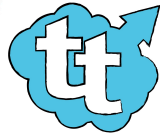




in partnership with TomTod Ideas



presents:



# camp What if AKRON

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*The ideas you hear today are the product of the imaginations of middle schoolers and of a variety of experiential learning opportunities encountered throughout **Camp What If: Akron**. You will find a schedule overview below that provides some of the highlights of the week:*

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## Monday

### LAB SESSION 1: CWHAH (COMMUNITY-WIDE-HUMAN-ADVENTURE-HUNT)

A scavenger hunt of a variety of significant sites throughout downtown Akron with a particular focus on arts, business, communications, entrepreneurship and more. We ended the CWHAH at [Lock 3](#) with a special guest from the [Downtown Akron Partnership](#) and a picnic of tasty local food (check out the Food section on the back for all the amazing local restaurants we had the privilege of trying out throughout the week. Yummy food is definitely an Akron asset!)

### LAB SESSIONS 2 AND 3

Learning Labs were experiential field trips throughout Akron, connecting campers with community leaders and core organizations. We jumped right in on Monday with labs that included:

- [Shanti Farms](#)
- [South Street Ministries](#)
- [The Well Community Development Corporation](#)
- [Nightlight Cinema](#)
- [Akron Public Library](#)
- [S3 Technologies](#)

### REFLECTIONS & CONNECTIONS

Each day we spent time reflecting and connecting on our experiences, considering the strengths and challenges of the community and imagining what we might create together.

## Tuesday

### LAB SESSIONS 4, 5 AND 6

Tuesday was a full day, with lots of Labs and other fun activities. Tuesday's labs included:

- [Akron Rubber Ducks](#)
- [Devil Strip Newspaper](#)
- [Northside Marketplace](#)
- [Dirty River Bicycle Works](#)
- [Summit Artspace](#)
- [Akron Recreation & Parks](#)
- [North Akron Community Development Corporation](#)
- [First Glance Student Center](#)

## wednesday

### SIP (SPEEDY INTERVIEW PLUNGE)

Interviewing community leaders, "speed dating" style! Campers created the questions and then groups rotated in seven minute blasts to fire away!

Guests:

- [Dan Whitaker](#), Summit Education Initiative
- [Byron Delpinal](#), Torchbearers
- [Annie Hanson](#), University of Akron
- [Dan Hampu](#), Fontus Blue
- [Demetrius Falconer](#), Summit Lake Metro Parks
- [Chris Horne](#), The Devil Strip

## Wednesday continued...

### LAB SESSION 7

For our Wednesday lab we went as one big group to

- [Akron City Government](#)

There, campers had the chance to meet council members and sit in council chambers, converse with members of the Mayor's Cabinet, and meet with a representative of the Akron Police Department.

### GAMES, PROCESSING & IDEATING

We spent the remainder of Wednesday afternoon engaging in activities helping us consider what we had learned and also started our first round of ideation. By the end of the day, we had oodles of ideas that we hoped could enhance the common good & we capped the day off with fun games.

## Thursday

### PROCESSING & IDEATING

From 200+ ideas, we whittled down to our top 20 favorites, then our top 5, taking part in a series of brainstorming activities such as "Yes, and..." With the final top 5, we researched and explored what could be before everyone ranked the final pitch groups they wanted to be in. We did all this while getting to explore a new space to us that had been our neighbors all week, the [Reach Opportunity Center at Summit Lake](#). We also had a blast sled riding in the summer via giant blocks of ice at [Summit Lake Community Center](#).

## Friday

### IDEATION

With our final ideas in mind, today was spent putting meat on their bones. We scheduled meetings and traveled back to various places we had visited earlier in the week to pick the brains of community partners in the know. Campers took all of the information and formed it into final presentations that we're sharing with you now!

## Thank You's!

### FOOD

Throughout the week, we enjoyed meals from a variety of local restaurants:

**DIAMOND DELI, WALK IN THE PARK CAFE, STACHIA'S ALMOST FAMOUS WINGS, HAMAD'S ON MAIN, AND DA VINCI'S PIZZERIA**

### SPACE

We're incredibly grateful to [the Summit Lake Community Center](#) for letting us take over their multi-use room and gym! We used the space throughout the week as our home base & ideation lab.

### FUNDERS

[The City of Akron](#) is proud to offer this camp to middle schoolers in our community, empowering young people as engaged citizens today, tomorrow, and for years to come.

### CAMP WHAT IF / TOMTOD TEAM

The team behind Camp What If includes year-round TomTod team members, as well as seasonal teammates. We had a blast as co-learners and co-explorers with our incredible campers and thank parents for the privilege of getting to know their campers over the week and are grateful to the community of Akron for the many ways in which they partnered with us in investing in middle schoolers this week!

#### Year-round TomTod Team:

Patrick Gerber, Zane Sanders, Sam Slovisky, Kayla DeVitto, Amy Ropp, Joel Daniel Harris

#### Summer Teammates:

Walker Collins, Kaley Weaver, Lee Hubbard, Kassie Ketchum, Makenzie Yoder