

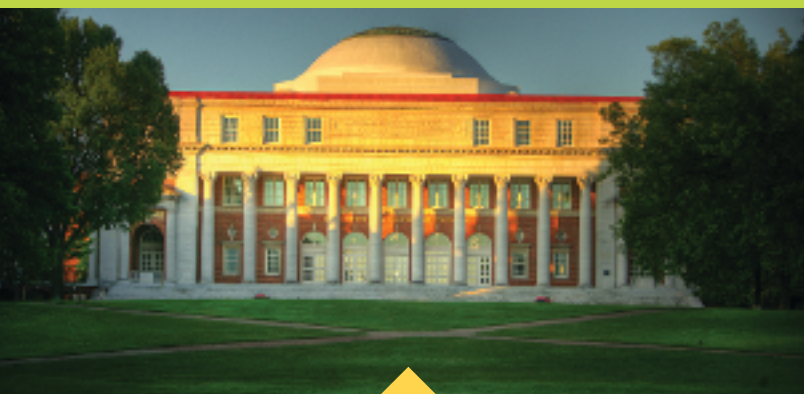
Vanderbilt Programs for Talented Youth



Developing talent in gifted students
and those who work with them

pty.vanderbilt.edu

VANDERBILT



PTY programs were established in 2000 under the vision and leadership of Dean Camilla Benbow, a protégé of Dr. Julian Stanley, who was the founder of talent search programs. Dean Benbow is the Patricia and Rodes Hart Dean of Education and Human Development and co-director of the Study of Mathematically Precocious Youth.

What initially began as small summer residential program for middle and high school students has expanded over the years to include year-round programming for K-12 grade students, professional development for educators, parent support, and research and curriculum development initiatives.

Executive Director and Professor, Tamra Stambaugh, leads Programs for Talented Youth along with Director of Programs and Operations, Sarah DeLisle, and an incredibly talented and dedicated team. PTY has connected with thousands of students, parents, and educators since the program began. We are ready to connect with you. Join us. Learn More.

“In my experience, universities can play a role in encouraging and supporting the most talented young learners. And, it is important that we do so—for their well-being and for our common future.”

—CAMILLA BENBOW

Patricia and Rodes Hart Dean of Education and Human Development, Peabody College

WHO WE ARE

Vanderbilt Programs for Talented Youth is part of Vanderbilt University's Peabody College of education and human development and is led by award-winning Vanderbilt University faculty and staff who are committed and experienced in providing quality talent development opportunities for advanced learners in a creative, supportive, and academically rigorous environment.

We believe that academically advanced students need consistent and accelerated opportunities in order to fully develop their talents and interests. They also need guidance from educators, parents, and content experts who understand their unique needs.



WHAT WE DO

We develop talent in gifted students and those who work with them by:

- Offering Saturday and summer pre-collegiate and accelerated programs for gifted and academically advanced students in grades K-12
- Supporting families and educators in learning more about academically advanced students through specially designed workshops, conferences, and course work
- Conducting research and publishing evidence-supported articles, books, and curricula for educators and parents
- Creating community partnerships and seeking outside funding to support the talent development of gifted and academically advanced students from low-income and traditionally underrepresented backgrounds

“We, at PTY, work diligently to provide high quality, evidence-supported programs and resources for all gifted learners, their families, and their educators in a nurturing environment that supports the talent development process. The positive academic, social, and career-related benefits of accelerated, pre-collegiate programs are many, and our continuing professional development, resources, and course work for educators and parents aids in developing a gifted student's potential.”

—TAMRA STAMBAUGH

Executive Director,
Vanderbilt Programs for
Talented Youth
Research Associate
Professor, Peabody
College

PTY STUDENT PROGRAMS

Vanderbilt faculty and content experts teach accelerated courses that focus on:

Exposure to a variety of accelerated content areas in which students have documented potential and interest

Efficacy in one's ability to perform rigorous tasks in a content area and development of psychosocial skills and habits of a scholar

Expertise and in-depth learning in an area of interest and talent



Discover Your Talents

ACADEMIC YEAR OPTIONS ON CAMPUS



Saturday Academy at Vanderbilt for the Young (SAVY) – Grades K-6

SAVY provides a dynamic, fast-paced curriculum experience to qualifying gifted and academically advanced children in grades K–6. Vanderbilt faculty or graduate students, content experts, and master teachers trained in gifted education implement an accelerated curriculum. SAVY meets for three to six consecutive Saturdays each fall and spring. During a session, students dive into a specific area of interest. Students may enroll in the fall session, spring session, or both.



Weekend Academy at Vanderbilt University (WAVU) – Grades 7-12.

WAVU is an intensive, Saturday program that provides academically advanced middle and high students with an in-depth look at contemporary careers in math, science, engineering, or the humanities. Held for one full Saturday each fall and spring, WAVU incorporates accelerated laboratory courses led by professionals in their field and an opportunity for in-depth career exploration along with support and resources for families.

SUMMER OPTIONS ON CAMPUS

Expand Your Knowledge



savy
SUMMER
ACADEMY
AT VANDERBILT
OR THE YOUNG

Summer Academy at Vanderbilt for the Young - A Rising 1st - 6th Grade Day Experience

Summer SAVY offers academically advanced students in rising first through

sixth grades a fast-paced, accelerated curriculum taught by content experts and knowledgeable educators. SAVY is a weekday program in which students can select from a variety of courses. Students sign up for one SAVY class per session to explore a topic in depth. There are six one-week options on Vanderbilt campus. Students may enroll in multiple sessions.

Career Connections at SAVY - A Rising 7th and 8th Grade Day Experience

Career Connections is a program within Summer SAVY. Classes within this program have been developed to immerse students in a topic of study as they experience the application of advanced content in a unique field.

