

The Wednesday Reader

December 5, 2018

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

FREE 2019 AICPA Advanced Accounting Trainings—Including Helena, June 24-26, 2019; Registration Now Open

The American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA), the Montana Society of Certified Public Accountants, and the Career & Technical Education division of the Montana Office of Public Instruction are excited to announce a FREE three-day training for the [APBP: Accounting Program for Building the Profession](#) (formerly known as Accounting Pilot & Bridge Project).

The registration for the APBP: Accounting Program for Building the Profession training to be held in Helena at Helena College is now open. The Helena training will be held June 24-26, 2019.

As in past years, the AICPA has partnered with state CPA societies and/or state departments of education throughout the country to bring you training sessions to equip you with higher order accounting curriculum that will increase your students' engagement.

Becoming a part of APBP will enable you to level up your accounting class with more engaging, advanced content. Even better, registration is provided for FREE, courtesy of the AICPA Foundation.

Exclusively for high school accounting teachers, those that complete the full program will also receive:

- Daily lesson plans and assignments
- Pre-written exams with answer keys
- A textbook, including teacher's notes and PowerPoint presentations
- Refresher videos and webcasts
- Continuous support from APBP trainers

Graduate-level college credits and OPI renewal units will be available.

More than 1,000 high school teachers in 42 states have attended the training, received their free materials and been provided ongoing support. Are you interested? