



# Digital Humanities

## Conversation Toward a Brighter Future 2.0

Information about Conversation Toward a Brighter Future 2.0 and an educational opportunity held at the Mannie Jackson Center for Humanities on September 28.

Your child has volunteered to participate in a summit at the end of the month that is being held at the Mannie Jackson Center for Humanities in downtown Edwardsville, IL. Students will be transported from Edwardsville High School to the Mannie Jackson Center for Humanities at 8:40 AM on Friday, September 28, and will return to school that afternoon at 12:20 PM. Students will be chaperoned by their Honors World Literature instructor, Ms. Lauren Mudge.

The Conversation Toward a Brighter Future 2.0 summit is aimed at educating students on topics related to Digital Storytelling and Age Studies. After this summit, students will be able to identify the main elements of creating digital narratives and explain how age intersects with other cultural identifiers. Additionally, students will have the opportunity to hone their research skills by developing interview questions to conduct discussions with community members to examine real-life examples of cultural aging relevant to citizens of Madison County, Illinois. Students

will also participate in group discussions to analyze the results gathered through these interviews with community members.

Conversation Toward a Brighter Future 2.0 is a unique learning opportunity for students, family members, and members of the community to collaborate and create digital stories. By building digital narratives about what it means to be a “teenager” and an “adult,” both locally and cross-culturally, the project will include students and the community in a conversation about how we can value difference and speak across generational divides. The project is funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities, in coordination with the Interdisciplinary Research and Informatics Scholarships (IRIS) Center at SIUE and the Mannie Jackson Center for the Humanities.



## **Benefits of Digital Storytelling**

1. Students will have the opportunity to explore non-linear timelines
2. The potential for flexible outcomes and conclusions
3. The collaborative nature and potential for multiple authors
4. The cross-disciplinary nature of digital storytelling projects
5. Encourages students to develop their own voices
6. Encourages students to use technology as an educational tool as well as an instrument of creativity
7. Encourages learning both in and outside of the classroom

In order to participate in the summit at the Mannie Jackson Center for Humanities, students are required to receive permission from their teachers, as well as their parent(s)/guardian(s). Students are also required to have their parent(s)/guardian(s) sign and complete a medical records form for their child and a consent form to be photographed at the summit. Please direct any questions to Ms. Lauren Mudge at [lmudge@ecusd7.org](mailto:lmudge@ecusd7.org).