Summer Instructors:

Stan Beckwith, a Michigan Chess Association Hall of Fame member, is perhaps over-qualified to lead our summer chess camp. Stan has competed in world and national tournaments over the years and traveled to Reykjavik, Iceland, to witness the classic world championship match between Bobby Fischer and Boris Spassky.

Bill Brieger is a life-long writer and enthusiast of all things science-fiction. He graduated from Western Michigan University in 2001 with a degree in Education, English, and Creative Writing. He has a creative writing minor. He has taught at WMU, Kalamazoo Public Schools and in Japan. Bill has been an instructor for the Academically Talented Youth Program for the past six years, where he co-developed the new ATYP IV course, which focuses on philosophy and the ethical dilemmas posed by new technology.

Dr. David Code is the director of KLØrk, the Kalamazoo Laptop Orchestra at Western Michigan University, where he teaches music theory and technology. He has been a Visiting Researcher at the University of Oslo in Norway, where he developed the Groven Piano, a 36-tone interactive network combining four pianos and a computer. A violinist, he also plays folk music with the Desert Squirrels and specializes in Scandinavian fiddling.

Becky Cooper is coordinator of the ATYP English department and an ATYP English Instructor, and has been with the program since 1997. Becky received an MFA from Western Michigan, and has been published in several literary magazines. She is presently seeking publication for her poetry manuscript, How the Body Learns to Float, and working on two novels. Becky lives in Kalamazoo with her husband, Tom Deater, and her son, Whitman Bowlie.

Dr. Kelly Schuttz has her finger in lots of pots - she teaches computer science for ATYP, is the ATYP Director, and taught computer science courses for Kalamazoo College. She earned her Bachelor’s degree in Computer Science from WMU, her Master’s degree in mathematics from the University of Alabama in Huntsville (the hockey capital of the south), and her PhD. in math from WMU.

Paul Sizer, a comic artist/writer and self publisher, has been drawing comics since age five and has shown steady signs of improvement ever since. Working in comics for the last 15 years, Paul started his own self-publishing company (CAFE DIGITAL STUDIOS) in 2005. He also runs SIZER DESIGN + ILLUSTRATION, his own freelance design studio. Paul’s critically acclaimed graphic novels sell all over the world. He hosts library and school workshops about comics and comics creation state and nationwide. Paul lives and works in downtown Kalamazoo with his wife and fellow comic creator, Jane Irwin.

Marty Trautman graduated from MSU in 1992 with a BS in Physics and a minor in Math. He’s taught for 22 years but the last two years have been for ATYP and community colleges. He married his best friend, Andrea, and has two children: a girl (Gwen) and a boy (Ian). Besides being a Denver Broncos and a Detroit Tigers fan, he enjoys reading novels and anything including superheroes as well as writing both of the same. His other loves are playing and creating video games, taking Dr. Seuss-style poetry and using it for tons of other purposes, and classical cryptography.

Michiko Yoshimoto is a graduate of Yokohama City University and a graduate student at WMU. She works as the Japan Outreach Coordinator for the Soga Japan Center at WMU, where her job is to provide information about Japanese culture, society, everyday life, and language to local community groups and schools, fostering an exchange of ideas between the United States and Japan.

Confucius Institute Instructors Our teachers are graduates of Beijing Language and Culture University and have extensive experience in teaching Chinese as a foreign language both in China and the United States. Currently, we have language and culture programs at WMU and schools in Kalamazoo and Portage.

Lunch: Most ATYP Summer Programs run back-to-back (morning to afternoon). While we do not provide lunch, students are welcome to bring a lunch to the Lee Honors College, where staff will be on hand to provide supervision. Please indicate on the Registration Form if your child will be staying on campus for lunch.

Directions: Most ATYP Summer Programs are held at the Lee Honors College on the campus of WMU. To get to the Honors College, find your way to the intersection of Howard and West Main Streets and then follow the map below to the back of the building for drop off. Interactive Maps are available at http://www.wmich.edu/maps.

If your camp is at a different location, it will still be on WMU’s campus, but we will email you the exact directions the week before the camp.
Japanese Language & Culture: Learn all about basic Japanese language, including writing and greetings using Manga/Anime, calligraphy with brush and ink, folding origami, tips about wearing traditional clothing like the Yukata (summer kimono), and Japanese food, songs, and more. Led by Michiko Yoshimoto. For students entering grades 6-8, June 22-26, 1 to 4 p.m., Lee Honors College Learning Lab.

