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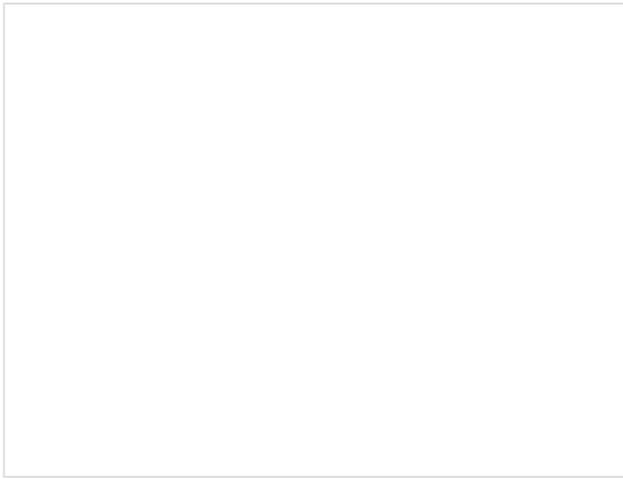
CATEGORY ARCHIVES: ENGAGING YOUTH IN STEM ACTIVITIES AND THE ENGINEERING DESIGN PROCESS THROUGH DISTANCE LEARNING AND SUMMER CAMPS

## Wrapping Up!

Posted on **August 2, 2015** by **Chloe Beth Collins**

Since this has been my last week as part of the CCE Internship program I feel like I can speak to how rewarding it has been! This week included entering evaluation data, preparing for Style Engineer's association with the some counties' 4-H activities for the State Fair, and saying farewell to some of the team at a final meeting. I am planning on staying with the project and the team through December through the Research Experience for Undergraduates program (REU). The people I have met, the connections I have made, and seeing how this initiative works for middle school girls first hand has been extremely engaging and exciting. Although the grant for this project is expiring at the end of the year I hope that the website ([styleengineers.org](http://styleengineers.org)) and curriculum continues on as a lasting legacy and is picked up with a new team and grant in the near future. I've spent many of my summers in Upstate New York, but this summer I had the opportunity to expand my depth of the State by heading Northwest to Wyoming and Ontario Counties. I encountered some of the traditional camping experience I missed in my childhood and met coworkers and colleagues who I hope to remain good friends with for the remainder of my time at Cornell! To anyone who is considering a Cornell Cooperative Extension Internship, I strongly encourage you to apply for a challenging and intriguing summer experience!

-Chloe Collins



*Frenda, Me (Chloe), and Ainslie*

Posted in **Engaging Youth in STEM Activities and the Engineering Design Process through Distance Learning and Summer Camps**

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## **Girls, Inc. Syracuse/ Holding down the Fort**

Posted on **July 26, 2015** by **Chloe Beth Collins**



This week I held down the fort at Cornell, while the rest of the team commuted to Syracuse everyday to work with at

a Girls, Inc. camp of 25 girls at the Everson Museum of Art. After a much needed Monday off, I managed the Style Engineers Shutterfly account and sorted through some of the best pictures from the three camps. I sorted through an old file cabinet with interesting advertising pamphlets and Cornell Cooperative Extension handouts dating back to the 1950's. I also organized some of the fabric scraps left in the Extension workroom and prepared some supplies for a teachers' expo in Genesee County. Below are some of the pictures I shamelessly borrowed from the Syracuse camp. Next week I'll be wrapping up by making posters, cleaning the work room, and entering the camper's evaluation data.



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## Camp Bristol Hills

Posted on [July 22, 2015](#) by [Chloe Beth Collins](#)



This past week the Style Engineers team ventured to Canandaigua, New York to work with 15 girls at 4-H Camp Bristol Hills. The girls, all 10 to 15 years, of age were engaged in numerous activities. A fellow intern, Frenda, and I stayed in a family residence on the lake, which made the evenings of this excursion seem like a very pleasant vacation. We went kayaking and hung out on the dock after the long days work. This week began with a bit of a rocky start because of a few mechanical errors and scheduling miscommunications. It took four of us and a skilled, called-in reinforcement to figure out how to use an old school projector. The activities went fairly smoothly and either the girls loved their skirts so much or it was so cold in the the dark cabin where we worked they would not take their wrap skirts off (I prefer to believe the former). Our team was joined by two returning alumni girls and a few mothers of the participants who helped instruct several activities. The grand finale of the week was the fashion show, in which three models wore pop star outfits designed to be visually appealing and functional on another planet for a 2055 concert and the other girls paraded around in their DIY wrap skirts with LED appliqués and other various clothing items they stitched together throughout the course of the week. The girls were both fun and at times challenging to work with. They had a great diversity in skill levels, experience, and general enthusiasm that worked surprisingly worked very well in a group setting. The girls of course liked some of the activities more than others, but picked up on the relevance of STEM in all of the activities. Hopefully the collected evaluations will show a distinct willingness for STEM careers in the future. This week I am staying behind to work on the integral sorting data, gathering materials, and cleaning the workroom as the rest of the team goes to Syracuse for a Girls, Inc. camp of 25 girls. I am sure the camp, run in a downtown museum, will be a different experience from the 4-H camps where we have resided the past two weeks, but I know that the girls will be working with a talented team! Again I'll let the photos speak for themselves!



