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Free summer activities and field trips for youth in Douglas County

June 27, 2023, Douglas County, Oregon - Douglas ESD's YouthSpace program is collaborating with Umpqua Community College's Work-based Integration into Rural Education (WIRE) program to offer free summer activities and field trips for youth.

During July and August, a diverse range of opportunities will be tailored to the interests and passions of local youth. With the support of dedicated staff, the grant-funded program fosters personal growth, community engagement and memorable experiences. Teens will be empowered to develop new skills, explore their potential and forge lifelong friendships.

Highlights of the program include:

1. **Adventure Excursions:** Thrilling outdoor adventures such as hiking at Wolf Creek, visiting the Cascades Raptor Center in Eugene and riding the Hellgate Jetboats. These activities promote teamwork, resilience and a deeper appreciation for the natural world.
2. **Sports and Recreation:** Various sports activities, including Arrow Tag, bowling, skating and more. Through friendly competition and physical exercise, teens can enhance their athletic abilities while fostering teamwork.
3. **Field Trips:** Exciting trips to UCC, local attractions, parks and cultural landmarks. Whether soaring through the air at DEFY, riding the bumper boats at the Rogue Valley Family Fun Center or communing with birds of prey at the Cascade Raptor Center, these trips offer an opportunity for area youth to expand their horizons while connecting with peers.

All activities and field trips are free of charge and open to all youth in Douglas County between the ages of 14 to 18. Space is limited and registration is required. Interested participants can register online at <http://tinyurl.com/yssummerregistration> or call Douglas ESD at 541-440-4777 for more information.

YouthSpace would like to express gratitude to the WIRE program at UCC for the generous support in providing bussing to the activities. Together, YouthSpace, Douglas ESD and WIRE are investing in the future of the community's teenagers and fostering a positive and inclusive environment.

With a commitment to providing engaging and enriching experiences, YouthSpace aims to ensure this summer is both fun-filled and educational for local teens. Learn more about Douglas ESD's youth programs at www.douglasesd.k12.or.us/youth-development.