

## NEWS

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## **138 Scholarships to be Awarded to Help Underserved Students in the Finger Lakes Region Attend Science and Technology Camps this Summer**

*Rochester, NY—May 3, 2007—*Finger Lakes Wired, [www.fingerlakeswired.com](http://www.fingerlakeswired.com), has announced that youth in sixth through ninth grades within the nine-county Finger Lakes Region will be able to apply for 138 scholarships for Science and Technology camps this summer.

Science and Technology camps connect youth to real life applications in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). The total amount of scholarships to be awarded will be \$92,000. The camps selected for the program are Cornell University Cooperative Extension Ontario County, Infotonics Technology Center, Rochester Institute of Technology, the University of Rochester, and Hobart & William Smith Colleges.

“The importance of science, technology and math skills cannot be understated,” said Matthew Hurlbutt, Managing Director of Finger Lakes Wired.

“Based on Workforce and Earnings Projections for the 10 year period of 2004 – 2014, STEM skills requiring positions will grow at a rate of more than 11.4% over the 10 year period while non-STEM positions will grow at a rate of more than 4.5%. The average salary for non-STEM positions is \$35,661 compared to STEM career positions averaging \$57,084.”

Additionally, according to the NYS Department of Labor Bureau of Labor Statistics, STEM skills are required in approximately 14 percent of all occupations in the region. The region compares similarly to the nation.

“Our intent in funding this project is to target underrepresented populations and expand recruitment efforts of middle and early high school students, young women and minorities,” “We also want to stimulate interest in science, technology, engineering, and math for youth who would not otherwise be exposed to the outstanding potential in these fields..”

Finger Lakes Wired is charged with supporting economic development and transforming the Finger Lakes region economy by increasing entrepreneurship and innovation, expanding employment, and advancing worker opportunities. It helps fund programs that advance these objectives.

The Science and Technology camps fit the Finger Lakes Wired mission to support talent development for sustained economic growth.

The purpose of the camps is:

- 1) Attract the region's youth to explore the possibilities linked to studies in the Sciences, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM)
- 2) Inspire parents and educators to encourage pursuit of STEM educational choices for young people
- 3) Enhance awareness of not only STEM career options; but awareness of the Finger Lakes Region as a premier locale for a Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics career opportunities.

All camps selected are existing programs that are expanding their reach to underserved populations.

**For deadlines, applications and more information, contact one of the camps directly:**

**Cornell University 4-H Camp Bristol Hills**

Contact: Tim Davis  
tsd2@cornell.edu  
(585) 394-3977 Ext. 431  
[www.4-hcampbristolhills.org](http://www.4-hcampbristolhills.org)

**Finger Lakes Institute, Hobart and William Smith Colleges**

Contact: Sheila Myers, Education Outreach Coordinator  
601 S. Main St., Geneva New York 14456  
315-781-4380  
<http://fli.hws.edu/>

**Infotonics Technology Center at Nazareth College**

Contact: Dr. William Lammela  
[scicamp@naz.edu](mailto:scicamp@naz.edu), or call 389-5125.  
Information and Brochure:  
<http://www.naz.edu/dept/chemistry/summercamp07.htm>

**Rochester Institute of Technology**

Contact: Susan Kurtz, Director, Kids on Campus  
sfkldc@rit.edu  
[www.kidsoncampus.rit.edu](http://www.kidsoncampus.rit.edu)

**University of Rochester, Rochester Scholars Program**

Contact: Natalie Yager, Program & Publicity Coordinator  
585-275-2344

**For More Information Contact**

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*Finger Lakes Wired is one of 13 designated WIRED regions in the country funded by the U. S. Department of Labor WIRED (Workforce Innovation in Regional Economic Development) Initiative to support economic development and transform regional economies. Finger Lakes Wired initiatives focus on a nine-county region surrounding Rochester N.Y., to increase entrepreneurship and innovation, expand employment, advance opportunities for workers, and enhance the talent of the workforce through the creation of high-skill and high-wage opportunities.*

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