

Young amateur radio operators converge in West Chester, Ohio for ham radio camp



The second annual camp for young amateur radio operators in North, Central, and South America will be hosted at the National Voice of America Museum of Broadcasting June 12-17, 2022.

WEST CHESTER, Ohio, May 30, 2022— A summer camp for licensed amateur radio operators ages 15 through 25 will take place June 12 through June 17, 2022 at the National Voice of America Museum of Broadcasting in West Chester Township (North Cincinnati), Ohio, according to an announcement today by the Youth on the Air (YOTA) Americas working group. The camp is being hosted by the museum and the West Chester Amateur Radio Association, callsign WC8VOA.

Twenty-four young amateur radio operators from 16 states, El Salvador, and a guest from Croatia will spend a week learning how to take amateur radio to the next level, building relationships with other young operators. Campers will attend workshops and activities in multiple STEM-related subjects, such as radio contesting; electronic kit building; a digital radio mode known as D-STAR; and the Automatic Packet Reporting System, another form of amateur radio digital communications employed for transmitting and receiving data. Camp activities will also include satellite communications, antenna-building and radio direction finding and orienteering.

The campers will participate in a high-altitude balloon launch into near space (about 100,000 feet) on Tuesday, June 14. The balloon will record video and send back real time tracking and scientific data over amateur radio.

Campers will build teams and contesting skills by using amateur radio at nearby Kings Island Amusement Park.

The camp, a modified version of the popular Youngsters on the Air camps in Europe and Africa, is operated by Electronic Applications Radio Service, Inc. EARS is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization dedicated to wireless technologies and activities. The camp is funded by sponsors and donations, and is open to participants in North, Central and South America.

The opening and closing ceremonies will be streamed live on the Youth on the Air YouTube channel. A daily highlight video will also be streamed, featuring the activities of the previous day.

Last year's camp featured a conversation with an astronaut on the International Space Station and was attended by youth from 14 different states.

More information about Youth on the Air in the Americas as well as the summer camp can be found at YouthOnTheAir.org, and on YOTAregion2 on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and YouTube.

To schedule interviews or obtain additional information, please contact Camp Director Neil Rapp, WB9VPG at director@youthontheair.org or at (812) 327-0749.

###