

The Wednesday Reader

November 7, 2018

Sign up for the Hour of Code—December 3-9

In just a few weeks, it will be time to kick off the largest learning event in history ... for the sixth time. December 3-9, during [Computer Science Education Week](#), tens of millions of students will gather all around the world to participate in the annual [Hour of Code](#). For many, it will be their first introduction to computer science, but for others, it has become an annual celebration of computer science and the movement to expand opportunity.

Plan for you and your students to join in and [sign up your classroom](#) today for the Hour of Code. And as you do, please go one step further - let us know how computer science is offered at your school, and join the thousands of teachers in pledging to expand access.

Visit hourofcode.com/us#join to sign up and join in the fun.

If computer science is not offered at your school, the Hour of Code is a great way to build excitement and support to start a new program.

Schools already offering computer science find the Hour of Code an ideal way to celebrate CS Education Week, raise awareness of their programs, recruit students into courses, and explore expansion. There are one-hour activities for both beginners and experienced coders. Consider reaching beyond your classroom this week. Host a school assembly, a parent's coding night, or an activity in your community.

Get started with the easy [how-to guide](#). You can even do an Hour of Code without computers or an internet connection.

Spread the word & recruit your whole school and [use these helpful resources](#) to promote your event. Help recruit more people from your school and community by [sending our sample emails](#) to your principal, a local group, or even some friends.

Invite a technology professional to your classroom*

Check out the [Code.org volunteer database](#) and schedule a classroom visit! Code.org is excited to have university students, independent professionals, and volunteers from technology companies available to make the Hour of Code even more special.

Spread the word. Technology is changing every industry on the planet, and computer science has become relevant to a wide range of careers—even those outside technology and engineering. For millions of students, the Hour of Code will be an inspiring introduction to crucial 21st century skills. Help us reach even more people by forwarding this email to another teacher. Or forward it to a principal to get your whole school on board.

Check out Google's New CS First Hour of Code Activity

Two characters meet in a world and discover a surprising object. What happens next? It's all up to students, who have the opportunity to use their imagination and creativity to code their own story with Google's [CS First's](#) new activity for Hour of Code 2018, "[An Unusual Discovery](#)." Using CS First tutorial videos and Scratch, a block-based coding language, any student can become a storyteller or programmer.

This updated activity is available in English and Spanish and uses the optimized Scratch 3.0. This version includes new design libraries, more tools, and functions on different devices. Users have access to "An Unusual Discovery," a fun, interactive activity that can be completed in under an hour. It is teachable by anyone - no computer science background is required. Get started with the activity at csfirst.withgoogle.com/c/cs-first/en/an-unusual-discovery/overview.html.

Check out the collection of CS First resources and digital lesson plans at csfirst.withgoogle.com/en/teachers.

2019 Next Gen Personal Finance Summit: Calling All Change Makers

Who You Are: You understand the importance and value of personal finance education. You acknowledge that students must learn to manage money, create budgets, and build good credit habits to become financially secure adults in the 'real world'. You are committed to improving financial education in your community.

Who We Are: [Next Gen Personal Finance](#) (NGPF), a non-profit, is a passionate team of educators delivering free personal finance curriculum, professional development, and advocacy support to over 12,000 teachers nationwide. Our mission is simple: To revolutionize the teaching of personal finance in all schools and to improve the financial lives of the next generation of Americans.

Together We Will: Transform the financial future of your community.

Sound good? Then perhaps the 2019 NGPF Summit is for you

When: Starting at 5 pm on Friday, March 15 and concluding at 3pm on Sunday, March 17, 2019

Where: JW Marriott Hotel, San Francisco, California

Cost: Roundtrip transportation to San Francisco ONLY. The rest of the weekend, including accommodation and meals, will be underwritten by NGPF. (Partial travel scholarships available)

To apply, complete the Google Form at <https://goo.gl/TT2ACR>.

The application deadline is Friday, November 16, 2018. [View Summit 2019 eligibility requirements](#).

December 1 is Deadline to Register for the American Computer Science League

Students who have participated in the [American Computer Science League](#) (ACSL) develop strong, independent problem solving skills and get exposure to college-level CS concepts that put them well ahead of their classmates. Former students have shared that [ACSL](#) topics show up in 400-level college courses, even non-CS courses, and job interviews. Students who have qualified for the annual All-Star contest experience trips of a lifetime.

Each of the 5 possible divisions is tailor-made to your students' background and the size of your school or club. There is a division for every student in grades 3-12 and 3-person divisions for smaller high school programs. The Classroom Division doesn't include any programming for your AP CS Principles students.

