The mission of REACH is to support education from cradle to career by providing innovative, hands-on STEM learning to underrepresented youth so they can reach their academic and professional potential; increasing postsecondary education and interest in health care and STEM careers. We connect with students, parents, educators, and staff to spark and catalyze STEM learning in and outside the classroom; to design solutions and address challenges in their communities and beyond; improving overall community health. Through academic enrichment, mentoring, and internships; We are building a best-in class pipeline for STEM and healthcare fields.”
Dissection sessions covered the extremities, heart and brain. Students had the opportunity to examine joint replacements and "opened the thoracic cavity using a rib spreader."
In addition to learning about anatomy, students had opportunities to learn about the various programs at Rush, e.g. the Physician Assistant Studies Program and observed “how adamant Rush is in getting students involved in community activities.”
Participants looked forward to lab every week and highly recommend the experience.
Some of the more remarkable discoveries were an enlarged hip joint, a knee replacement, “seeing my first anterior cruciate ligament” and using different tools.
Students appreciated a little guidance but “really enjoyed the freedom to explore on their own.”

REACH 2019
“Hot fun in the Summertime!”