Teen spends two weeks at Yale, four at MIT

John Carroll School student Sahil Menon, 16, of Bel Air, recently completed the Yale Global Scholars Program, spending two weeks at Yale University. The scholars program is a selective leadership development program for high school students designed to help them make meaningful impacts as young leaders, even before they begin university studies, according to Yale University’s website.

Sahil spent two weeks on the Connecticut university’s campus packing a toolkit with skills in critical thinking, working with diverse groups of students from around the world and leadership communication that he plans to use in various local leadership roles, including as a member of the We Cancerve Movement Inc.’s all-youth board of advisors.

The We Cancerve Movement is a Harford County-based nonprofit organization that brings happiness to homeless, sick and foster children through a series of programs and initiatives. As a board member, Sahil helps create and lead projects, and is responsible for helping to inspire other youth to support projects that benefit homeless, sick and foster children.

“Sahil has really big ideas that help us think about ways technology can benefit the positive work we’re already doing in the community,” said Grace E. G. Callwood, 11, We Cancerve’s founding president and chair of the board of advisors. “His vision for We Cancerve encourages me because he’s thinking about ways we can expand our programs into areas we haven’t thought about before and he has really creative ideas on how to do that. He’s a great addition to our team and I’m excited about the information he’s bringing back to share with the board.”

Sahil opted for the Yale program’s technology, innovation and entrepreneurship track, which was one of six intensive, interdisciplinary pre-collegiate experiences he could choose from during the summer session. The sessions were designed to give high school student leaders opportunities to recognize and understand contemporary global issues, strategize responses and innovate solutions while learning from renowned practitioners and Yale faculty members in a range of fields.

Earlier this summer, Sahil attended the Massachusetts Institute of Technology for its four-week program MIT Launch Summer. Its website defines the program as bringing “together high school students from around the U.S. and world each summer to MIT to become entrepreneurs. The program connects students to many of the best entrepreneurial networks and leaders across camps for instruction and best practices, engraining them in the MIT culture of Mens et Manus – mind and hand.”

He was also recently awarded by John Carroll the Annie Cumpston Memorial Scholarship for outstanding academic achievement and community service. The scholarship honoree the 6-year-old who, in 2003, was killed by a drunk driver. The scholarship and Annie’s Playground in Fallston honor her memory.

For more information about the We Cancerve Movement, visit www.wecancerve.org or email peoplewhocare@wecancerve.org.