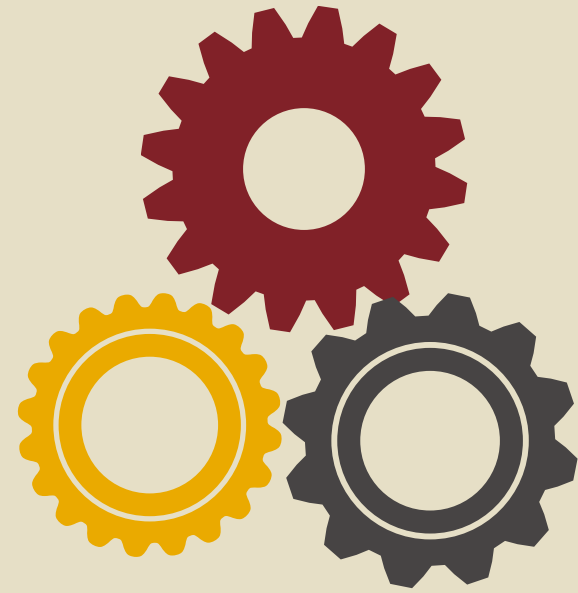
STAFF

Connie Unruh, CEO
Tammy Wilson, COO
Jason Kitson, Program Director
Wendy DeMent, Director of Marketing & Finance
Chelsea Irwin, Education Liaison
Kaitlin Burton, Program Assistant
Alex Kreoger, Student Café Manager

VOLUNTEER STAFF

Michelle Witzke, Founder/Community Connections Coordinator

The Vault Community Center
802 N. Side Square
Clinton, IL 61727



Yes, I want to be an Envision U Summer
Camp Sponsor!

1. CONTACT INFORMATION

Business Name: _____

Contact Name: _____

Email: _____

Cell phone: _____

2. DONATION AMOUNT:

_____ \$2,500 _____ \$1,500 _____ \$1,000 _____ \$500 _____ \$250 _____ Other

3. LOGO

Each sponsor will get a shout-out on social media and their logo/name on the banner that will hang in our window all summer.
-Please send your logo to Wendy DeMent at wdement@thevaultclinton.com
-If you do not have a logo and would just like your name on the banner, let us know how you would prefer it listed:

Please complete this form and contact Connie Unruh
at
309-750-3735 for pick up or mail to
The Vault Community Center
802 N. Side Square Clinton, IL 61727.
THANK YOU!