Academy Update

I want to start this update by thanking all the parents who have volunteered this year. From picking up pizza for our speaker lunches to chaperoning events and field trips and more, we could not do everything we do for students without your help!

Last week I sent out information about the new pathway and certificate requirements. Please be sure to read that information and check our website or the CS Academy NEO class for details.

November was Native American and Alaskan Native Heritage Month. Check out the post created by our Social Media Officer in honor of this.

The international observance of Computer Science Education Week and The Hour of Code is taking place this week. The goal of the week is to inspire K-12 students to learn computer science. To that end, we will be holding an after school event open to all SBHS students on Wednesday, December 8. CS Academy students are encouraged to invite their friends!

Upcoming Events

12/3 iOS Mobile Programming class field trip
12/8 All-school Hour of Code event
1/11 Lunch speaker: Ivan Bercovich, partner at ScOp Venture Capital

Club Meetings

Thursdays at lunch: Maker's Club
Last Wednesday of each month at lunch: Girls Who Code

Student Awards

The Congressional App Challenge is an annual challenge put on by members of Congress to encourage young people to learn to code. This year two of our students, Noah and Ramon Wang, won the challenge in our Congressional district! Their winning app is a website they created for the local nonprofit Santa Barbara Channelkeeper. It allows users to report locations where trash needs to be cleaned up on beaches and also shows statistics and a leaderboard of the volunteers who have cleaned up the most trash from our beaches. Noah and Ramon will share their app with Congressman Salud Carbajal. Congratulations Ramon and Noah!

Student Work

In our capstone course, iOS Mobile Programming, students learn about software development and design principles in the context
Timo Williamson created a simple quiz app shown below. The user has the ability to answer each question “true” or “false,” move to the next question and restart the quiz. Additionally there is a cheat button on the bottom right of the screen which gives the user the option to back out and answer the question without help or continue cheating before displaying the answer. The quiz tracks whether or not the user correctly answers each question, as well as whether they cheated for that question and displays the completion screen accordingly.

Extracurricular Activities

Below are opportunities shared with students via NEO. The CS Academy staff loves to know what extracurricular activities students participate in and awards and scholarships they earn!

Amazon Future Engineers Scholarship Program
This is an opportunity to win a $40,000 scholarship and a paid programming internship at Amazon. See this website for details.
and to apply by January 25.

Learn Data Science, Machine Learning, and more through the Data Science Academy
The Data Science Academy is a 3 month program for high school students that offers classes in data carpentry, statistics, and machine learning as well as mentorship by a Cal Poly student. To learn more and apply, visit https://www.gato365.com/academy
The program costs $499, but there is financial aid available for those who mention their financial need in their application.

Celebrating Creativity with Computer Art
Attend a free online presentation about the pioneering work of Lillian F. Schwartz and how she blended art and computing. This talk is put on by the Computer History Museum and will take place on December 9 at 5 pm. Learn more and register for the talk here.