



LEARNING
joyfully

100%
EXPERIENTIAL



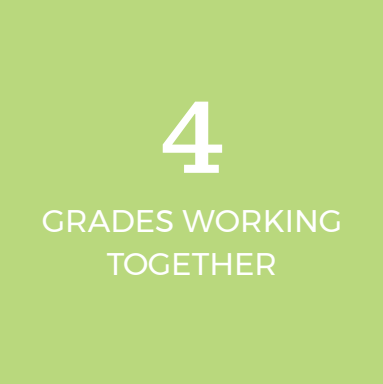
WORKING WITH
experts

14
DIFFERENT
CLASS OPTIONS



ONE WEEK.
ONE CLASS.
ZERO GRADES.

NEW
friendships



4
GRADES WORKING
TOGETHER



MPA
i-Term 2025

MPA MIDDLE SCHOOL i-Term

Week of March 3-8, 2025

PURPOSE AND OVERVIEW

Mounds Park Academy's i-Term provides students in grades five through eight with a unique opportunity to embody MPA's mission of thinking independently and learning joyfully by participating in a one-week enrichment experience. i-Term courses are designed to provide inquiry-based, experiential learning beyond the classroom. The project-based, focused nature of i-Term offerings enables students to learn new skills, do things that are not possible within a normal school setting, and be exposed to things they would not be otherwise. Students will venture into the community, work with experts in a particular field, and create new friendships along the way during this signature experience.

STUDENT OWNERSHIP

While students are required to participate in i-Term, they are empowered to select a course that will either deepen their current understanding of a topic or introduce them to a new area of interest.

REGISTRATION PROCEDURES

Students will be asked to select three courses for i-Term. While class sizes are purposefully kept small to ensure an intimate learning environment, every effort will be made to match students with their top choices. Once a student is registered and confirmed in a course, no changes will be made. Students should list three courses they want to take—please do not list a course you would be unhappy to attend.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Course fees are used to offset the cost of transportation, field trips, community and guest speakers, and other excursions. Once course selections are finalized, course fees will be assessed through the Business Office and TADS. If the course fee associated with your student's preferred i-Term experience presents a financial hardship for your family, please contact Paul Errickson to discuss options.

USING THIS DOCUMENT

i-Term courses are divided into three categories—Making & Design Thinking, Culture & Community Explorations, and Creative Arts & Play. They are color coded as indicated below. Use this document to review course content and select your ideal i-Term course.

MAKING & DESIGN THINKING

CULTURAL & COMMUNITY EXPLORATIONS

CREATIVE ARTS & PLAY

i-Term ONLINE:

