



The Ambassadors GAZETTE

Culture Center

WEST VIRGINIA STATE CAPITOL COMPLEX

June 2019



Students from across the state enjoyed their week in Charleston, even surviving Boot Camp.

LOOK AT WHAT'S INSIDE

Curator's Welcome	2	Get A Life!	14
Arriving at Camp	3	Get to Know Your Government.....	15
Getting to Know Everyone	4	Learning About... State Police Forensics and	
Party Time!	5	State Police K-9.....	16
Governor's Mansion	6	Learning About... Gardening with the Chef	
West Virginia State Capitol	7	and Online Safety	17
Culture Center	8	Boot Camp	18, 19
State Archives	9	Poster Presentations	20, 21
State Museum.....	10, 11	West Virginia's Birthday	22, 23
Arts Classes	12, 13	Group Photo.....	24

The Ambassadors GAZETTE

WRITERS

Dalton Cook, Wyoming County
Samantha Maxson, Jackson County
Lilly Smith, Kanawha County
Emilia Horton, Wood County





A Message from Curator Randall Reid-Smith

I love West Virginia Ambassador Camp!

From the moment you begin to arrive at the University of Charleston campus to your departure after the presentation program four days later, this is one of the most energizing programs with which I am involved.

This year, we had a record 115 students from 42 counties around the state.

For many of you, West Virginia Ambassador Camp is full of new experiences. You stayed in the dorms at the University of Charleston and discovered what it's like to meet a new roommate, eat in the cafeteria and stay on schedule. The activities that we scheduled for you kept you moving. You toured the State Capitol Complex and met government and industry leaders. You participated in arts, dance, music and vocal music activities. You took part in internships and reported about them.

Even our evening activities were designed to keep you thinking – learning about budgeting responsibilities and the importance of keeping healthy, active lifestyles.

Through it all, you demonstrated to every counselor, host and volunteer that West Virginia youth are full of energy, full of questions and looking forward to their futures.

Our speakers commented over and over again about how thoughtful your questions were. Every adult who met with you was impressed with your poise and confidence.

We invite you to this camp to give you a chance to learn about our state and build pride in our heritage, culture and history. But we learned something, too. We learned that you are ready for your challenges, excited about your options and proud of your Mountain State connections.

We all leave camp standing a little taller and looking forward to a bright Wild and Wonderful West Virginia future.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Randall". The signature is fluid and stylized, with a long, sweeping tail that extends to the right.

Welcome to Ambassadors Camp 2019



UNIVERSITY OF CHARLESTON

During the week of June 17, students from across West Virginia gathered together in Charleston for the 2019 Ambassadors Camp. We all arrived at the University of Charleston for check-in Monday afternoon, where we got to experience dorm living. We had dinner and a dance party that was so fun. We met so many interesting people and laughed a lot!

On Tuesday, we went to the Culture Center and were divided into three groups, where we were rotated between the State Capitol, the State Archives, and the State Museum. Later that day, we participated in the “Get a Life Program” and “Learning the Arts” activities. By the end of the day, we had learned to square dance, hold drumsticks properly, and art print. We also learned two of our state songs!

Ambassadors were broken into small groups Wednesday to take part in internships. Our group worked with the Department of Arts, Culture and History’s communications staff to put together this newsletter. We found

out as much as we could about what the other Ambassador’s were learning about.

Interns with the events staff learned about what it takes to put on an event at the Culture Center by designing their own event and seeing the costs of different aspects of an event. It can be up to \$2,000 dollars to rent the Great Hall.

The SHPO office’s interns learned about preserving our state and its resources. We also learned that they help residents of West Virginia identify and preserve sites around the state and keep track of the state’s listings on the National Register of Historic Places.

The Secretary of State’s office interns learned that this is where the state seal and constitution are kept. We also learned that there are about 1.2 million registered voters in

the state, but many could be taken off due to duplicates, which would make voter turnouts higher, therefore showing a legit winner of an election.

