

In the LOOP: Students learn by doing, thinking creatively

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Project LOOP – Learning on and Off the Pavement – is a non-profit that consists of a network conceived to benefit youth through lessons in creativity, exercise, and hard work in a real world experience outside the classroom. The program collaborates with experts in a range of fields from architecture, engineering, film, graphic design, photography and other areas of interest. The intent is to build confidence, motivate, and give kids hands on experience in order to teach and prepare them for the future.

According to LOOP founder Brent Humphreys, the program is to help give students access to information and opportunities that can help shape their future.

“It is essentially a mentor program,” he said. “We plan field trips and have guest speakers to give kids access to things they might not have otherwise living here in Taylor.”

He explained that students engage in various entrepreneurial exercises to help keep creativity flowing.

“The majority of the kids in our program are kids with creative inclinations,” he explained. “Inspiring architects, graphic designers and film makers.”

He explained that students are learning, and sometime do not realize it.

“We craft field trips to teach kids and make it fun,” he said. “We kind of bury the learning in the fun for what they are doing.”

Humphreys believes that making learning fun is a major part of

being a good teacher or mentor.

“I think these kids are learning a lot, but to them they’re just having fun,” he said. “I think that’s the key to being a good teacher or mentor.”

The program was designed to help students identify with their creativity at young age, and put them in a position to benefit from it.

“I was a very creative youngster, but I didn’t have the infrastructure around me to know that not only was I lucky, but that I could make something out of it,” he said.

Humphreys had an interest in photography and attended a junior college where he met a photographer, who later became his mentor. He later attended photography school, and his journey inspired his decision to start the program.

“The goal of this program is to put kids in that position sooner than I was,” he said. “The idea is to inspire these kids at an earlier age than normal and help them figure out what they’re hyper passionate about and light a fire in them.”

Project LOOP also works with various programs such as the Fun, Fun Fun music festival in Austin and students are currently restoring a ‘64 Falcon van.

Students also build ramps for BMX biking and skating.

“The idea is to keep these kids out of trouble and help them find their way,” Humphreys said. “There’s a big world out there and we need to be doing everything we can to prepare these kids for that.”

The project partners with Duck University and has two classrooms at the old Middle School. Students involved are mostly from Taylor, but there are also students from Hutto and Austin.

Students interested in joining LOOP should complete an application form that addresses their creative and personal interests, extracurricular activities and career fields of interest. LOOP officials then



Courtesy photo

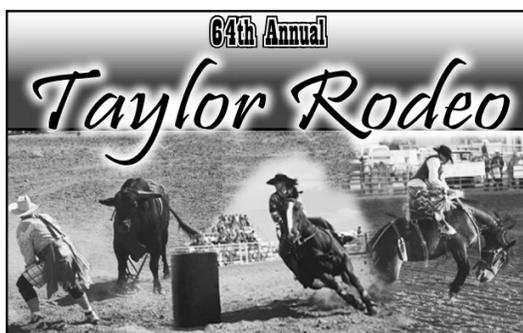
Jeff Snyder showed that he does not only work on cars, with this very rare 1964 Bowden bicycle that he’s restoring for a client in Austin. The bike was purchased at a garage sale for \$20 and it’s estimated worth is \$15,000. Watching are (from left) Gage Faul, Adrienne Johnson, Eli Hudson, Thomas Rodriguez, Carson Wade and Anoa Hines.

meet with the student and parents to address any questions and confirm it’s a good fit.

There is no fee

involved as the project is a non-profit (501C3 pending), and operates on donations from parents and other partners.

For more information on Project LOOP email Humphreys at bh@projectloop.tv or visit www.projectloop.tv.



A Bo Davis Production • PRCA/Open Sanctioned Event
Barrel Man Ronald Burton

Friday & Saturday • July 19 & 20

GATES OPEN WITH FULL CONCESSIONS AT 6PM
OPENING PERFORMANCE AT 7:30 PM

Rodeo Starts at 8pm with Live Music Following

DANCING UNDER THE STARS

Friday Night CLAYTON GARDNER

Saturday Night THE CHRIS BRAD BAND

OTHER EVENTS

Kids & Adult Calf Scrambles • Mutton Bustin’ • Wild Steer Saddling

TICKET PRICES

Children Under 5 are FREE • Ages 6-12 \$10 Advance/\$12 Gate

Adults \$12 Advance/\$15 Gate • Parking \$3

Price includes Admission to Both Rodeo & Dance

BBQ COOK-OFF

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