



For Immediate Release

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BridgeValley Community and Technical College Holding STEAM Academy for Students Grades 5-8

BridgeValley Community and Technical College is holding its sixth annual STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art and mathematics) Academy camps this summer.

The camps, open to students grades fifth through eighth, allow participants to explore STEM-based principles while being creative and discovering new hobbies and subjects along the way. The program initially began to help students generate interest in STEM fields, but found several creative aspects of STEM are often overlooked.

BridgeValley has included art within its summer program to further explore these aspects including 3D modeling and website interfaces. "We have found that the earlier a student becomes interested in a STEM-based field, the better the chances they may decide to get training to enter that field," said BridgeValley Assistant Professor Jason Spencer. "The phrase STEM or STEAM gets used a lot these days as a buzzword, and STEAM Academy allows children in our area to experience skills and activities that fall under that umbrella. Whether they're a novice or skilled at any one thing, we offer exposure to many STEM-related areas so there will always be something for everyone to enjoy. Plus, it's a fun, creative atmosphere where they can continue to learn while having fun during the summer months."

Spencer said the program changes each year to allow returning students to have new experiences. Past camps have included 3D design and printing, video game design, green screen videography and robotics in addition to science experiments, building projects and problem solving.

BridgeValley's STEAM Academy is broken into three, one-week, \$150 camps. The first week, June 17-20, serves as an introductory camp designed to expose students to STEAM fields; the second week, July 8-11, is designed for fifth and sixth graders;

and the final week, July 29- August 1 focuses on seventh and eighth grade students. An optional lunch is available for \$6 per day.

Registration is available at bridgevalley.edu/STEAM









About BridgeValley Community and Technical College

BridgeValley Community and Technical College promotes student success, prepares a skilled workforce, and builds tomorrow's leaders by providing access to quality higher education. BridgeValley Community and Technical College will be the college of opportunity for a diverse learner population, offering leading-edge technology, innovative ideas, and dynamic service to our students and our communities. BridgeValley Community and Technical College serves a six-county region including Fayette, Raleigh, Nicholas, Clay, Putnam and Kanawha counties. The college operates two campuses in Montgomery and South Charleston, along with the addition of the new Advanced Technology Center. BridgeValley Community and Technical College is a public institution of higher education independently accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Schools and Colleges and a member of the Community and Technical College System of West Virginia.

For more information about BridgeValley Community and Technical College financial aid opportunities, programs of study, workforce training and community education and events, call (304) 205-6600 or; or check the College's website:

<http://www.bridgevalley.edu>