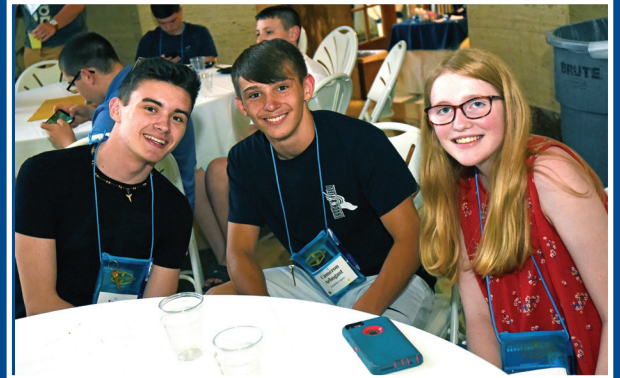
Later that day, we went to the Clay Center, worked on internship posters, and participated in a fun boot camp!

We all had different experiences this week, but it is clear everyone is thankful for this experience and learned a lot. We can all agree Ambassadors Camp 2019 was an amazing experience that everyone has enjoyed and is one we will never forget.





Getting to Know Everyone



Welcome Your 2019 Ambassadors Camp Counselors



- Tim James**
Cabell Midland High School
- Leslie Riedel**
Capital High School
- Joe Hardin**
Retired Educator
- Amy Kammer**
Cabell Midland High School
- Oley "Bo" Berry**
Chapmanville Middle School
- Kennetha Parker-Howes**
Hacker Valley K - 8
- Randall Reid-Smith**
West Virginia Department of
Arts, Culture and History



Getting the Party Started!



Having fun dancing with new friends



Greetings from the WEST VIRGINIA GOVERNOR'S MANSION

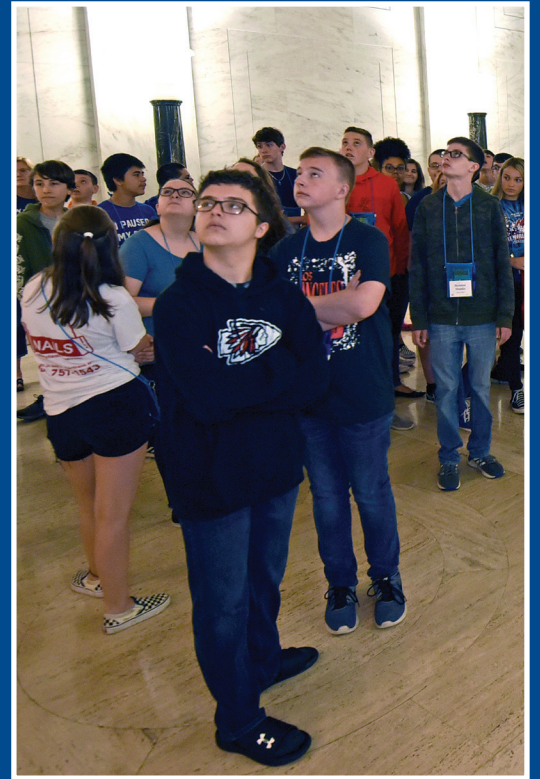


The 30-room Governor's Mansion was built from 1924-25 and is listed in the National Register of Historic Places.



THE WEST VIRGINIA STATE CAPITOL

Designed by architect Cass Gilbert, the Capitol was constructed in three stages and took eight years to complete at a cost of just under \$10 million. Governor William G. Conley dedicated the new Capitol on the state's 69th birthday, June 20, 1932.



The West Virginia Senate Chamber has two rows of coffers in the arches above its public galleries, a domed ceiling, a 1,500-pound crystal chandelier and hand carved desks made from black walnut.



