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Recommended Citation

University Marketing and Communications, "07/02/1990 - EIU Hosts Percy Julian Students" (1990). *Press Releases*. 883.

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EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
Charleston, Illinois

news

ART TATE, Assistant Director, University Relations
Office: (217) 581-5983 - Home: (217) 348-7553

90-371

JUL 02 1991

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

EASTERN HOSTS PERCY JULIAN STUDENTS

CHARLESTON, IL.--While many students spend the summer vacationing, a group of freshmen and seniors from Chicago's Percy Julian High School are getting their first orientation to college through a unique summer program at Eastern Illinois University.

For the second year in a row, thirty-five of the best scholars from Chicago area junior high schools, who will be attending Percy Julian in the fall, are participating in an intensive two-week workshop for high school credit.

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The workshop includes academic studies in social science, science, mathematics, creative writing, journalism, radio/TV and speech. As part of their training, the students will be producing a daily newsletter, Percy Julian Today, and radio/TV spots featuring program highlights.

In addition to academics, the workshoppers will spend the evening hours in leisure and human development activities.

Also on campus for the third year in a row are 49 seniors from Percy Julian High School who are participating in a five-week program. This program is also designed to acquaint high school students with Eastern and gives participants an opportunity to earn college credit.

Charles Colbert, associate vice president for academic affairs at Eastern and director of the Percy Julian program, said the two programs are part of a cooperative school-college partnership between the two institutions to enhance educational opportunities for minority students.

"The purpose of the program is to help young students gain an understanding of the role of education in society, especially the importance of a college education, to assist them in developing their own educational interests and talents, and to learn leadership and socializing skills in a new and challenging environment," Colbert said.

Funding is provided by Eastern and through a higher education cooperative act grant from the Illinois Board of Higher Education.