Spring Break in Italy
March 28 - April 6, 2014

A Travel/Study Program to Selected Points of Interest in Italy for Eighth Grade and High School Honors Students as well as Interested Adults

Sponsored by: The Center for Gifted Studies at WKU

Upcoming opportunities from The Center for Gifted Studies

THE SUMMER CAMP FOR ACADEMICALLY TALENTED MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS (SCATS)
June 9-20, 2014

THE ADVANCED PLACEMENT SUMMER INSTITUTE
June 22 - 27, 2014

THE SUMMER PROGRAM FOR VERBALLY AND MATHEMATICALLY PRECOCIOUS YOUTH (VAMPY)
June 22 - July 12, 2014

SUPER SATURDAYS
Fall: November 2, 9, 16, & 23, 2013
Winter: February 1, 8, 15, & 22, 2014
March 28  Friday  Depart the USA for Rome

March 29  Saturday  Arrive in Rome and travel by private coach to Florence. Enroute stop at Pisa to see the beautiful cathedral and the famous Leaning Tower. Arrive in Florence and check into the hotel.

March 30  Sunday  Spend the morning on a guided tour of the Uffizi Gallery. Have lunch near the Duomo, the Church of Santa Maria del Fiore. In the afternoon visit the Baptistry, the oldest standing building in Florence dating to the 6th century A.D. Close out the day with a visit to the Museum Academia to view Michelangelo’s David.

March 31  Monday  In the morning tour the Church of Santa Maria Novella, the first great basilica in Florence. Go to the Church of Santa Croce which holds the tombs of Galileo, Ghiberti, Michelangelo, and Machiavelli as well as memorials to Dante, Leonardo da Vinci, and Raphael. In the afternoon, tour the Bargello, Florence’s Renaissance police headquarters and jail that now houses Italy’s leading collection of Renaissance sculpture.

April 1  Tuesday  Start the day with a tour of the chapel mausoleum of the Medicis, renowned for its architecture and statues by Michelangelo. Depart Florence for Assisi to visit the Basilica of St. Francis, the church built to honor Italy's patron saint, St. Francis. The basilica houses the tomb of St. Francis and some to the finest frescoes in the world. Spend the night in Assisi.

April 2  Wednesday  Travel from Assisi to Orvieto, a magnificent example of an Umbrian hill town located on a 934 foot plateau. Have a guided tour of the Duomo, considered to be one of Italy’s greatest Romanesque-Gothic cathedrals, noted for its ornate exterior and the frescoes of the Last Judgment by Luca Signorella in St. Brizio Chapel. After lunch, travel to Rome and check into the hotel.

April 3  Thursday  In the morning, visit the Vatican Museums. This complex of museums houses a wide range of treasures from famous Greek sculptures, Etruscan art, and paintings by Raphael to the Sistine Chapel with the famous Michelangelo frescoes on its ceiling and the wall behind the altar. The Vatican Museums are connected to St. Peter’s Basilica, the world’s largest and most significant Christian church. St. Peter’s was established in 319 A.D. by Emperor Constantine. Leaving St. Peter’s Basilica, walk through St. Peter’s Square which is surrounded by the “arms” of the Bernini Colonnade. In the afternoon, visit the Pantheon. End the afternoon with a visit to Piazza Navona, famous for the Baroque architecture of the surrounding buildings. In the evening go to the Spanish Steps and then stroll to Trevi Fountain.

April 4  Friday  Take an all-day excursion to visit Pompeii. In 79 A.D. this Roman city of 20,000 people was buried by volcanic ash from an eruption of Mt. Vesuvius. The incredibly well preserved remains of this town provide a real feel for Roman life in the 1st Century.

April 5  Saturday  In the morning visit the Church of St. Peter in Chains to see the famous Michelangelo statue of Moses. Walk through the massive Coliseum completed in 80 A.D. Leaving the Coliseum, climb Palatine Hill. Here you will walk through the impressive ruins of the Imperial Palace, residence of Julius Caesar, Tiberius, Caligula, and Claudius. Descend Palatine Hill into the Roman Forum, the political and social center of the Republic where the Roman Senate met. In the afternoon, take an excursion to tour the catacombs, subterranean burial places used by early Christians for meetings and worship. End the day with a visit to the Basilica of St. Paul Outside the Walls, the second largest church in Rome established by Constantine in 314 A.D. over the tomb of the Apostle Paul.