Posted in [Engaging Youth in STEM Activities and the Engineering Design Process through Distance Learning and Summer Camps](#), [Sustainable Gardening with Native Plants, Nassau County](#)

## Camp Wyomoco

Posted on **July 12, 2015** by **Chloe Beth Collins**

This week was extremely rewarding! After many weeks of hard work and preparation we were finally able to see our program in action with 15 girls at 4-H Camp Wyomoco. The camp staff and 4-H educators were very accommodating and helped our talented team execute a successful and largely streamlined program for the girls. The girls were engaged in three days of hands-on learning and then two more days for a creative, Engineering Design Process oriented challenge. The girls, in small groups, had to take what they learned about materials, insulation, impact protection, movement, and wearable electronics to design a pop star outfit for a pop star performing in space in the year 2055. The pop star's outfit had specific requirements, but looking outside of the box was really encouraged. The final capstone project had everything from a reversible cape to a skirt with a hula-hoop in the hem. They had a fashion show in front of the entire camp, in which the girls displayed their homemade wrap skirts with LED appliques (I had one too) and their final pop star outfits. I had a great experience, although I might not switch my diet to purely camp food. Hopefully the girls will feel more inclined and less intimidated to pursue

professions in STEM in the future. The girls were absolutely fun and engaging—the pictures really speak for themselves. I hope next week at Camp Bristol Hills exceeds expectations as well!









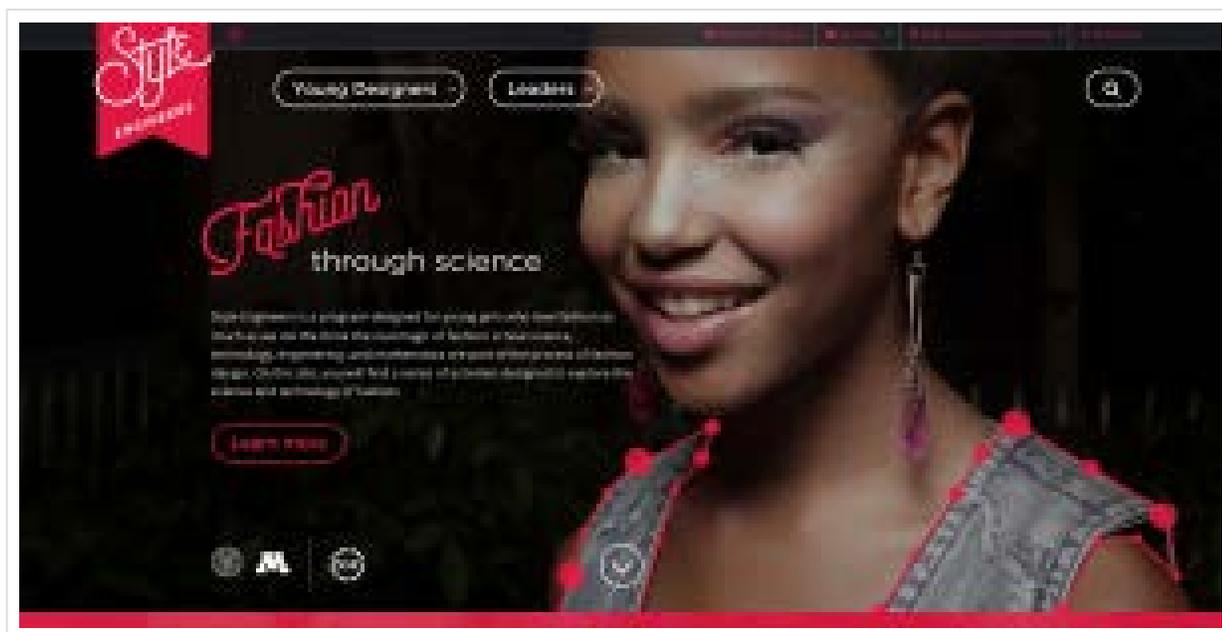
Posted in **Engaging Youth in STEM Activities and the Engineering Design Process through Distance Learning and Summer Camps**