Chess: Students experience chess instruction and play in a fun-filled environment designed to improve their skills whether they are interested in casual or competitive chess. This program includes a mix of instruction (although students are expected to understand the basic rules of chess) and play time. Hourlong and competitive end games and openings will be taught. Books will be available to use as reference or to purchase. Led by Stan Bechwick. For students entering grades 6-9, July 8-10, 9 a.m. to noon, 1024 Lee Honors College.

Kalamazoo Laptop Orchestra: In KLOrk the musical instruments are laptops loaded with all kinds of sounds. We don’t just press the play button; we hack into the computer to create new kinds of instruments and then use every bit of the laptop to play music: the keyboard, the trackpad, the mic, the webcam, game controllers, even tilting the whole thing side to side. In KLOrk camp, students will learn to program their own sounds and music: the keyboard, the trackpad, the mic, the webcam, game controllers, even tilting the whole thing side to side. Only previous experience with computer programming or musical performance is required. Laptops and other materials will be provided. Led by David Loberg. Code. For students entering grades 7-9, June 22-26, 9 a.m. to noon, Lee Honors College Learning Lab.

Aha! Gotcha! Math Problems and Competitions: Do you like solving math problems and puzzles? Would you like to participate in math competitions? This course teaches students to use their creativity to unravel new problems. Together, we will gain appreciation of the elegance of mathematical ideas and attack challenges taken from a variety of sources. The course will incorporate several competition formats, including Math Relays, Sprint, and Speed rounds. We will also tackle math puzzles and games. Led by Maryj Trautman. For students entering grades 7-9, July 13-17, 9 a.m. to noon, 1024 Lee Honors College.

Science Fiction: For students excited by the thought of alien civilizations, future technology, and creative dystopias, this will be a fun and enriching week spent exploring various aspects and elements of science-fiction. This camp is for fans of The Hunger Games, Halo, Star Wars, Dr. Who, the Divergent series, anime or more rigorous science-fiction. Through writing exercises, discussions and various hands-on activities, we’ll explore the fundamentals of science-fiction writing so that you can apply those lessons to your own craft and bring your ideas to life in order to turn them into powerful, memorable stories. Led by Bill Brigrer. For students entering grades 7-9, July 13-17, 1 to 4 p.m., 1024 Lee Honors College.

Web Design: Interested in learning more about web design and how to create your own site? Students will craft an interactive web page that includes a virtual pet and learn programming skills along the way. Led by Kely Schultz. For students entering grades 7-9, July 20-24, 9 a.m. to noon, 2320 Sangren Hall.

Poetry Workshop: Find yourself writing down stray thoughts and getting excited over the power of words? Join us! We will read and discuss poems from different cultures and times, including contemporary works, until you find those that resonate with yours. During each class you will create original poems to be shared and discussed with your fellow poets. You will also explore taking some of the poems off the page through a series of interactive and multi-media exercises. Led by Bill Brigrer. For students entering grades 7-9, July 20-24, 1 to 4 p.m., 1024 Lee Honors College.

Chinese Language for Beginners: The aim of this course is to expose the student to Chinese culture and build a good foundation for future Chinese language courses. Course work in this class covers pinyin, daily expressions, writing Chinese characters and includes a strong focus on Chinese culture. There will be many opportunities to converse in Chinese. For students entering grades 5-8, July 6-10, 9 a.m. to noon, Lee Honors College Learning Lab.

Everyday Chinese: This class is for students who took Basic Chinese Language or have had at least 40 hours studying Chinese including class time and self-learning. There will be many opportunities to practice spoken Chinese during class. A large range of topics will be used including talking about daily arrangements, food, asking about price, introducing the city and the weather. 100 new words and phrases will be introduced in this class. For students entering grades 5-8, July 13-17, 1 to 4 p.m., Lee Honors College Learning Lab.

Chinese Culture: Different aspects of China will be presented through culture presentations, handcrafts and folk dances. Students will be introduced to Chinese songs, foods and furniture. Writing and painting will be introduced by using Chinese writing brushes and ink as well as learning to tie Chinese knots and cut paper cutouts. For students entering grades 5-8, July 20-24, 9 a.m. to noon, Lee Honors College Learning Lab.

Writing the College Admissions Essay: Looking to get a head start on your college applications? Using the prompts of the Common Application, this class will help you develop essay ideas and focus on a unique piece that lets the real you shine through! Led by Becky Cooper. For students entering grade 12. (Juniors may be admitted on a space available basis, contact the office.) June 22-26, 9 a.m. to noon, 1024 Lee Honors College.