CAREER
CONNECTIONS
AT
savy

vsa
VANDERBILT
SUMMER
ACADEMY

Vanderbilt Summer Academy - A Rising 8th - 12th Grade Residential Experience

VSA is specifically designed for advanced students in rising 7th-12th grade. The

youngest VSA students stay on campus a week, 9th and 10th graders spend two weeks on campus, and 11th and 12th grade students are fully immersed in content during a three week session! Students in VSA experience life on a college campus as they live in a residence hall, eat in the dining hall, and connect with intellectual peers. Students engage in accelerated course work taught by Vanderbilt faculty and scholars while living in a vibrant social community with their classmates.

ONLINE OPPORTUNITIES



Find Your Passion

MENTOR IMMERSION



PTY's Mentor Immersion program is a unique experience offering in-depth exposure in an academic field. As part of the experience students engage in accelerated content in a discipline and work toward creating an independent research product or project in their selected field of study with the support of a content expert with whom

they are paired. There is a maximum of 8 students paired with a mentor and an additional teaching assistant/peer guide. Through this experience students are able to deepen their understanding in a field of study while making new friends with like-ability peers and conducting research or creating a project similar to practicing professionals.

The Mentor Immersion program during the academic year runs for 6 months and is designed for 10th through 12th grade students. The 6-month time frame in the academic year allows for the same number of contact hours as the 3-month Mentor Immersion experience offered during the summer session.

PTY also offers younger students an opportunity for mentorship through Rising Experts: Mini Mentor Immersion. This program is a one-month summer experience designed specifically for rising 9th and 10th grade students. Rising Experts offer students early exposure to the content of a field, related career path information, and the opportunity to complete a small project associated with the field. This project provides an introduction to the work associated with the interest area.

PTY ONLINE ACADEMY

PTY Online Academy is an online learning opportunity that offers synchronous experiences for the academically advanced students. The program has opportunities for 3rd through 12th graders. Students enroll in a class that meets live online. Outside of class students complete asynchronous assignments and meet during office hours with their instructor and teaching assistant for additional help. PTY Online Academy offers a variety of course and meeting times options to fit different schedules.



A FEW FACTS ABOUT OUR STUDENT PROGRAMS

1

Each year we see over 1000 students attend one or more of our programs.

During a typical residential program year, at least *thirty states* and *ten countries* other than the U.S. are represented through our students and staff.



WE PRACTICE A NEED-BLIND APPROACH WHEN DETERMINING ADMISSION TO OUR PROGRAM. IN A TYPICAL YEAR WE GIVE AWAY OVER 100K IN AID SO THAT STUDENTS FROM ALL BACKGROUNDS CAN ATTEND OUR PROGRAMS.

PTY Loves VU.

3

We are a department on Peabody campus, and we have a full time staff of 4.5 FTE working tirelessly year round to support students, parents, and educators. Several of our staff are alums of VU!

5

We hire over **125 SEASONAL STAFF** each year from undergrad and graduate students to VU faculty and professionals. We recruit, train, support, mentor, and leverage strengths to build an awesome **COMMUNITY OF ROLE MODELS & STELLAR SUPPORT SYSTEM** for our students.

Relationship matter to us.

We take time to get to know our students.

We work closely with our instructors.

We invest in growing our **seasonal staff's skills** through coaching and support.

We **network across campus** with a variety of departments that offer services or class opportunities for our students.

EDUCATOR & COMMUNITY PROGRAMS



Supporting Educators

Throughout the year PTY's Gifted Education Institute offers professional development opportunities on a variety of topics for practicing professionals. Educators and school district representatives may choose to attend any of the three annual conferences on Vanderbilt's campus. PTY's fall conference focuses on meeting the needs of high-ability, low-income students and students from underrepresented populations. The spring conference focuses on effective curriculum and instructional strategies for high-ability learners. One day training opportunities on specific topics are also offered throughout the year, generally led by PTY faculty or other nationally-known experts. In addition, GEI offers an intensive summer experience designed to meet the State of Tennessee's standards for employment as a gifted education teacher.



Supporting Parents

Programs for Talented Youth is dedicated to aiding parents and families of gifted students as they foster the talents and abilities of their children. PTY offers parent support groups that meet on select Saturdays in the fall and spring. These groups are designed to help parents better understand and address the unique social, emotional, and cognitive needs of advanced students.

Research and Resource Development

PTY faculty and staff conduct research and publish articles, books, and book chapters on a variety of topics in gifted education. PTY faculty and staff also seek partnerships, gifts, and grant funding to develop products, lead research initiatives, and support gifted students including those who are from low-income backgrounds or who are historically underrepresented in gifted programs.

Check out our award winning curriculum. Programs for Talented Youth publishes evidence-based curriculum for academically advanced students, which has been recognized as exemplary by the National Association of Gifted Children and other organizations.



What We Hear From Those We Serve

"I am never **bored here!**"

"I learned that **hard work can be exciting.**"

"I have never seen another program **capture my child's attention** every single day, every single class!"

"There is nothing better than being in an environment that **makes your feel smart** while challenging you."

"I loved having **access to graduate students and faculty .**"

"This is the **best** education workshop I have **ever attended.**"

"I loved getting to meet kids **who are similar to me** and from other schools and states"

"I use your published curriculum all the time **in my classroom.**"

"The staff **'get' my child.**"

"This program introduces my child to the **college environment.**"

"PTY has rejuvenated my student's **love of learning.**"

"At PTY, I was surrounded by **people** who **get me, include me and challenge me** to be the best person I could be."

"Our son comes home from SAVY wanting to **learn more, know more, and experience more.** Who could ask for more than that!?"

"After taking my class, I realize I have **more to see and learn.**"