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## **Week 4: The Final Countdown**

Posted on **July 3, 2015** by **Chloe Beth Collins**

Being the last week before camp was a rush to pack up and to put the finishing touches on our materials. It was a bit of a scramble with our much anticipated trip to Camp Wyomoco, Varysburg, NY looming near, but very exciting. The other exciting development is the promise of a new website in the very near future. The formal launch is likely to happen while we are at Camp, so I've included a sneak peak of the website's homepage. [Styleengineers.org](http://styleengineers.org) includes: the various activities that provide the backbone for the Style Engineers program organized by module, comprehensive agendas for girl's camps, and links for young designers to view videos of STEM role models, access handouts, sketchbook pages and puzzles, and take part in a message board. This development has been the effort of many, many hours of dedicated work and promises to be the future of Style Engineers. My next post may be delayed as I travel with the team to 4-H camp this Sunday in Wyoming county and the following Sunday to 4-H Camp Bristol Hills in Canandaigua. I can't wait to see the program in action with a team of girls!



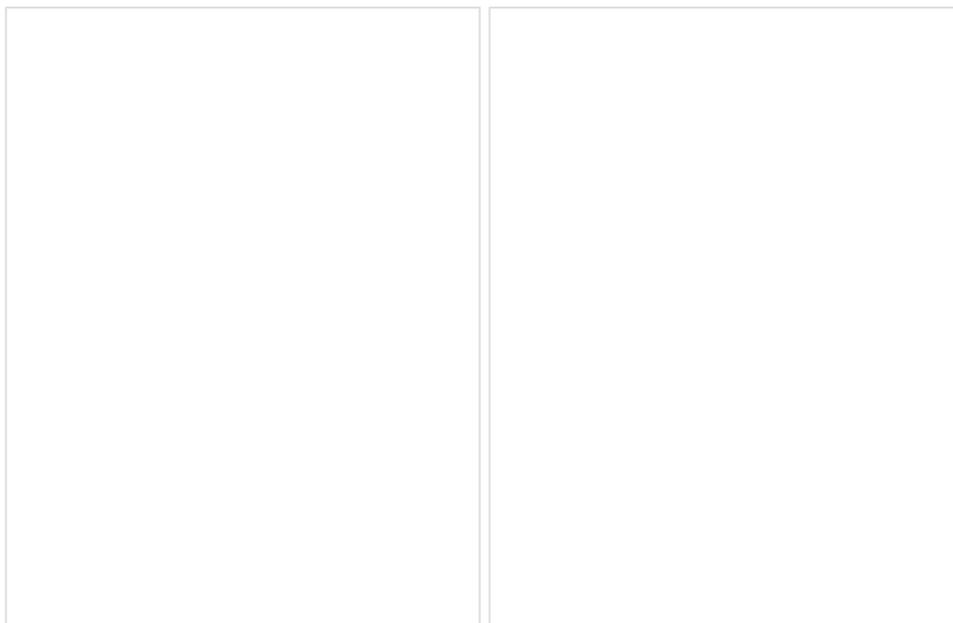
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## Week 3: A Little Bit of Everything

Posted on **June 28, 2015** by **Chloe Beth Collins**

This week was another week of preparing for our upcoming camps. We cut, counted, sorted, ordered, and soldered materials. I created a Shutterfly site for our program to allow leaders to view and upload pictures from their experience. We were able to take advantage of Human Ecology's technology including the metal shop and laser cutter. Next week is the final countdown and promises to be another full week getting ready for Camp Wyomoco!



