

Sept 17, 2018

Dear lan,

Mike and I want to thank you and Up and Running Software, Inc. for your generous donation of \$2000.00 to All Aboard for Kids this spring. Mike and I believe in the need for an inclusive summer program like All Aboard for Kids and we are proud of the program we're building. It's very encouraging to receive such amazing local support from our Gilbert community!

Our numbers were up from last year, with kids from Gilbert, Ames, Roland, Story City, Madrid, and Colo enrolled. Based on the need to provide a more age-appropriate environment for all our participants, we divided our age groups and expanded to 2 locations this summer:

- ♦ Full Steam Ahead: This program for kids in grades K-5, was again held at Gilbert Elementary School where fun weekly themes focused on interaction and social skills, as well as friendship-building. Our participants enjoyed visits from the ISU Insect Zoo, Silly Sally, Science Center of Iowa, Plucky Paws, and also a local artist.
- S.T.E.A.M. Academy: New this year, and held at Gilbert Middle School, our older participants (grades 6-8) explored a new project-based curriculum centered around S.T.E.A.M. (Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts, and Mathematics) activities. Our projects spanned topics ranging from Legos, animation, cooking, to building a computer.

With your generous contributions, we were able to strengthen our program in the following ways:

- Purchase new equipment for S.T.E.A.M. Academy
- Introduce a scholarship program for families in need
- Fund 1:1 educational associates for students needing additional support

None of this would be possible without the amazing support of our local community. Thank you so much for believing in All Aboard for Kids and for your continued support.

With sincere regard,

Lisa McCarty

President, All Aboard for Kids

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