moundsparkacademy.org/iterm

DO-IT-YOURSELF FIX IT

COST: \$50

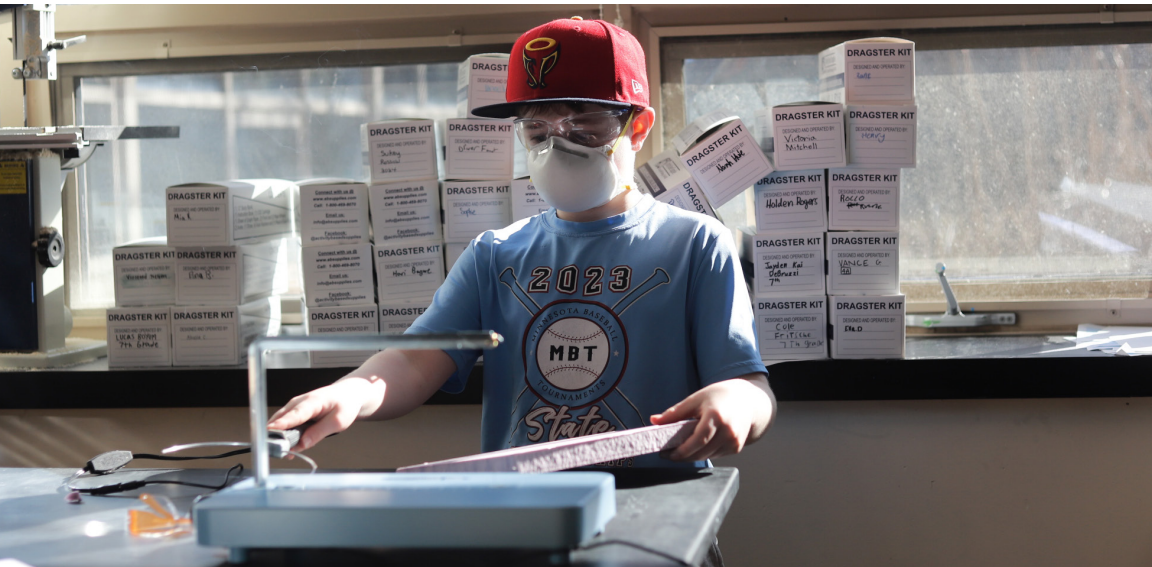
Have you ever had an item that needs fixing, but you don't know how to fix it? In this course, we are going to investigate how someone goes about repairing something that is broken (and see if it even can be fixed). We would ask that each student bring in at least one broken item that is no longer functional and would like to see if it can be fixed. All items may not be able to be fixed depending on what repairs are needed and if time allows for it to be repaired. During this course, students will also learn practical skills that may include experiences such as repairing a hole in a wall, understanding how to repair an electrical cord, how to mount something on a wall, and much more! In this class, students will be able to explore how to attempt a solution and not always be successful. They will also learn how to regroup and try again (and maybe even again) until they arrive upon their desired result. Students will gain hands-on experience, perseverance, and DIY skills that are the epitome of a life-long learner.



PlaMo BUILD-A-THON: POKEMON EDITION

COST: \$100

Ever heard of PlaMo? PlaMo is a combination of the words Plastic and Model. During our PlaMo Build-a-thon Course we will not only build plastic model characters, but we will also create an epic scene and/or environment for our characters to be displayed in. The scenes/environments will be created by use of various materials, paints, and modeling techniques. New to this year's PlaMo Build-a-thon will be re-creating a 3D version of a Pokémon card. The final product will be put on display and showcased for us all to see. Students will be gifted one PlaMo model as a way of being introduced or reintroduced into the hobby. All other Plastic Models will be purchased when we take a field trip to Hub Hobby. Materials, paints, and tools will be supplied.



NATIONAL PARK TOURS

COST PER STUDENT: \$ 2,459 (quadruple occupancy, if 15 register)

Discover the natural beauty and wonder of the American Southwest. Land in Las Vegas and travel to Valley of Fire State Park, Zion National Park, and Bryce Canyon. We'll complete the trip by hiking the South Rim and watching the sun set over the spectacular Grand Canyon. Trip participants will also go sandboarding at Coral Pink Sand Dunes. Airfare, meals, and excursion tickets are all-inclusive! Any fifth-grade student interested in participating in the program needs to be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Parents are welcome to join in grades six, seven, and eight, but it is not mandatory.



GRECIAN GATEWAY: DISCOVERING ANCIENT GREECE

COST: \$200

Are you a fan of Greek mythology? Did you know that Cloud Cuckooland (from The Lego Movie) was inspired by a 2000+ year old Greek play? Did you binge watch the Olympics? The “Grecian Gateway” course focuses on Greek mythology, along with Greece’s impact on theatre, art, and sports. Activities include a visit to Minneapolis Institute of Art, and lunch at the Christos Greek Restaurant in Minneapolis. This class is for fans of Percy Jackson and beyond!





CULTURAL & COMMUNITY EXPLORATIONS

FRENCH IMMERSION TRIP TO QUEBEC, 2025

COST PER STUDENT: \$2675*

*All inclusive, there is a \$350 supplement for a single room and \$225 to share a double room for adults who join this trip.

We are thrilled to announce an i-Term language and culture immersion trip Québec City, Canada! This trip offers the chance to sample a taste of Europe in North America with its historic walled city and its French language and heritage.

