

THE CHANNEL

Summer/Fall 2021

ERIE
21

Educating for our Rising
Innovation Economy

Delivering you BYTES of information straight from the SOURCE

Lock 1 & 2: QTV & Innovation Academy Summer Programs



In July 2021, Le Moyne College's ERIE21 program welcomed 106 students to the Le Moyne College campus for summer programming. Students entering grades 6-8 participated in our **4th Annual Quantitative Thinking Village**, and students entering grades 9-13 participated in our **1st Annual Innovation Academy**. In all, our on-campus ERIE21 summer programming provided 3,305 student service hours to 106 Syracuse youth.

Lock 1 students learned to code, gained hands-on experience in engineering, experimented with robotics, became familiar with basic programming principles, delved into mobile app development, and had the opportunity to experience the Le Moyne College campus via their use of campus facilities and equipment. Each year, attending students are a mix of first-time participants and returning students from prior year QTVs. The educational component is led by Ms. Pam Puri, founder and director of Tech4Kidz. She worked with a team of eight tech instructors, four Le Moyne College undergraduate students, and one intern to serve the students in attendance.

The Lock 1 **Quantitative Thinking Village (QTV)** focuses on programming for rising sixth, seventh and eighth grade students from the city of Syracuse. Two separate 5 day programs were offered to students. Featuring 5 hours of academic programming daily, the 7/8 QTV had 97% attendance and boasted 34/38 students with perfect attendance. The Grade 6 QTV featured 97.7% attendance with 33/36 students earning perfect attendance honors. The two weeks combined to account for 1,805 hours of QTV student experiences.



During the **Innovation Academy**, Lock 2 students engaged in programming and activities that strengthened their tech skills, took part in programming that enhanced their college/career readiness, worked with professionals from Le Moyne College and the Greater Syracuse-area community, and gained a feeling for what life is like on the Le Moyne campus. Our lead educators were Le Moyne College's Doug Hill, the Creative Director and Founder of the Keenan Maker Institute, who taught on tech and drone aviation. Partners in Education and Business' team of educators taught units on career branding. The Hand in Hand program focused on the intersection of medical and technological concepts and the development of prosthetics.



Locks 1 & 2 Continued

The Lock 2 ERIE21 Innovation Academy featured 5 hours worth of academic programming on a daily basis over the ten day program. The program had 93.75% attendance throughout, and boasted 21/32 students with perfect attendance- along with 8 others who missed only one day. This accounts for over **1,500 student hours** during the duration of the program, in the tech ed, college readiness, and community service areas.

Lock 1 students will begin programming in early October! We are excited to offer more **school year programming** to 75 Lock 1 students during our school year program.

After the summer program, we worked to finalize our senior's college plans during our summer melt reduction program. We kicked off college applications with our seniors in August, and visited SUNY Morrisville on August 31. Lock 2 programming began in mid-September.

ERIE21 Summer Programming Student Exit Survey Findings

- **100%** of Lock 2 students indicated that they wish to return in Summer 2022
- **95%+** of Lock 1 students indicated that they wish to return in Summer 2022
- **Lock 1- 95%** of students gave summer programming with 4's and 5's for how engaging the program was (5 being the highest)
- **Lock 2- 100%** of students gave summer programming with 4's and 5's for how engaging the program was (5 being the highest)
- Students from both programs **asked for more weeks** and a higher enrollment cap
- The students in Lock 1 seemed to enjoy each programmatic component roughly equally. They are huge fans of **Lego robotics** programming!
- **Aerospace** was generally the favorite overall activity in Lock 2. Students demonstrably also enjoyed Career Branding and Hand-in-Hand

Looking Ahead

- 9/14 program year launch of Lock 2, 9/15 study skills and "Meet The Tutors"
- 9/25-Family Weekend at Le Moyne College
- 9/28-Virtual College Opportunity Program Fair- sent around to our contacts at ITC/PSLA/SAS/Henninger
- 9/30-Tech Unit kickoff with Doug Hill- Keenan Center @ Le Moyne College
- October 4-Lock 1 program launch
- 10/11 tour of Utica College

Summer Program 2021 Media Highlights

- <https://www.localsyr.com/community/tell-me-something-good/tell-me-something-good-high-school-students-learn-about-innovation-at-le-moyne-summer-camp/>
- <https://spectrumlocalnews.com/nys/central-ny/news/2021/07/27/le-moyne-students-create-prosthetic-hands-for-ghana>
- <https://www.wrvo.org/2021-07-28/cny-stem-students-create-prosthetics-for-those-in-need>

Lock 3: College Students

ERIE21 Lock 3 Celebrated over 734 hours of service with a Peaceful Porch Retreat to close out the Spring 2021 semester. Of the 20 students with senior status in the program, 6 have graduated, while the other 14 have stayed on for an additional semester before transitioning into the professional field and graduate school.

The Lock 3 Student Success Coaches took the summer to plan for another stellar year. Relationships were strengthened with local partners including **MACNY** and **Equitable** to build personal and career development opportunities for students for this academic year. Additionally, our Lock 3 students were out and about in the community this summer, gaining real-life work experiences at a variety of employers, pictured below is an example of our Instagram campaign highlighting their journeys.

The Lock 3 team also brought aboard **Academic Coordinator Sally Sayles-Hannon** to improve academic enrichment between all Lock 3 students. We are thrilled to have Sally on board and can't wait to see all of the new and innovative ideas she brings to the table!



Why I enjoy being part of ERIE: "ERIE21 enables me to contribute to the growth of the region and assist in preparing our young residents to not only find a job here, but to make an impact here. As a first-generation college student, I am drawn to this position because it provides pathways to assist students academically, socially, and personally--all areas that are essential to the successful navigation of the college to career journey. I see ERIE21 as an initiative to alter the how and why of college education--to create new pathways for student and regional progress. As someone excited about Greater Syracuse, I want to help ERIE21's evolution."

Lock 4: Non-Traditional Students

We are excited to announce the graduation of **Hack Upstate Careers in Code Cohort 2** students!

A student capstone presentation and graduation ceremony was held on Thursday, August 26 at Le Moyne College. Immediately following the capstone project presentations was the graduation ceremony where each student received a diploma.

These determined students endured the pandemic to engage in Hack Upstate's virtual classroom and ultimately graduate from Careers in Code. We join the Hack Upstate team in expressing immense pride in our second cohort of students, and we can't wait to see them take the next step in their **software development careers!**

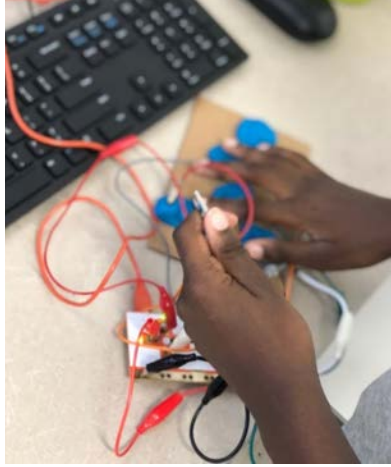
You can view , [a flashback of their journey here](#), and [photos from the graduation ceremony here](#).



Careers in Code Cohort 2 in action

ERIE21 SPOTLIGHTS

QTV & Innovation Academy Summer Programs



Lock 2 students visit SUNY Morrisville

Lock 3 Students - Summer Internships



Alexis Ess, senior

Major: Cybersecurity

Internship: The Equitable in the Information Security Operations & Intelligence Department

"This internship has helped me expand my network and better understand what a position in cybersecurity entails."



Jean Heras, senior

Major: Finance & Business Analytics

Internship: Bookkeeper for The Fortune Society in New York City

"I enjoyed working with Fortune because I was able to learn many new things and carry out tasks that benefited both the company and the team."



Julia Eichenlaub, senior

Major: Biology

Internship: Donnan Farms working with the Calf Program

"I am working with the Calf Program and have been learning how to take on management roles and different aspects of calf health. Each day is something new on the farm and I have enjoyed the challenges as well as making friends along the way!"

Lock 4



Congratulations! Cohort 2 Graduates



Jesse Peplinski
Partner, Hack Upstate