For the first time in 41 years, all topics have on-line Wiki pages available with sample problems and videos for your students to watch. Every programming problem for each contest has never been used before and is tailored to the students' level of ability. As in the past, ACSL will send, upon registration, a free contest year question CD to all new advisors who are members of the Computer Science Teachers Association (CSTA).

Make sure your students have these opportunities available to them by [registering](#) today at www.acsl.org.

Looking for Resources or Ideas for Cybersecurity? Check out the New Principles of Cybersecurity for Free

This new program from Goodheart-Willcox includes everything you need to teach a Cybersecurity course and help prepare students for industry-recognized certification: CompTIA Security+ and Microsoft MTA Security Fundamentals.

The certification-driven text is designed with effective pedagogical elements pretests and posttests, certification objectives, essential questions, key terms, and learning goals, plus formative and summative assessments and activities that foster critical-thinking, research, and communication skills. End-of-chapter sections include many differentiated learning opportunities: Application and Extension of Knowledge, research projects, online activities CTSO Event Prep Suggestions, and Portfolio Development guidelines.

The Laboratory Manual provides hands-on practice with questions and lab activities, and the Companion Website features interactive activities. Special features throughout the text include Case Studies that connect the content to real-life situation, Ethical Issues that present situations which require good judgment, and Quick Look features that give students hands-on applications.

CSTA members can order a free preview sample today. Visit www.g-w.com/preview and enter promo code: *CyberCSTA*.

Check Out the New CodeHS and RaiseMe Partnership—Scholarships for Students

CodeHS is proud to partner with RaiseMe to support students on their path to college by earning micro-scholarships for their achievements in high school.

Now, any high school student who is currently enrolled or has completed an AP course on CodeHS can create a RaiseMe account and start earning college scholarships! With over 250 colleges and universities offering scholarships on the RaiseMe platform, CodeHS students have unparalleled opportunities.

How It Works:

1. Enroll in an AP Course on CodeHS
2. Sign up for RaiseMe
3. Add CodeHS to your RaiseMe portfolio
4. Discover colleges
5. Earn college scholarships

To learn more, visit codehs.com/info/resources/raiseme.

CSTA 2019 Conference Call for Proposals

Interested in attending the [2019 Computer Science Teachers Association Annual Conference](#)? Consider submitting a [Call for Proposal](#) for the 2019 CSTA Conference in Phoenix.

Do you have great CS classroom strategies, super ideas for impacting CS education policy, or innovative approaches to teaching CS concepts? Submit a proposal to share them in a workshop or session at the 2019 CSTA Conference in Phoenix, AZ, next July 7-10. Call for Proposals are due December 2, 2018.

Conference details, and a link to the Call for Proposals, can be found at www.csteachers.org/page/2019Conference.

WBEA 2019 Conference in Tucson, AZ, February 14-18—Early-Bird Registration Ends December 7

The Arizona Business Education Association invites you to Tucson, February 14-18, for the [2019 Western Business Education Association Conference](#).

The [2019 Conference](#), *Lasso Your Legacy*, will be held at the [El Conquistador Resort](#) with room rates at \$159 plus tax. Reservations can be made by contacting the El Conquistador at 800.325.7832 and using the group code WBEA to get the conference rate.

Registration is now open and can be completed online at wbeaconference2019.org. The early-bird rate of \$275 is good thru December 7.

For more information about the [2019 WBEA Conference](#), including planned conference tours, please visit wbeaconference2019.org.

CTE U.S. Presidential Scholars Program—Nominate Your Seniors by November 16

The U.S. Presidential Scholars Program was established in 1964, by executive order of the President, to recognize and honor some of our nation's most distinguished graduating high school seniors. In 1979, the program was extended to recognize students who demonstrate exceptional talent in the visual, creative and performing arts.

In 2015, the program was again extended to recognize students who demonstrate ability and accomplishment in career and technical education fields. Each year, up to 161 students are named as Presidential Scholars, one of the nation's highest honors for high school students.

All high school seniors that are CTE Concentrators (3 Credits or more of CTE) and graduating between January and June of 2018, who are U.S. citizens or legal permanent residents and who attend public, parochial, or independent schools, as well as those who are home-schooled, are eligible.

The candidates will go through the application process, and as in the past, the 2019 U.S. Presidential Scholars will be selected by the Commission on Presidential Scholars and receive the Presidential Scholars Medallion at a ceremony in their honor in Washington, DC.

Nominations of Montana CTE students for the 2018 CTE U.S. Presidential Scholars Program are due November 16, 2018.

