Springhouse Jan Stauber Grant Report

Springhouse is an intergenerational learning community in rural Southwest Virginia where teens and adults learn, work, and create together. Our mission is to envision, practice, and share ways of living that contribute to a world where all life thrives. Learning at Springhouse extends beyond traditional academics, inviting teens to follow their curiosity, develop their gifts, and take meaningful responsibility for shaping their community.

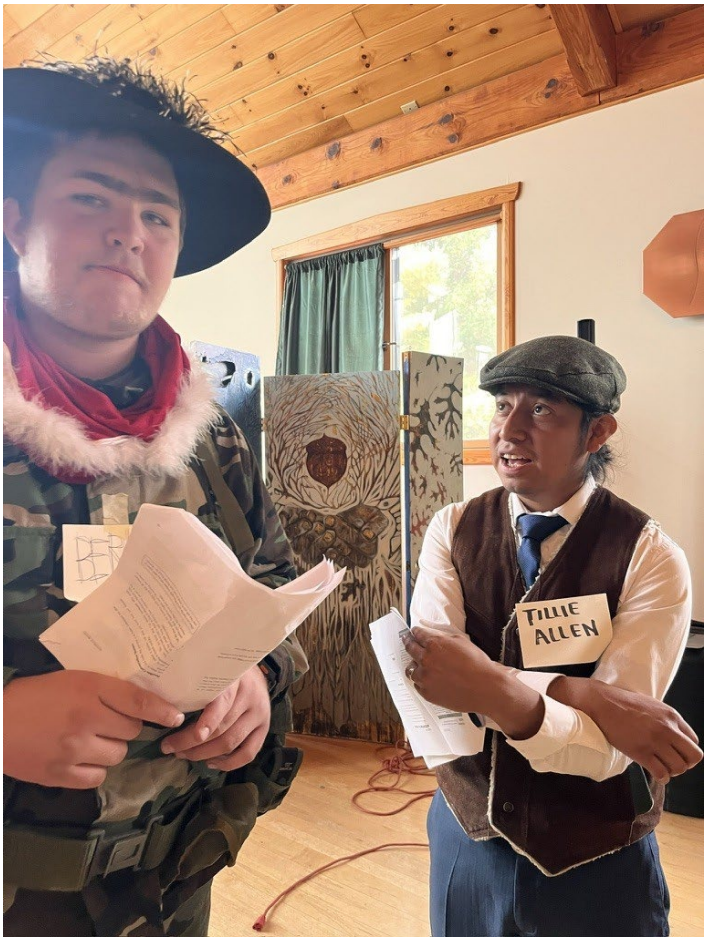
With support from the Jan Stauber Grant, Springhouse purchased literature and teens explored the literary world of Sherlock Holmes by reading stories by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle. Their engagement with the stories sparked an opportunity to bring the mystery genre to life through an immersive, collaborative experience. Using Masters of Mystery: Sherlock Holmes—Murder Mystery: Host Your Own Game, the teens organized and hosted a full-day mystery event.

The project connected literature with critical thinking, deductive reasoning, creative problem-solving, and collaboration. Teens took ownership of the experience, working together to plan and facilitate an event that invited participants into the intrigue of a Sherlock Holmes mystery. The project demonstrated how literature can become a springboard for active, self-directed learning, strengthening both individual capacities and the community as a whole.

We are grateful to the Jan Stauber Grant for supporting opportunities that allow teens to pursue their interests, deepen their learning, and bring their ideas to life. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Gratefully,

Jenny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Executive Director