



Included below is a press release highlighting the Ferris State University Television and Digital Media Production summer camp; the camp is set up for high school students interested in the field. Further information is available by contacting Leah Nixon, assistant director of News Services.

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Ferris TV Production Camp Gets Behind-the-Camera View

BIG RAPIDS – Although they sat relatively still in neat rows overlooking a dark studio, the students' excitement gave the room a definite sense of movement. Producing a show in Ferris State University's television studio, 12 high school students took their positions with both confidence and fretfulness as headsets were adjusted and cameras angled toward the stage. And with the final number in the countdown silently signaled, anticipation met reality with a rush of lights and sound.

These students, who lived in on-campus residence halls during their stay, learned a variety of real-world skills used by professionals in the field as they produced and directed a "live" television show in Ferris' state-of-the-art television studio. They also participated in field production, shooting a digital film-style video, and learned how to effectively edit with the latest nonlinear editing equipment.

"This was my first time going to a camp at Ferris, and it's been fun," stated John Allen, a sophomore from L'Anse Creuse High School-North. "I didn't really think that I was going to get into actually seeing how TV programs were produced; I wanted to do more of the video editing, but producing them – especially running the video board – has been one of my favorite parts."

Additionally, students learned the art of creative storytelling, what the responsibilities of various studio crew positions include, how to interview and be interviewed on-camera, and how to effectively light a set.

"I really want the campers to have a fun, but educational, experience where they can explore their interests related to video production – both in the field and in a studio – and get a chance to express themselves creatively," said camp instructor and Ferris associate professor of Television and Digital Media Production Glen Okonoski.

He added, "The students respond really well to the hands-on approach of the camp and really

enjoy the opportunities to shoot and edit video using high-quality equipment normally reserved for Ferris students majoring in Television and Digital Media Production.”

For more information on Ferris summer camps, contact Adam Wetherell, coordinator of Camps and Conferences, at (800) 562-9130 or (231) 591-5824.

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