April 6  Sunday  Depart Rome for the USA.
SPRING BREAK IN ITALY
MARCH 28 - APRIL 6, 2014

This program is an opportunity for eighth grade and high school honors students as well as interested adults to spend eight days learning about the history, culture, and people of Italy. This program, sponsored by The Center for Gifted Studies at Western Kentucky University, is designed to provide participants with a carefully structured experience in Italy. Twenty-five qualified participants will be accompanied by the program director.

PROGRAM COST
The program cost is $3,700.00. Included in this cost are:

- Roundtrip airfare from Nashville, TN.
- Hotel accommodations in double rooms in Florence and Rome. An adult may request a single room for an additional charge.
- Breakfast each day at the hotel.
- Admission to historic sites, museums, and other points of interest listed on the itinerary.
- Travel by motor coach for excursions in Italy.

This cost is subject to increase should there be changes in airfares, monetary exchange rates, or service costs that are not now anticipated.

All travelers must be able to participate in normal physical activities. In addition, student applicants must meet the following criteria:
1. Enrollment in the eighth grade, freshman, sophomore, junior, or senior year in high school;
2. Involvement in high school honors or gifted services; and
3. Two signatures from teachers, counselors, principals, and/or G/T coordinators recommending participation.

APPLICATION
A passport-size photograph and a nonrefundable deposit of $300 are due with the application. Eligible participants will be admitted to the program in the order in which applications are received. The deposit will be returned if the study tour has reached its capacity.

PAYMENT SCHEDULE
- $300 deposit and a passport-size photograph are due with application
- $1,700.00 payment due: February 1, 2014
- $1,700.00 payment due: March 1, 2014

Applications and requests for further information should be sent to:
The Center for Gifted Studies
Western Kentucky University
1906 College Heights Blvd. #71031
Bowling Green, KY 42101-1031
Telephone: 270.745.5991 or 270.745.6323
Fax: 270.745.6279
Email: gifted@wku.edu
Web: www.wku.edu/gifted
APPLICATION (PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY)

Full Name _______________________________________________ Preferred First Name _______________________________________

Male ____   Female ____   Date of Birth _______________ Passport # __________________________ Exp. Date ________

Home Phone ( _____ )_______________________ Applicant’s Cell Phone ( _____ ) __________________________

Email Address __________________________________________________________________________________________

Home Mailing Address _____________________________________________________________

City __________________________________________ State _____________ Zip __________________________

_________________________________________ __________________________
Signature of Applicant Signature of Parent or Guardian
(if applicant is a student)

THIS SECTION SHOULD BE COMPLETED BY STUDENT APPLICANTS.

School Attending ________________________________________ Grade in 2013-14 ___________________________

Father’s Name _________________________________________________________________________________

Father’s Address ________________________________________________________________________________

City __________________________________________ State _____________ Zip __________________________

Father’s Occupation __________________________________________ Work Phone ____________________________

Cell Phone __________________________________ Email Address _______________________________________________________________________________________

Mother’s Name _________________________________________________________________________________

Mother’s Address ________________________________________________________________________________

City __________________________________________ State _____________ Zip __________________________

Mother’s Occupation __________________________________________ Work Phone ____________________________

Cell Phone __________________________________ Email Address _______________________________________________________________________________________

TWO RECOMMENDATIONS ARE REQUIRED FOR STUDENT APPLICANTS.

My signature verifies that the applicant is recommended for participation in the Spring Break in Italy program.

____________________________________________________________________________________________
Teacher, Counselor, Principal, or G/T Coordinator Position Date
_______________________________________________________________________________________________
Teacher, Counselor, Principal, or G/T Coordinator Position Date
(if applicant is a student)
_____________________________________
Signature of Applicant
_____________________________________
Signature of Parent or Guardian

BE SURE YOU HAVE ENCLOSED THE $300 DEPOSIT AND A PASSPORT-SIZE PHOTOGRAPH WITH THIS APPLICATION.