GETTING A FIRST HAND TOUR OF
**The Culture Center
and the West Virginia
State Museum**

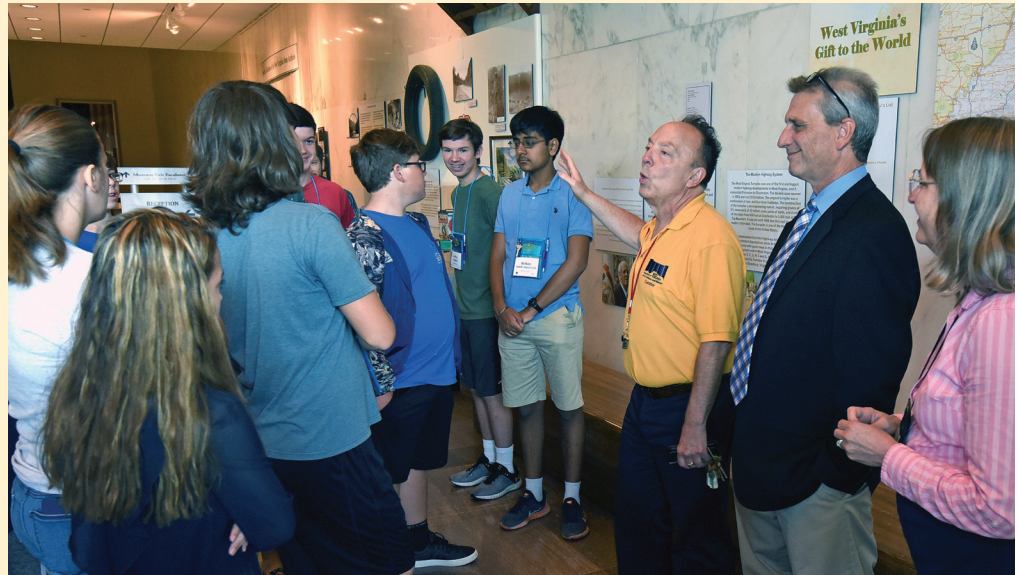


WELCOME AMBASSADORS

From the Office of the Governor, Ann Urling, Deputy Chief of Staff, and from the Office of Senator Shelley Moore Capito, Mary Elisabeth Eckerson, state director



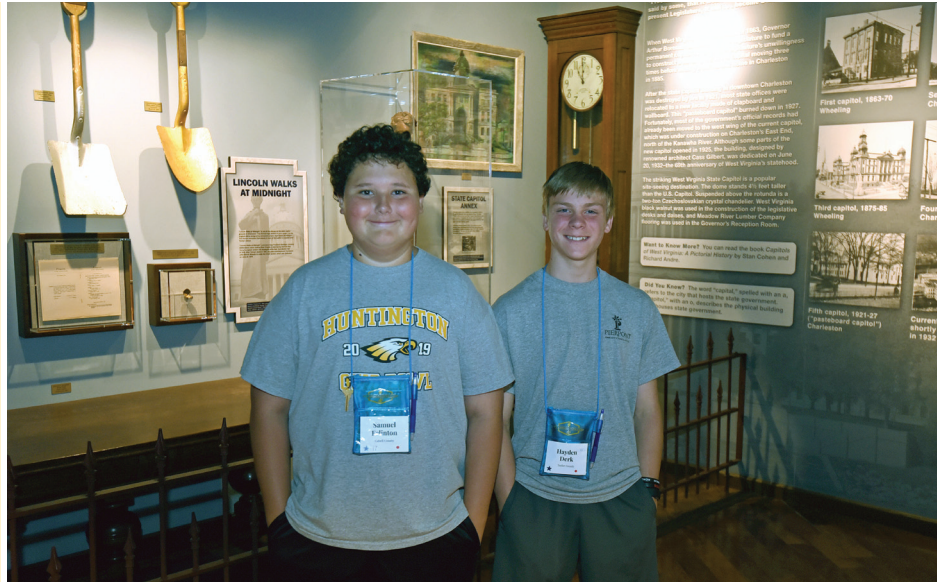
State Archives



LEARNING ABOUT THE HISTORY OF OUR STATE



Exploring The West Virginia State Museum







Let's get Creative

ARTS CLASSES

West Virginia's culture and arts play an important role in our heritage and our future.