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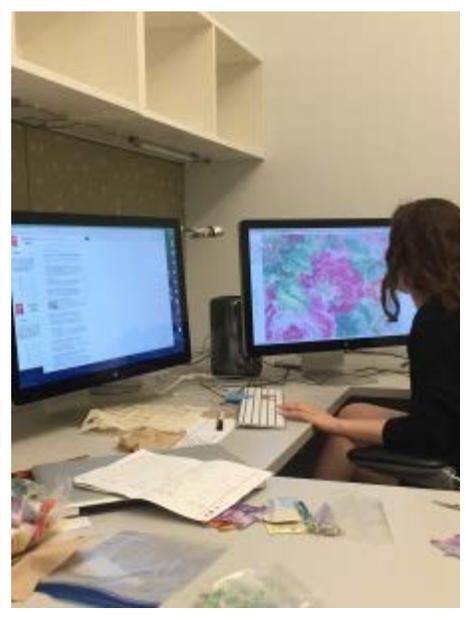
## Week 3: Preparation

Posted on **June 19, 2015** by **Chloe Beth Collins**

This week week was full of feverish preparation for our first camp, Cornell Cooperative Extension 4-H Camp Wyomoco, Wyoming County starting July 5. We worked in Cornell's Human Ecology Building to inventory current materials, create supply lists to order, and prepare kits for activities to streamline the campers experience. We also got to work with a fashion design rendering software called Marvelous Designer to optimize an activity for combining technology and fashion. The motto for this week was "Anything that can be done in advance, should be done in advance." Mixed with the rush of prep work, is the undeniable excitement of being part of the program's implementation in the beginning of July.



*Making Gremlin Pin kits for a hand-sewing activity*



*Ainslie hard at work making files to laser cut*

Posted in **Engaging Youth in STEM Activities and the Engineering Design Process through Distance Learning and Summer Camps**

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## **Week 2: Canandaigua Training**

Posted on **June 13, 2015** by **Chloe Beth Collins**

Since I began, I have helped lay down the foundation for this year's camp experiences. Every week there is a meeting via WebEx to discuss progress and future plans with the Minnesota team. Our primary role has been to prepare for leader training in Canandaigua NY. The goals of the training were to present a condensed version of the activities of the Style Engineers program and to show how they can use the new website to implement the program at their camps. Preparing for the training was a flurry of cutting fabric, threading needles, sorting items, experimenting with the different activities, learning the material, and packing boxes upon boxes of crucial materials for the numerous activities.

The training was very successful in a variety of ways. First, it got adult leaders excited and enthusiastic about doing young designers' projects and prepared to teach them to their own campers. Second, it revealed the small pitfalls of our careful, meticulous planning. We learned what modifications to make to activities before posting them on the website and what materials we should have brought to further streamline the process. We discussed these changes in the long, scenic ride back to Cornell and in our weekly meeting. I thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to see the fun and at times challenging activities put into place. The older counselors and educators were thrilled and animated at the prospect of running around completing various design challenges. They particularly liked experimenting with circuits and Play-Doh in an activity rightfully called Space Dough. They also loved an activity in which they had to

choose materials to add on an umbrella frame to suit imaginary worlds where it rained hundred dollar bills, golf balls or chipmunks.



*Discussing the Engineering Design Process*



*Crafting umbrellas for the Confetti Rain Activity*



*Pattern-making on half-scale dress form and crafting a wrap skirt*

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## Joining the Team

Posted on **June 13, 2015** by **Chloe Beth Collins**

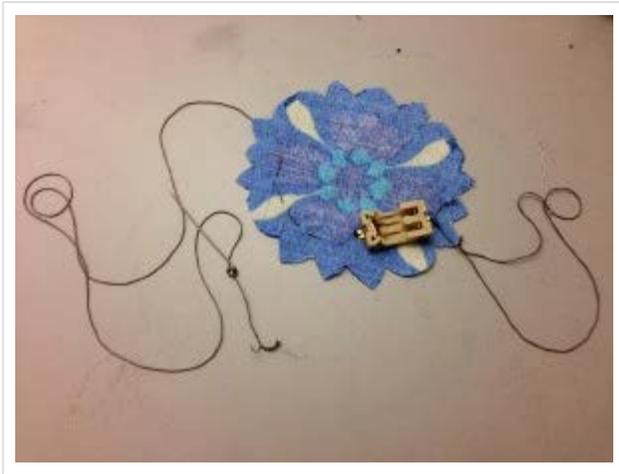
Hi, I'm Chloe. Recently, I joined the Style Engineers team as a CCE Summer Intern. The Style Engineers program, formerly Smart Clothing Smart Girls, is a National Science Foundation-funded initiative to show how science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) are used in fashion design. The project is partnered with the University of Minnesota to bring STEM and design to young designers between the ages ten and fifteen. This is the fourth year of the project. We are headed to 4-H Camp Bristol Hills, 4-H Camp Wyomoco, and a Girls Inc. camp in Syracuse.