Details about the [CTE U.S. Presidential Scholars Program](http://opi.mt.gov/Educators/Teaching-Learning/Career-Technical-Education/US-Presidential-Scholars-Program) can be found on the OPI website at <http://opi.mt.gov/Educators/Teaching-Learning/Career-Technical-Education/US-Presidential-Scholars-Program>, along with the [Selection Timeline](#) and [Presidential Scholar Nomination form](#).

The nominations forms are to be sent to via electronic format the appropriate OPI CTE Specialist

--Agriculture Education: Shannon Boswell, Shannon.Boswell@mt.gov

--Business Education: Eric Swenson, ESwenson@mt.gov

--Family & Consumer Sciences Education: Megan Vincent, MVincent2@mt.gov

--Health Science Education: Renee Erlandsen, RErlandsen@mt.gov

--Industrial Trades & Technology Education: Don Michalsky, DMichalsky@mt.gov

Fall 2018 CTE Data Collection—Time to Report Post-Graduation Status of CTE Concentrators for Perkins

The Fall 2018 CTE Data Collection begins on October 1 and ends December 31, 2018. The Fall CTE Data Collection is a follow up to last year's Spring CTE Data Collection. Students identified as CTE Concentrators last year (2017-2018) and graduated in the spring of 2018 should be contacted between October 1 and December 31 and asked their current post-graduation status.

After contact, the appropriate post-graduation status code must be entered into the AIM/Infinite Campus data system for each CTE Concentrator.

All high schools that received funding from the Carl D. Perkins federal grant program in 2017-2018 are required to complete this fall follow up collection to maintain their eligibility to receive Perkins funding.

Instructions for completing the Fall CTE Data Collection—called the '*Quick Reference Guide*' for the Fall CTE Data Collection—are located in two places on the OPI website: on the AIM web page listed in AIM User Guides and also on the CTE web page under the '*Data Collections*' tab.

PLEASE NOTE: Be sure to verify the list of CTE Concentrators from what your district submitted last spring. Any additions, corrections, or changes to the list of CTE Concentrators must be made no later than November 15, 2018, to be accurately reflected in federal reporting and used to compute Perkins Performance Indicators for your school.

Technical AIM questions regarding the Fall CTE Data Collection should be directed to the AIM Helpdesk at 1.877.424.6681 (toll-free) or email opiainhelp@mt.gov. Questions regarding the Carl D. Perkins federal grant program data requirements should be directed to Christy Hendricks, CTE/Perkins Data Control Specialist at 406.444.9019 or email chendricks@mt.gov.

NGPF PAYBACK Challenge: A Scholarship Opportunity for All High School Students

[Next Gen Personal Finance \(nextgenpersonalfinance.org\)](http://nextgenpersonalfinance.org) announces a scholarship opportunity for your students. The [NGPF PAYBACK Challenge](#) seeks to give your students the opportunity to earn scholarships while you simultaneously teach them to make better money decisions about college.

For details, please watch the NGPF PAYBACK Challenge 90-second video at <https://youtu.be/ACNRSTDehb0>.

How to participate in the PAYBACK Challenge

STEP 1: Teachers Register Intent—Once you've filled out this [Intent to Participate form](#), you will receive the Essay Template for your students as well as next steps.

STEP 2: Students Play [PAYBACK](#). *Do you have ELL students?* [PAYBACK can also be played in Spanish.](#)

STEP 3: Students Write A Short Essay—Students choose between TWO prompts and write a 250-word essay. This serves as a great on-the-fly lesson plan or extra credit activity. ELL students are more than welcome to also submit their essay *en español, Tambien*.

STEP 4: Teacher Nominates and Submits ONE (1) student essay—You will receive an email with instructions on how and where to send in nominations AFTER you register (see STEP 1). Check out NGPF [blog post](#) for all the PAYBACK Challenge Rules & Regulations.

Prizes include 10 National Grand Prize Winners at \$5,000 each and 10 Honorable Mention Award winners at \$500 each.

Each state will be represented on the podium—that's right—NGPF is aiming to award scholarships to students from every state.

The deadline for submissions is the end of the day on Wednesday, November 14, 2018.

Department of Defense (DoD) SMART Scholarship Program—Full Tuition + More

The [Department of Defense \(DoD\) SMART Scholarship Program](#) (smartscholarshipprod.service-now.com/smart?id=smart_index) is an opportunity for students pursuing an undergraduate or graduate degree in STEM disciplines to receive a full scholarship and be gainfully employed by the Department of Defense upon degree completion.

SMART Scholars will receive:

- A full tuition scholarship while in school
- An annual stipend
- Summer research internships
- A job after graduating in their STEM field at a cutting edge Department of Defense Facility

Applicants must:

- Be a citizen of the United States and 18 years of age or older
- Have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale
- Be pursuing a technical undergraduate or graduate degree in one of the [21 specified STEM disciplines](#)

For more information, visit smartscholarship.org to learn more and for your students to apply.

