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PROJECT FIBONACCI SHOWCASES MASONIC MEDICAL RESEARCH LABORATORY

Tuesday Focus: Science Medicine and Physiology

More than one hundred scientifically-oriented student participants in the 2016 [Project Fibonacci](#) Youth Conference visited the [Masonic Medical Research Laboratory](#) (MMRL) located in Utica (Oneida County) today touring various labs while considering potential careers paths in scientific and medical research. The MMRL, founded in 1958, is considered among the premier heart research facilities in the nation.

The future scientists ranging from high school juniors to college seniors engaged with the MMRL's scientific staff as part of their weeklong exposure to various topics designed to stimulate interest in science, technology, engineering, arts and math (STEAM).

Students are visited stem cell, genetic and cardiology laboratories and engaged with leading researchers such as [Dr. Brian Panama](#), who is investigating the relationship between cardiac arrhythmias and sleep apnea. Dr. Panama also serves as the MMRL Director of Education and is working with the Project Fibonacci team to create a meaningful educational experience for program participants.

“As a research scientist, I know medical breakthroughs are built upon the study of others – it’s the key to technology transfer, said Dr. Panama. “What is exciting is that the young people that walk through our doors today, may soon roll-up the sleeves of a lab coat, begin pouring over the data and discover the missing piece of a puzzle that may save millions of lives or improve the quality of life for everyone.”

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About the Masonic Medical Research Laboratory:

The Masonic Medical Research Laboratory is a not-for-profit institute founded by the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons in the State of New York in 1958 and is dedicated to Improving the health and quality of life for all. The Laboratory is also committed to providing education and training to basic scientists, clinical researchers and students who will perpetuate and extend the fight against disease. Please visit www.mmrl.edu to learn more.