

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SWAAG PROGRAM EXPLORES CONNECTIONS BETWEEN ART AND SCIENCE

October 19, 2015, Midland, Mich. – Each Wednesday, a group of middle school students boards a bus at Delta College to make their way to Creative 360 in Midland where they participate in the Scientific Wonders and Artful Genius (SWAAG) program from 5:30-7:00 p.m. A partnership between Delta College's Possible Dream Program, Creative 360 and the American Chemical Society (ACS), SWAAG is designed to help students explore the connections between scientific concepts and artistic expression.

Topics explored include:

- Temperature extremes and temperature sensitive liquid crystals.
- Do-Over Art where the group examines recycling and investigates the fusion and movement of molecules by making paper, mold “friendly plastic,” and explore water bottle crafts.
- In Chroma Chaos, the group will discover diffusion, separation, polarity and hydrophilic and hydrophobic principles while exploring why some fabrics dye well and others do not.
- October 28 is Glow Night where they will experience fluorescence, phosphorescence, absorption, emission, chemiluminescence, and bioluminescence, and apply what they've learned to make fabric art.
- In the study of silicones and silicates, the students will explore forms from brittle to rubbery and create works of art using sand, glass, nanosand and silicones.
- The program wraps up on November 11 with Mmmm Molecules where they will play and create with marshmallows, gum, cereal, cotton candy and maybe even some carbonation.

Students who attend at least five of the six workshops will receive a SWAAG certificate and are entered into a drawing to win one of three scholarships to Delta's 2016 Summer Camps.

To help make these Midland-based workshops accessible to everyone, the Possible Dreams Program has made arrangements with First Student Charters for transportation from Delta College to Creative 360. They are also provided with “dinner-on-the-go” and snacks.

About Delta's Possible Dream Program

The Delta College Possible Dream Program is committed to giving its students opportunities they might never have considered possible for themselves. Dedicated to the idea that everyone deserves a fair chance at success, the program activities are designed to make this success a viable reality. It helps students keep the dream of attending college in the forefront of their minds through participation in enrichment and educational activities. The Possible Dream Program has made a significant impact on hundreds of children by giving them a reason to believe in their dreams. Delta College has confirmed that 64% of graduating Possible Dream students have gone on to attend college.

Questions regarding the Possible Dreams Program can be sent via email to possibledream@delta.edu or phone 989-686-9185.

Questions regarding the SWAAG program should be sent to Linda Z. Smith at lindaz44@charter.net or reginamalczewski@gmail.com or call Creative 360 at 989-837-1885.

About Creative 360

Creative 360, formerly known as Creative Spirit Center, is a not-for-profit community arts and wellness organization founded in 1994. Its mission is to create an environment for people of all ages and abilities to experience the creative process through ongoing classes, art exhibits, events, concerts, speakers and outreach programs, with its goal to enhance the development of physical, mental and spiritual wellness through the arts and humanities. In 2013, Creative 360 expanded its offering to include Express Yourself Artshop, a program focused on those with physical, mental and intellectual challenges. Activities at Creative 360 are supported in part by the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs, a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts.