Students heard about each course at a Community Meeting and will be asked to sign-up for two courses:

one in the morning (9-11:30am) and one in the afternoon (12:30 – 3pm).

Note: Some courses offered do have fees associated with them.
We make every effort to ensure that cost is not a barrier to student participation.
If your family has financial need, please contact Siobhan Allen at sallen@beaconacademyil.org by Friday, October 4th. While we can never ensure placement in a particular Interim class, we will make every effort to ensure that cost is not a barrier to student participation.

All Day

College Week Tour
Description: (For juniors and seniors only) Students have the opportunity to use one Interim during their Beacon careers to visit colleges. Students interested must fill out an itinerary and submit to Mr. Freeman for approval. Upon completion of their trip, students must also submit a written reflection to Mr. Freeman and Ms. LoSasso. This is a one-time opportunity for students during their time at Beacon.

Rock Climbing
Description: This week of rock climbing will be held at Brooklyn Boulders. Students will leave this interim with a stronger sense of self-confidence and experience building your will to try, fail, and try again. Learning things like problem solving, concentration, movement and spatial awareness are just the beginning!

Fee: $500

Morning

Bass Fishing
Description: Gone fishing! Students will get an introduction to fishing, fishing techniques, and doing some actual fishing! Come prepared to spend some time on the water, enjoy nature, and appreciate the art and practice (and patience!) of fishing.

Fee: $125

Cake and Cupcake Decorating
Description: Do you love The Great British Bake Off? Then this class is for you! Learn how to decorate cakes and sweet treats. Student will practice the fundamentals of decorating, enabling students to approach each technique to get great results and enjoy some bake goods too!

Classic Rock Critique
Description: We’ll spend our mornings listening to some of the great albums of the 60's and 70's, from psychedelia to metal, and writing our own highly opinionated reviews. Expect spirited discussions as we answer some of rock's greatest questions, like "Is Led Zeppelin the greatest rock band ever?" and "How could anyone
like The Doors?” This will be an intensive persuasive-essay writing class, with high standards and lots of peer review. Tie-dye and headbands optional.

**Future You**
*Description:* Just like the *Game of Life* this course will help you travel through life and explore different opportunities. Investigate things you will want to know about your future self. Some topics include career options, renting apartments, and how to grocery shop for the week.

**Hot Topics**
*Description:* This interim will be a forum where students research and discuss hot topics in the news. Students will use critical thinking skills by analyzing, evaluating, and reflecting on opposing sides of the same issue as expressed by public leaders, special interest groups, and academicians. Students will also have the opportunity to learn about journalism and the challenges that exist in the field today.

**Master The Art**
*Description:* Each day will feature a masterclass on a different theatre subject. We will meet professionals from the area, support the Beacon theatre after school program, and hopefully tour a nearby professional theatre. Topics may include: stage combat, playwriting, arts entrepreneurship, stage makeup, Shakespeare, improv, lighting design, or costume design. The final list will depend on the collaborators!

**Part Of Your World – Is “The Little Mermaid” still relevant?**
*Description:* Students will explore the most infamous underwater mythical creatures, mermaids. We will dive into the original folklore of mermaids, the more modern interpretations of them (with a Disney twist of course), and discuss why mermaids still have such a strong role in popular culture today.

**Shark Week**
*Description:* If you never get sick of that “Baby Shark” song, then Shark Week is the class for you! Students will learn about these amazing, prehistoric creatures and how they fascinate and instill blood-chilling terror among humans.

**Studio Ghibli**
*Description:* Studio Ghibli is a Japanese animation film studio based in Koganei, Toyoko, Japan. The studio is best known for its anime feature films, commercials, and games. During this week, students will learn more about the studio along with Japanese culture, music, art, food, the movies, and games.

