

HCHS team chosen for Shark-Tank 3D Printing Stem Camp at Louisville

A team of Harlan County High School sophomores recently selected for participation in the Berea College/University of Louisville Shark Tank 3D Printing Stem Camp.

The team of Kiki Dean, Edmund Dye, Jacob Owens and Tony Reynolds joined 21 of their peers from 25 Eastern Kentucky counties at the University of Louisville. The camp focuses on science, technology, engineering and math.



Team members from the left are Harlan County High School Sophomores Kiki Dean, Edmund Dye, Tony Reynolds and Jacob Owens.

Students are tasked with brainstorming practical inventions, narrowing them to the top five and creating them with 3-D printers.

Organizers say the highly talented students come up with great innovative ideas that become marketable.

The projects are then presented to a panel of professionals in a Shark-Tank competition.

HCHS's Dye said, "I had a great time and got to use some amazing technology."

Dean agrees, adding "It was an amazing experience. I loved going to the Shark Tank. I would definitely recommend it to others" if offered the opportunity.

Owens said he made new friends while learning about careers of interest to him.

"The camp offered me a great opportunity to explore new things about the career I hope to pursue," said Reynolds.

Sponsors say the camp provides the students with an opportunity to get in front of their peers and present their findings and projects. This part of the project is designed to help prepare them for the world of work that they will soon enter.

This is the third year for the camp. It targets students from high poverty counties in Kentucky's Southeastern Kentucky Promise Zone. These include, Bell, Clay, Harlan, Knox, Leslie and Letcher counties.

In addition, by exposing students to the cutting edge technology which may not be available in local schools, participants see what is out there in the area of STEM and related careers.

All of the students are members of the Project Lead the Way program at Harlan County High School. PTLW strives to prepare students for degrees and careers in engineering.

The link below is for a news report on the camp, featuring the camp's participants:

<https://www.wlky.com/article/weeklong-summer-camp-at-uofl-focuses-on-stem-programs-for-students/22133889>