During this five-day adventure, we'll explore Canada's oldest neighborhood on foot and visit the interactive Musée de la Civilisation to learn about Quebec's history and people. We'll engage in multiple interactive games and activities at the Musée du Fort and Soldat de la Tour in Martello Tower as we explore le Vieux Québec. We'll also enjoy seasonal activities like snowshoeing, tobogganing on the famous Dufferin Terrace and visiting the impressive Ice Hotel. We'll head into the mountains to enjoy a traditional meal at a Sugar Shack, while taking in traditional music and dance.

But that's not all! Our visit will also include a traditional breakfast at Huron-Wendat Village, including a guided visit of the village with interactive games. We'll also explore the Beauqué Coast and visit Montmorency Falls Park with a cable car ride to the top of the falls. Our visit to the Beauqué Coast will also include a visit to the Copper Museum, with tools and copper awaiting us for the challenge. No visit will be complete without a guided visit of Cathédrale Ste Anne de Beauqué, a world-famous pilgrimage site. Our visit to Canada will end with a tour of Montreal and a visit to the world-famous farmers' market, where we'll get to practice our French as we order our final Canadian meal before we head home. Any fifth- or sixth-grade student interested in participating in the program needs to be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Parents are welcome to join in grades seven and eight, but it is not mandatory.



CULTURAL & COMMUNITY EXPLORATIONS

NEW YORK 2025: BRIGHT LIGHTS AND THE BIG CITY

COST: \$2,400-3,080*

*Cost is conditional to the number of students attending. All rates are based on a quad occupancy for hotel rooms.

20 Students - \$2,400

15 Students - \$2,590

10 Students - \$3,080

Bright Lights and the Big City! We are excited to announce the opportunity to experience arts and culture in a new and unique way! During our four-day, three-night journey to New York City, students will get the chance to immerse themselves in world class art experiences. From tours of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and Radio City Music Hall, to seeing a Broadway show and participating in an acting workshop from a working Broadway actor, this trip gives students the chance to experience the brightest and best of what NYC has to offer. Students can look forward to exploring Times Square and Central Park, touring the Rockefeller Center, visiting the Statue of Liberty, and seeing a live music performance.

All travel and accommodations are coordinated through WorldStrides Educational Travel and Experiences. More specific details will be shared in Zoom meetings once all classes have been finalized.

ARCTIC ADVENTURES

COST: \$600

includes travel and accommodations

This course invites students to embrace winter with outdoor activities such as hiking, dog sledding and polar plunging. Participants will travel to Ely for five days to go dog sledding and learn about wildlife in the Boundary Waters. If there is time, we will stop at the International Wolf Center. We will be staying at Wintergreen Lodge which is world renown for their “The Road Less Traveled.” See their website for more information: dogsledding.com



MUSEUMS OF THE TWIN CITIES

COST: \$50

Museums serve to provide learning experiences for people of all ages and challenge us to see the world in new ways across cultures, artistic mediums, time periods, and geographic regions. This i-Term course will spend the week exploring the incredible museums of the Twin Cities and both examine and reflect upon the power and possibilities of museum education. Whether art, natural science, technology, or cultural, a stroll through a museum has the potential to empower and inspire. Join us for a week of exploring all the Twin Cities Museum scene has to offer!



