Area Middle Schoolers to Experience “Excitement in Education”

SHIPPENSBURG, Pa. — More than 30 middle school students from the Shippensburg, Chambersburg, and Carlisle school districts will get a taste of life as a college student when the Shippensburg University Honors Program hosts Excitement in Education on Saturday, March 21.

Excitement in Education (E²) is a semiannual program that brings middle school students from throughout the region to Shippensburg University for a day of fun, instructional workshops and introduction to the college environment. This semester’s event will run from 9:45 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in Shippen Hall.

“This spring we’ve specifically targeted gifted students from surrounding districts,” said Honors sophomore and E² co-chair Kristen Imboden. “We want to provide enrichment opportunities with a creative, hands-on approach to learning for these high-achieving kids.”

Excitement in Education has been sponsored by the SU Honors Program since 1992. In previous years, the program has been designed to increase college awareness among Harrisburg students from low-income families.

The middle schoolers will take part in three courses of their choice led by Honors students. Selections include Fun Food Frenzy, A Closer Look at Tornados, Aztecs: The Apocalypse and Beyond, Math Tricks, Economics in One Lesson, and Save the Last Dance.

They’ll also enjoy lunch in a university dining hall, take a tour of the Shippensburg campus, and ask Honors students questions about the college experience.

“Most gifted students already expect to go to college,” said Imboden. “By giving them a sneak preview at life as an Honors student at Shippensburg, we hope to show them that SU has amazing opportunities and is truly a place where they can grow academically.”

The Shippensburg University Honors Program is made up of more than 150 undergraduate students of diverse backgrounds who are accepted to the program based on academic achievement, intellectual curiosity, and evidence of leadership and community service.

The Honors Program offers small, dynamic classes with excellent instruction; opportunities for research projects, internships, and study abroad experiences; and cultural events, social activities, and service projects.