

ABOUT CLEMSON UNIVERSITY YOUTH LEARNING INSTITUTE

The **Youth Learning Institute** (YLI) helps fulfill Clemson's goal of being a nationally recognized leader in innovative scholarship and creativity grounded in basic research and the land-grant mission. This goal is accomplished by developing unique public/private partnerships and creating best practice models that help individuals and organizations reach their fullest potential. YLI does not duplicate programs or services offered by others in the human service industry. Instead, we collaborate with state agencies and non-profits who may not have the resources to evaluate and improve existing services. In these cases, YLI can serve as the research and development function for these agencies.

Our flexibility allows us to pilot new strategies that can be researched and used for replication by our partnering agencies. Our sites serve as living laboratories that meet the needs of the participants while also serving as a training tool for others in the industry. Our belief is that we will only be able to fulfill our vision as the state's land-grant university by being an active participant in solving real problems and serving people. Together, we can develop solutions that will empower the next generation and create a better tomorrow.



Tall Pines STEM Academy does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. Please direct any inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies to the Special Services Coordinator, 82 Camp Long Road, Aiken, SC 29805 (803) 502-1692.

TALL PINES STEM ACADEMY

82 Camp Long Road | Aiken, SC 29805

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IN PARTNERSHIP WITH CLEMSON UNIVERSITY YOUTH LEARNING INSTITUTE, TALL PINES STEM ACADEMY (TPSA) OPENED IN AUGUST 2016 AS A PART OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL DISTRICT.

NOW SERVING GRADES 5-8

TPSA offers a middle school experience unlike any other available in the Aiken area.



Students receive instruction in World-Class Knowledge, as well as World-Class Skills (creativity and innovation; critical thinking and problem solving; collaboration and teamwork; communication, information, media and technology; knowing how to learn) and Life and Career Characteristics (integrity, self-direction, global perspective, perseverance, work ethic, and interpersonal skills).



KEY STRATEGIES

- Experiential, Hands-On Learning
- Outdoor Experiences
- Ethical Leadership through Service
- Career and Community Connections
- Soft Skills Development
- Learning Made Fun

CURRICULUM FOCUS

- STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) across the curriculum
- Individualized Instruction
- English/Language Arts
- Social Studies
- Physical Education

SCHOOL CULTURE FOCUS

- Leadership Development
- Positivity
- Character Development
- Health and Wellness
- ZERO Bullying Tolerance

PACKS

Our students are organized into six "PACKS," which compete during the year in academic, athletic, and service opportunities. Our Positive Behavior Plan rewards students based on their adherence to our PACKS Code of Conduct:

- PRACTICE PATIENCE
- ACT RESPONSIBLY
- CONVEY RESPECT
- KNOW AND CARE FOR MY COMMUNITY
- STRIVE FOR GREATNESS



BUILDING HEALTHY HABITS

Students at TPSA participate in Physical Education every day throughout the school year and also have a daily recess period. Our campus is a walking campus, and students get fresh air between each class change. In addition, TPSA students have opportunities to learn in a number of outdoor classroom settings.



FACILITY

TPSA is located at Camp Long. Since 1933, Camp Long (formally known as the W.W. Long 4-H Leadership Center) has hosted thousands of 4-H campers, students, and teachers for environmental education programs, church youth and adult groups, and corporate professional development groups in search of unique, enriching experiences with outdoor adventure. Situated on 418 scenic acres in Aiken, SC, this wooded property offers year-round programming in a historic setting.



Site features include classrooms and meeting space, library, recreational building, basketball court, baseball field, an 18-acre pond for swimming and canoeing, team challenge course, climbing wall, zip line, and hiking trails.