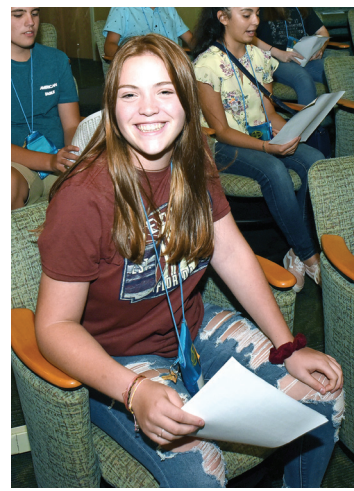


Instrumental Music with Tim James



Square Dancing with Lou Maiuri





Print Making with Robert Howsare



Song with Leslie Riedel



Get A Life!

with the West Virginia State
Treasurer's Office



How much money did you have left?



Get to Know Your Government!

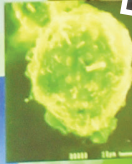
Department of Education's Associate State Superintendent Clayton Burch speaks to Ambassadors along with Vicki Shannon, Director of the Governor's Mansion.



LEARNING ABOUT.... State Police Forensics

Trace Evidence- Tools

- Scanning Electron Microscope
- Microscope
- Gas chromatograph
- Mass spectrometer



State Police K-9



Governor's Garden and Chef



Online Safety



WV AMBASSADORS BOOT CAMP

Campers participated in
Let's Get Physical!
on University of Charleston's
riverfront with fitness guru
Joshua Grant.



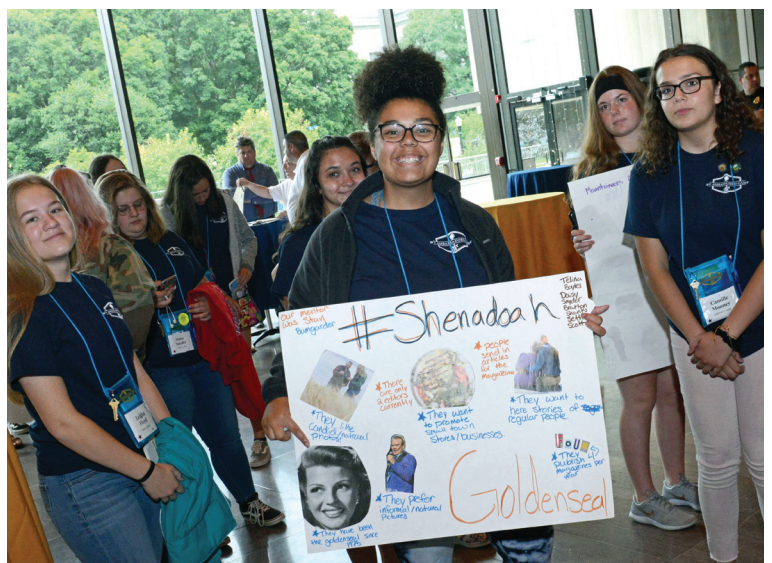
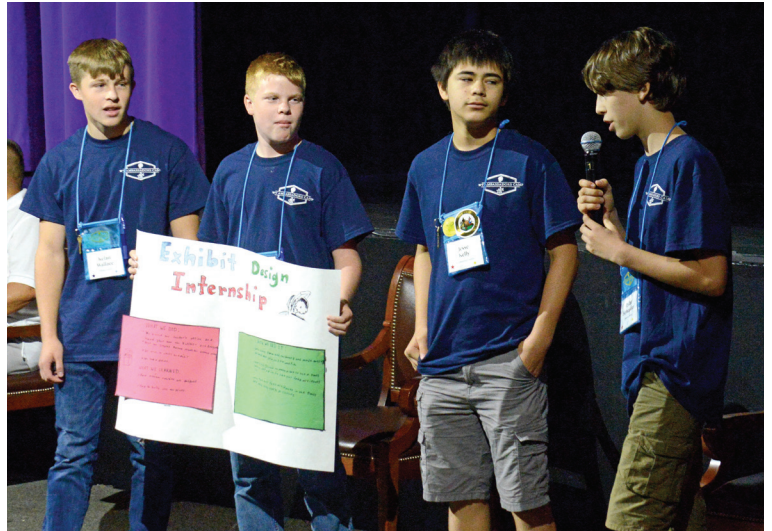
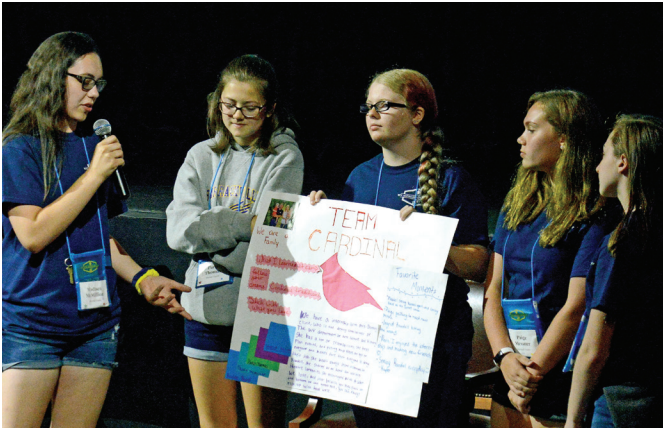