In the past girls had come to Cornell's College of Human Ecology and used the technology provided by the Department of Fiber Science and Apparel Design.

This year marks an important turn for the program—Style Engineers will be celebrating the launch of a new website. This website, [styleengineers.org](http://styleengineers.org), will pave the way for the program to be implemented on a larger scale with less direct involvement. This year the Style Engineers team hopes to play a smaller part in teaching activities, as the counselors and educators of the camps use the activity leader guides, modules, and visuals found on the website to play a larger role. Ultimately, the resources found on the website need to function alone. Our evaluations of the leaders this year will measure of how successful the program can be on its own.

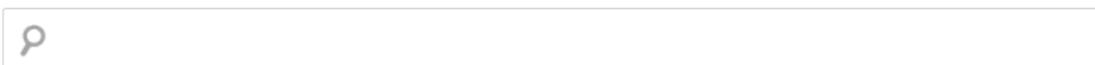
During week one I had the pleasure of becoming acquainted with two Research Experience for Undergraduate

(REU)s and the caring and committed Style Engineers Team at Cornell. I also attended a WebEx meeting to hear from members of the Minnesota team. This week was about developing an understanding of how Style Engineers operates. I read through all of the developed activities ranging from learning about fabric structure to creating umbrellas to defend against a mythical golf ball rain storm to sewing on LED lights to a garment. It turns out the preparation and materials for this sort of operation are quite extensive. We spent hours sorting and prepping materials and testing activities to present at a 4-H leader training on June 10. I went on a quick vacation over the weekend and studied up on my activities on the plane. I am looking forward to a great summer with a talented and dedicated team!



Experimenting with the Illuminating Fashion activity

Posted in **Engaging Youth in STEM Activities and the Engineering Design Process through Distance Learning and Summer Camps**



#### CATEGORIES

- **Barriers to Expansion of Long Island Broccoli Production**
- **Collaboration for Health, Activity, and Nutrition in Children's Environments (CHANCE) and Adopting Healthy Habits (AHH) Best Practices: Documenting efforts and preparing for the future**
- **Developing Best Practices and Resources in Parenting Education**
- **Disadvantage and Economic Decision Making in Children**
- **Engaging Youth in STEM Activities and the Engineering Design Process through Distance Learning and Summer Camps**
- **Evaluating Calf Management Practices on NNY Dairy Farms and the Impact on Future Production and Profitability**
- **Evaluation of Technologies to Improve the Competitiveness of the Stocker Cattle Enterprise in New York**
- **Field Crops Nutrient Management Applied Research and Extension Internship**
- **Getting Some Space: Using Spatial Language and Spatial Play to Promote Children's Spatial Skills**

## **Greening the Orange County 4H Educational Facility**

- **Health and the Brain Neuroscience Outreach**
- **Influence of Past Food Insecurity on Parents' Use of Child Feeding Practices Recommended to Prevent Child Obesity**
- **Invasive Species Statewide Outreach Program Internship – Onondaga**
- **Invasive Species Statewide Outreach Program Internship – Plantations**
- **Invasive Species Statewide Outreach Program Internship – Saratoga**
- **Invasive Species Statewide Outreach Program Internship – Tompkins**
- **Invasive Species Statewide Outreach Program Internship – Plantations**
- **IPM Strategies for Insect and Mites in Grapes and Hops in the Lake Erie Region**
- **Linking Immigrant Families to CCE 4-H Programs**
- **Measuring and Improving Rural Food and Physical Activity Environments to Improve Health**
- **Parent Education in New York City: The Parenting A Second Time Around (PASTA) Project, Phase Two**
- **Schuyler CCE Garden-Based Learning Intern**
- **Sexual Health Education in the Digital Age: Assessing Professional and Parental Knowledge and Needs**
- **Sustainable Gardening with Native Plants, Nassau County**
- **Sustainable Gardening with Native Plants: Integrate sustainable native and non-native plants to create a bio-diverse landscape**
- **Use of Social Media and Mobile Technology**
- **Visionmaker Jamaica Bay**
- **What's the Evidence? Best Practices for 4-H Volunteer Recruitment and Retention**
- **Wild Harvest Table Program: Reaching New Audiences**

## ARCHIVES

- **September 2015**
- **August 2015**
- **July 2015**
- **June 2015**
- **May 2015**

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