A [poster](#) and [brochure](#) can be downloaded to make sharing with students easier.

The deadline to apply is December 1, 2018.

ACTE Region V 2019 Conference in Bozeman—Details for Your Calendars and Funding Budgets

This coming spring, the [Montana Association for the Career & Technical Education](#) (Montana ACTE) will be hosting the [Association for Career and Technical Education's](#) western-region conference in Bozeman.

April 10-13, ACTE member from all across the western US and throughout the Pacific Islands will be taking parting in the [2019 Region V Leadership Conference](#) in Bozeman. The conference, *CTE Roundup Under the Big Sky*, will be held at the GranTree Inn.

Montana ACTE members will be able to register at a discounted rate of \$350, a \$75 savings off the \$425 Early-Bird rate. The deadline to register with the Montana ACTE member rate will be February 15, 2019.

The room rate at the Best Western Plus GranTree Inn is \$94 plus taxes. Reservations can be booked directly with the GranTree Inn by calling 406.587.5261 and using group code *MACTE*.

Details about the 2019 ACTE Region V Leadership Conference, include a tentative schedule, can be found at www.acteonline.org/state_region/region-v. A pre-conference tour to Big Sky and West Yellowstone will be held on Wednesday, April 10 with business/industry tours throughout the Gallatin Valley on Thursday and Friday, April 11 and 12.

If interested in being a part of the conference's program, the [Call for Presentations](#) is now open and can be completed online at <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdbsul0vQzz1sfNgCZf8M335X2QLrSTdWrUPOxCT9a18uzbeQ/viewform>. Breakout sessions will be held Thursday and Friday, April 11 and 12.

Fun Facts and Trivia

Jakarta, the capital of Republic of Indonesia is located on the Northwest coast of the Indonesian Island, Java.

In terms of land size/area covered, Indonesia is the fourth-largest country.

Jakarta is Indonesia's busiest destination in terms of both tourism and commerce.

Jakarta was not always known as Jakarta; it has changed its name five times before finally sticking to the name Jakarta. It was known as Sunda Kelpa from years 397 to 1527; then Jayakarta from 1527 to 1619; in 1619, it was named Batavia and remained so till 1942 when it was changed to Djakarta. Finally, in 1972 it got its present name Jakarta.

The capital city of Indonesia, Jakarta is not a city officially; it is actually a province, but it has gained the special status of being the capital of Republic of Indonesia.

Jakarta occupies the proud position being the 13th largest city in the whole world; it is so large, the metro area has its own special name: Jabodetabek.

In 2016, Jakarta's population was recorded to be more than 10 million.

The city is nicknamed the 'Big Durian', a fruit that is thorny and has a pungent smell—it is seen similar to New York City, or the 'Big Apple.'

Jakarta hosts 'Car-Free Days' on Sundays from 6 am to 9 am where pedestrians do sports and exercises on the streets where cars are usually occupying them.

Jakarta people are crazy shoppers—shopping malls are open 24/7 and there are about 130 shopping malls scattered all over Jakarta city.

Every year, the 'Jakarta Great Sale' is held in June and July to celebrate Jakarta's anniversary.

In 2007, the city made a new law banning people from giving money to beggars and prohibited smoking and spitting on public transportation.

Before the World War II, Indonesia was a Dutch colony and there still remains some past historical facts including the Dutch cannons which still occupy a proud position in the old town of Jakarta.

A survey done by SemioCast in the year 2012 has revealed Jakarta, Indonesia to be one of the world's most active Twitter cities. Twitter is so insanely popular in Jakarta that in 2015 Twitter had officially opened one of its offices in this capital city!

Jakartans loves to eat. Their love for food is so extreme that almost every meeting takes place in restaurant.

Jakarta restaurants and street vendors are open at all time i.e. 24 x 7 with local's claiming the street food is much better than any 5-star restaurant.

If visiting Jakarta, plan to visit the Thousand Islands which is located in the coast of Jakarta. It is a cluster of 76 coral islands where you can dive or go snorkeling; do not miss the fishes and try to spot as many as you can—there are no less than 144 varieties of fish in Thousand Islands.

Issues of the Wednesday Reader are archived on the Montana Business Education Association (MBEA) website at www.mbea.info. The Wednesday Readers are under the Newsletter section and listed most-recent first.

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"You don't make decisions because they are easy; you don't make them because they are cheap; you don't make them because they're popular; you make them because they're right." ~Rev. Theodore Hesburgh