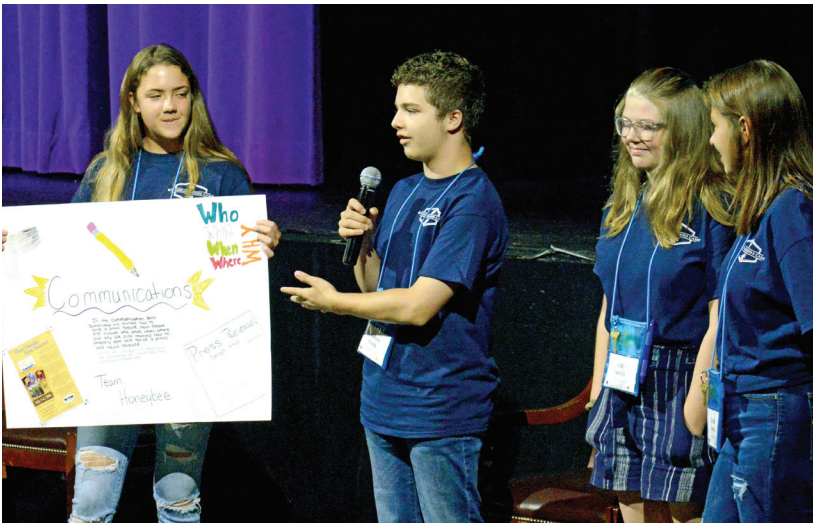
WE SURVIVED!



Last Day of Ambassadors Camp

Internship Poster Presentations





My **FAVORITE THING** about Ambassadors Camp was...

We caught up with a few students during camp to ask them what they most enjoyed about their week in Charleston.

“Too much to pick one thing... making memories with people.”

– Telina Boyles, Wood County

“I felt included. Everyone was equally important.”

– Joshua Fruner, Wood County

“The Good food.”

– Maggie Sleeth, Doddridge County

“My roommate – Braxton Shanks.”

– Andrew Pierotti, Wood County

“Meeting different people.”

– Cassandra Camillo, Logan County

“Walking around with (Curator) Randall Reid-Smith.”

– Aiden Flowers, Greenbrier County

“Square Dancing, Get A Life activity, and art printing.”

– Kaci Orr, Berkeley County

“Making new Friends.”

– Sam Miller, Gilmer County

“Learning.”

– Will McGinnis, Wetzel County

“Meeting new people.”

– Emily Osborne, Wyoming County

“Internships.”

– Heather Lacy, Lincoln County

– Paige Westfall, Raleigh County

“Square dancing.”

– Colin Murphy, Ritchie County

– Lillian Herdman, Putnam County

“The people.”

– Ava Warner, Kanawha County



Happy 156TH Birthday West Virginia





WEST VIRGINIA AMBASSADORS CAMP 2019