**Taking Off the Training Wheels: A Guide To Urban Biking**
*Description:* Everything you need to know to have a blast biking in the concrete jungle. Find out how NOT to get doored, have your bike stolen, or make drivers angry. Learn how TO change a flat, put your bike on the bus, and keep your aluminum best friend in mint condition! Please note that students will need access to a bike and helmet, be comfortable riding on the street, and must follow the rules of the road.

**The Beautiful World Of Aquascaping**
*Description:* Aquascaping is the craft of arranging aquatic plants, as well as rocks, stones, cavework, or driftwood, in an aesthetically pleasing manner with an aquarium – in effect, gardening underwater. Students will have the opportunity to create a world under water by bringing their ideas and creativity.
Fee: $10 for buying your plants

Afternoon

A Doll’s House: Page to Stage
Description: Nora Helmer, the main character of Henrik Ibsen’s A Doll’s House, shocked audiences in 1879. Students will read the play together, discussing it along the way. On Friday night we will see the play at the Writers Theatre in Glencoe.

Fee: $25 for the book and ticket to the play on Friday, October 25th at 7:30pm

Beacon Model UN
Description: The Beacon secretariat will organize and run a mini-MUN. The conference is a great introduction and refresher for those interested in Model UN. Students will have time to prepare and try to solve interesting international crises and problems.

Book Binding
Description: Do you want to know how to make books? Do you want to fill your homemade books with art, in whatever form you want? Visual art, poetry, photography, creative writing – all are welcome.

Clay and Studio Time
Description: Students will spend three days at The Pot Shop learning how to throw pots and do some hand building with clay. The remaining two days will be set aside for students to have some free studio time, exploring materials and techniques of your choice.

Fee: $80

Escape Room
Description: Come talk about escape rooms, the types of puzzles used in them, and play some board game style escape rooms. At the end of the week, students will go do some real escape rooms! Participants must like logic puzzles, math games, riddles, and be ok with timed and sometimes mildly stressful situations (Note: nobody will ever actually be truly LOCKED in a room).

Fee: $50

Knit Together
Description: Do you knit? Do you want to learn to knit? This interim is for you! Learn the basics of knitting: how to cast on, how to knit, how to purl, how to read a pattern, and more! By the end of the week, you'll have a hat or scarf! Or, bring your current project and work on it! We could learn more complex techniques like cabling or colorwork. Other things we might do: go to a local knitting store, learn how yarn is made (from sheep to skein), eat snacks. And we’re definitely going to knit.

The History of the NBA
Description: Students will explore the fascinating history of one of the most exciting and dramatic professional sports leagues: the National Basketball Association. Our investigation of the league’s history will take us up the peaks of various golden eras, dynasties, and superstars, as well as down into the valleys of various scandals, controversies, draft busts, and conspiracy theories. The only thing we will assume for certain going in is that Michael Jordan is the single greatest basketball player ever—everything else is up for grabs. We will read and watch a wide variety of materials as we discuss professional basketball with the depth and rigor it deserves. This course is open to hardcore fans and newcomers alike.

Outdoor Chicago
Description: Come explore ways to enjoy the city outdoors! Students will have the opportunity to travel to the city and enjoy the Chicago River Walk, figure out the water taxi system, bike Green Bay Trail, play at Maggie Daly Park, and top the week off with mini-golf.

Fee: $25 to cover transportation, snacks, and mini-golf for the week

Softball: It’s a Thing
Description: Students who love to play softball, students who want to learn to play softball, and students interested in organized and professional women’s athletics or 20th-century American history! We will play outside with bats and balls, discuss articles on the history and science of the sport, hear from college and professional players, watch some clips a “A League of Their Own” and maybe even cap off the week with a trip to the AAPGBL Rockford Peaches exhibit in Rockford!

Yoga For Beginners
Description: In this class students will learn about some of the history of yoga types and practice a sequence every day. During the class students will focus on their postures and breathing techniques as well as learn the important aspects of yoga such as concentration, body awareness, and body-mind integration.