

New Partnership with Calvin College and National Science Foundation

Through an extensive network of partnerships within the Grand Rapids community, and in direct partnership with Calvin College (www.calvin.edu/news/releases/2006-07/nsf-grant.htm), and the National Science Foundation, the Academy for Young Scientists (AYS) will focus on developing independent research skills and capabilities of middle school students at Rockford Christian and Grand Rapids Christian Middle Schools through the comprehensive study of science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

The Academy for Young Scientists is funded through a grant by the National Science Foundation (NSF) and further enhances the environmental program at Grand Rapids Christian Schools.

This exciting partnership between Calvin College, the National Science Foundation, Grand Rapids Christian Schools and area businesses is available starting January 1, 2007 for students currently in 6th and 7th grade.

Students will participate in out-of-school opportunities that include conducting scientific research and working with scientists throughout the school year and during summer months. The Bunker Interpretive Center and Ecosystem Preserve, on the campus of Calvin College, will serve as the primary site for field research, and Calvin laboratories will be available for laboratory research.

"The partnership and grant funds will continue for three years and we are so excited about the unique opportunities that will become available to middle school students," reports Jan VanderWerp, principal at Rockford Christian School.

For enrollment information, please contact Mrs. VanderWerp at 616-574-6400.