Spring = Hands on Learning at HFA

Henry Ford famously said "History (is) mere bunk!", saying students should learn the lessons of humanities not through reading textbooks, but by learning hands-on! At HFA this idea of Learning by Doing comes to life as Greenfield Village opens for the Spring season. Students in various courses are shearing sheep, driving horses, touring Edison’s labs, listening to presenters from various careers, learning to code, creating aerodynamic pinewood cars, soldering circuits, creating prototype hearts for aliens, delivering Ted Talks, dissecting pigs, making explosive chemical reactions, touring colleges, and presenting their Senior Defenses. All of this is done to bring life to the math, science, English, and social studies that might seem boring and disconnected when simply read out of a traditional textbook. We think learning should be fun!

Get Ready for the Summer Book Battle!

Studies show that summer learning loss, especially in reading, can set students back from where they were at the end of the school year. Again this year, students can compete in the Summer Book Battle! The top 3 students who read the most books in each class will receive gift cards. See the HFA website for a list of books and how to participate . . . and start reading!

Left: Students in Dr. Leclerc's Human Body Systems class test the strength of the prototype bones they designed and built
Mr. Koslowski, Ms. DeGain, Principal Christmas represent HFA on National Stages

HFA World History teacher Jeff Koslowski presented at the National Council of History Educators Conference in San Antonio, Texas, explaining how HFA fulfills Henry Ford’s vision of Learning by Doing. HFA Math and STEAM teacher Danielle DeGain was chosen to attend the "Solarize your World" workshop in York Harbor, Maine. Based on her prior experience teaching 3D modeling at the University of the Virgin Islands and STEAM at HFA, Ms. DeGain was one of a handful of teachers chosen. Finally, Principal Cora Christmas spoke at the American Alliance of Museums Conference in Phoenix, Arizona to speak about HFA’s story of having a successful, college prep school in a museum.

Alumni Spotlight: Ashleigh Anderson (2014)

HFA is proud to highlight Ashleigh Anderson in recognition of her achievements at Wayne State University and commitment to serving the community, including award-winning research in the field of public health. Ashleigh, a senior at WSU, graduates in May with a Bachelors of Science in Public Health, earning Departmental and University Honors. Along with HFC dual enrollment and the GAPP German Exchange program, HFA’s Senior Mastery Program sparked Ashleigh’s interest in public health: “I was actually inspired to pursue my major because of an experience I had during Senior Practicum!” Her advice to HFA students: “Trust the process that life takes us on . . . everything has a specific reason that it happens the way it does.”

Read more about Ashleigh in the Alumni Spotlight on HFA’s website: www.hfa-dearborn.org

curriculum questions? email dgraves@hfa-dearborn.org