



RANDY BORST/staff photographer

Instructor Kathy Sowa gives an assist to Stephanie Oberst in the pottery class which covers the techniques of pinch, coil and slab building in the three week session.

Double the campers and double the fun

Oakland Community College's summer day camp staff were prepared to receive about 200 campers on Orchard Ridge Campus when the season opened this month, but had to switch their drive gears into high for the 400 6-18 year olds who lined up for their Renaissance on the Ridge T-shirts.

And according to Sylvia Burtrum, one of the camp coordinators, enrollment is clicking along fast enough now to give the staff reason to believe the second camp session for enrichment in the arts and sciences will equal the first in numbers.

"Everything was stepped up, the offerings, the number of classes, the staff, the high school students who are acting as assistants to the instructors," said Jamie Mason who heads up the theatre arts segment of the Summer Camp in The Arts and Sciences.

Much of the stepping-up centered around the camp's limited class sizes in all of the performing arts, visual arts, science and computer classes.

The staff learned early that the computer classes would be the most popular overall, and they were holding steady for enrollment in the second session, which runs from Aug. 5-23.

Other offerings that went way over expectations were "Build a Robot," "Dogfighting," which is a class in the principles of air dynamics, "Science Fiction," and all of the theater workshops.

The last day of each session, July 26 and Aug. 23, campers will host open house with displays, exhibitions and theater arts performances.

Then staffers will turn in their reports for summer day camp pilot program that is expected to be emulated on all four Oakland Community College campuses.



Daniel Gainer gets a lesson in rapid combustion in a Science Through Discovery class. Al Hyams uses simple materials and a relaxed class atmosphere to teach his 6-7 year old students the basics of physics.



Don Mendelson (at left) heads the visual arts segment of the day camp with a make-them-think and make-them-stretch philosophy. His student is Monica Moore in the Creative Growth Through Art classes which gives exposure to many art processes and materials. Susan Jager's class (at right) is Learning All About Dinosaurs. The students are also learning words such as tyrannosaurus, dimetrodon and pterodactylus.



A hands-on class in the computer lab runs simultaneously with a class in computer theory to accommodate the doubled-up enrollment. Carl Manello is the instructor for student Zach Shippa.

