

ORGANIC CONNECTS

ION Outdoor / STEM Leadership & Certificate Programs

FOR TEACHERS, SOCIAL SERVICE &
YOUTH WORKERS, PROGRAM MANAGERS,
AND OUTDOOR RECREATION-TYPE FOLK

Program
underwritten
in part by:





ION'S MISSION

Address equity barriers of underserved communities by engaging urban communities with nature, promoting holistically healthy environments, and enhancing and growing the environmental and outdoor workforce.

OUR STRATEGY

Through hands-on, immersive, and real-world experiences, participants will develop content familiarity and social-emotional insight, while acquiring the sociopreneurial fundamentals to develop, deploy, and administer effective and transformative outdoor & environmental programming for youth and families from all backgrounds, but specifically from challenged communities.

PROGRAM SYLLABUS

*** FOR PROFESSIONAL PURPOSES

Personal and Professional Benefits

Whether you are participating in ION to simply explore and experience the outdoors OR to acquire professional competencies to implement in your programming, we will deliver.

Program Goals

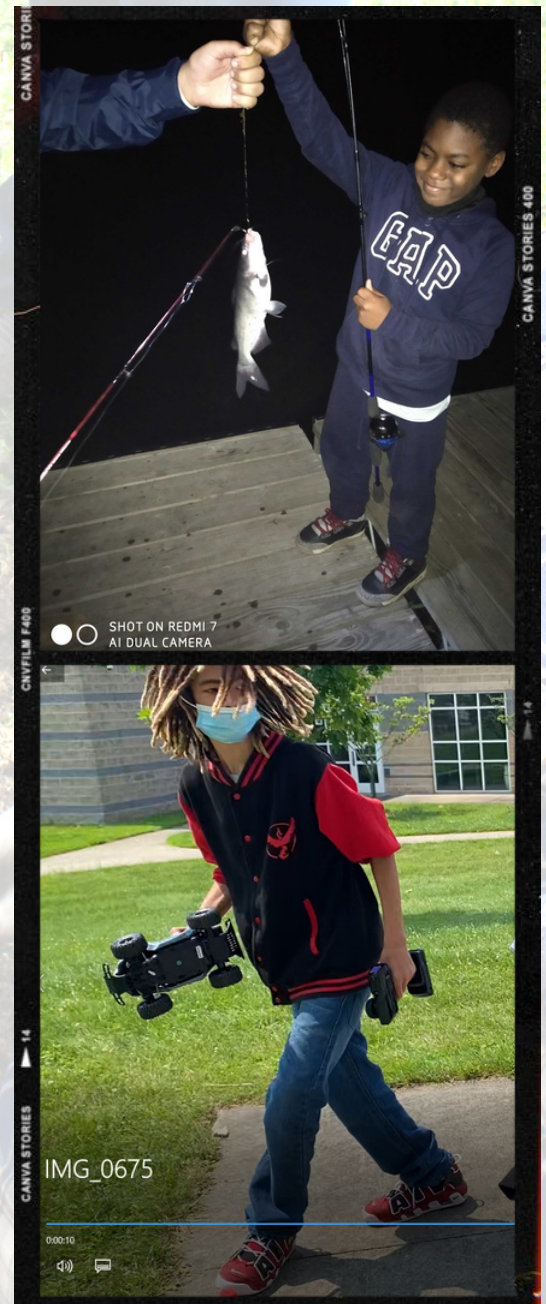
To develop a better understanding and appreciation for using hybrid environmental, outdoor and STEM recreation activities to benefit youth - mentally, physically, socially, and professionally - from underserved populations.

Adult participants will acquire knowledge, experience, and confidence, while practicing and developing real-world competencies in a diverse variety of outdoor, STEM, and environmental activities. For the extended program, participants will apply their administrative and logistical skills in capstone projects with youth (and families) from under-represented communities and cultures.

Most importantly, it is the intent of this course to provide the ION participant the opportunities to expand their personal and professional environmental/outdoor/STEM expertise within a Social Emotional Learning lens.

Expectations

Whether you are participating in ION for exploration purposes or professional development, active engagement is the best way to maximize the benefits of this experience. Accordingly, we expect every stakeholder (facilitator, participants, volunteers, & staff) to follow our three RORs - The Rules of Respect: 1) Respect Yourself, 2) Respect Others, and 3) Respect the Environment...and, most importantly, to HAVE FUN!



COURSE DESCRIPTION



Intro to Novel Programming

The purpose of this module is to expose participants to multiple, unique, innovative, and mind-blowing experiences which they can consider as programming options.

Activities include: Orienteering, Land Navigation, SCUBA (15-Day Program-only), Wilderness Survival, Drones & Remote Control Vehicles (land-based, aerospace, and/or aquatic), Farming, Fishing (bait, lure, and fly), and more! Some activities may vary based on season and availability.

Programming/Event Prep & Marketing

During simulated and real-world environments, participants will learn (or improve) and deploy all components required to complete a functional and administratively "tight" program experience for youth (or even adults).

Wilderness Survival & Camping

A critical and fundamental thread within the ION quilt is a hi-tech/low-tech and outdoor programming balance. The research is irrefutable: nature-based activities overwhelmingly benefit and heal the socioemotional trauma afflicting youth, especially those from challenged communities. Participants will experience various "intensities" and scales of natural spaces - from backyards to national parks.

TUITION & DETAILS

Length of Programs:

- 7-Day Program during a four (4) week window
June 22, 27, 29; July 6, 11, 13, 17
- 15-Day Program during a seven (7) week window
June 22, 27, 29; July 6, 11, 13, 17-18, 20, 25, 27; August 3, 6-7

During the scheduled program windows, participants will meet for two (2) hours, twice a week with occasional weekends for special programming and camping trips. Outside programming is rain or shine, though subject to rescheduling in case of unsafe weather conditions.

Tuition:

- 7-Day Program: \$399
- 15-Day Program: \$599
- Group Discounts are available

Tuition includes all program equipment and supplies, workshop/special event/administrative materials, sample curriculums, and lesson plans. Participants will be responsible for meals during the camping experience and transportation (car-pooling is HIGHLY encouraged). Sample curricula and lesson plans are customized to CMSD academic standards, State of Ohio Department of Education, or your local school district requirements.

Participants must:

- Be at least eighteen (18) years old by the program start dates.
- Complete (or provide) a current Background Check.
- Provide evidence of COVID vaccination and negative test results.
- Have (or arrange) transportation to class and activity locations.

Register at <https://www.organicconnects.org>