DEATH UNVEILED

COST: \$50

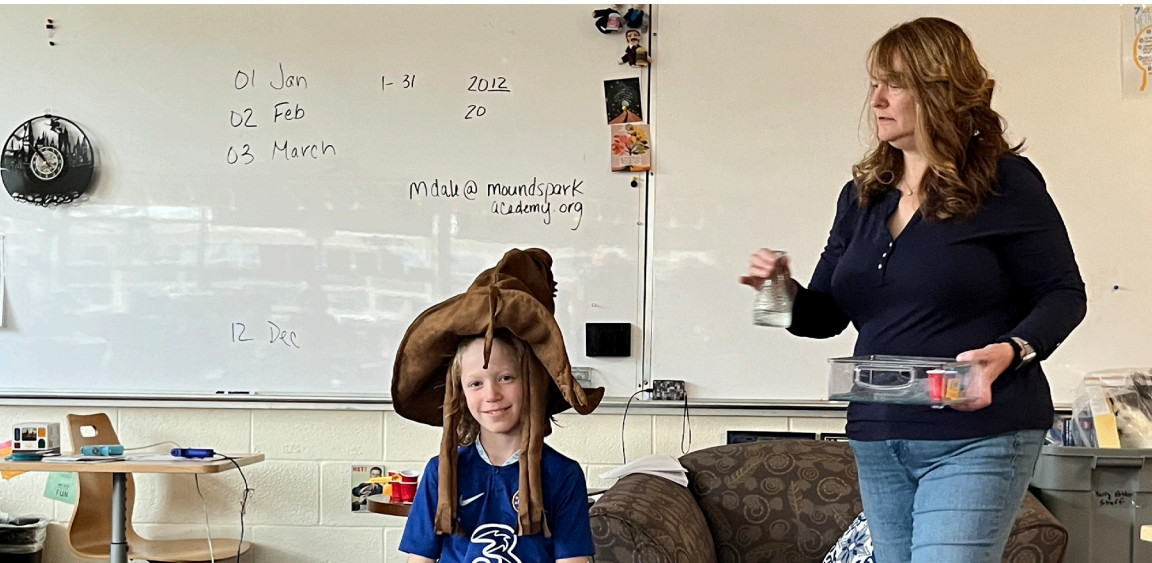
Curious about death or ever wonder what happens at a funeral home? In this course, we will explore the history of embalming from the ancient Egyptians compared to present day. Students will create a sarcophagus and mummy, try to mummify fruit, make their own death mask, learn how to create a nose, mouth, and ear out of clay and tour a funeral home. Join us for a deep dive into the afterlife!



WIZARDING SCHOOL

COST: \$225

Unleash your inner wizard and attend Wizarding School for i-Term. Share your love of Harry Potter and join us for a week-long adventure that will begin with a house sorting ceremony and attend classes in Potions, Herbology, and Care of Magical Creatures. Learn to play Quidditch and become an apprentice to Ollivanders, master wand-making. You will create spells, a magical creature, and create a new house with its own history and ghost. We will take a cooking class, go to an escape room, and many other adventures. Register now to ensure our owls send your acceptance letter.



SNOWBOARDING AT AFTON

COST: \$200

Learn the FUNdamentals of snowboarding while enjoying the outdoors at Afton Alps! Boarders will spend the week in Afton learning to balance mind and body, taking healthy risks, and overcoming fears while having a great time with your friends. Boards can be rented at Afton, all you need is snow gear and an adventurous spirit!



CALLING ALL KNITTERS

COST: \$25

This is a course for those who would like to learn how to knit as well as those who already know how to knit. Get bored on road trips? Knitting is a great way to pass the time. Traveling by plane? Knitting is compact, easy to pack, and will make the time fly. Whether you have always wanted to learn how to knit or have projects at home, this class is for you. Once you understand knitting, you can be creative with what you make. Who knows? Maybe you will create your own pattern some day? Sign up for this course if you are interested in knitting.



DIRECTOR'S CUT FILMMAKING

COST: \$30

Students will learn how to tell a story through film, including storyboarding, scriptwriting, editing, and sound design. This course allows kids to develop new ways of self-expression and independence, as students will be able to write and craft their own stories and develop the tone of their films through intentional direction and music choices.



SENSE-SATIONAL DISCOVERY

COST: \$75

The five senses help us understand the world around us. They connect us to memories, experiences, and make each day vibrant in how we see, touch, taste, smell, and hear the world around us. In this i-Term course, each day will be dedicated to one of the five senses. We will do deep dives into not only learning how each sense works, but also explore all the different ways in which we use them in our everyday lives. Additionally, we will investigate all the unique ways we can experience our daily routines in more mindful, awe-struck ways. Experiences throughout the week will take us from campus to out into our community as we learn to savor what being alive truly feels like.

