

SESSIONS THIS SUMMER

DJ camps offered for te

2-week programs to be offered at county recreation centers

BY KIMMIE GARNER

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Teens who want to learn how to be a disc jockey can pick up basic skills this summer at camps the Mecklenburg County Park and Recreation Department plans to offer.

The With These Hands Mix Academy is aimed at ages 13-17. Industry professionals from Salt Water Music will teach DJing basics, scratching, mixing and how to use the turntable as an instrument.

The youths will use iPods, Mp3 and CD players, and take

Want to Apply?

The application for With These Hands Mix Academy is online at www.charmeck.org/Departments/Park+and+Rec. Click on "DJ Training" and then "Application."

Teens will be notified by June 15 if they've been accepted to the academy.

For details about the program, e-mail Terri Stowers at Terri.Stowers@MecklenburgCountyNC.gov.

field trips to radio stations and teen clubs. Guest speakers from the industry also will visit.

Fifteen sessions will be offered July 9-20, July 23-Aug. 3 and Aug. 6-17.

Each two-week program costs \$110, and scholarship applications are available. Teens will need a letter of recommendation from a teacher, community leader or pastor, and will have to

write a short essay about why they want to attend the camp.

Park and Rec is considering holding the academy at 10 recreation centers based on the way teens rank the sites on their applications. Sites being considered: Bette Rae Thomas, Greenville, Phillip O. Berry, St. Paul "Ray of Hope," Hickory Grove, Sugaw Creek, Methodist Home, Tuckaseegee, Naomi Drenan and

West Charlotte.

The academic session - and are a first-come, first-served, said Terri Stowers, Mecklenburg County Rec facility manager.

Stowers said it's important to offer teens more than sports can provide. "This one will really help with music and expose them to different cultures."

She said the idea for the camp came from the Mecklenburg County Factory, which is a round DJ academy developed in an entertainment district developed in an area around 100-year-old mill building on Graham Street near 277.

Teens will show off their skills at a celebration of the summer, 3 to 5 p.m. at Eastover Park.