



University at Buffalo
The State University of New York

Center for Urban Studies
School of Architecture & Planning

2015 ACADEMIC SUMMER CAMP ON NEIGHBORHOOD DEVELOPMENT

The fourth annual UB Center for Urban Studies (UB CENTER) Summer Academic Camp on Neighborhood Development is designed to improve the skills of middle school students in reading, writing, research, computer use, collaboration, critical thinking, communications and problem solving by having them work on a "real-world" neighborhood development project in the Martin Luther King, Jr. neighborhood.

This is a project-based learning program in which the children are taught how to use classroom knowledge and skills to make their neighborhood a better place to live, learn, work and raise a family. The approach is anchored by the view that learning is enhanced and motivation is increased when skill development is linked to real-world projects that show the children how to positively change their communities. This year's project will focus on developing a place-based plan that re-imagines and re-creates two streets in the greater Martin Luther King, Jr. into a developed neighborhood.

The students will use Digital photography, Adobe PhotoShop, Adobe Creative Suite and study the neighborhood's history to design a new streetscape. The new picture will present a plan that will knit vacant lots, abandoned houses and occupied housing into new, visual and aesthetically pleasing environment. The themes used to inform the development activities will be based on either areas of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Park or the King Urban Life Center (former St. Mary of Sorrows Church). The program is based on the UB CENTER's celebrated Futures Academy "Community as Classroom" initiative.

Designed for middle school students, the academic camp starts on July 6th and ends on August 14, 2015. The program runs from 8:30 am to 3:00pm, Monday through Friday. Lunch is served and the children have a structured one-hour period of physical fitness and recreation activity, each day.

THE PROGRAM IS FREE!!

For more information or to request an application, call Candra Skrzypek at 829-5914 or email at candrask@buffalo.edu or call Frida R. Ferrer at 829-5910, or email at ferrer@buffalo.edu. Applications must be received by Friday, June 19th.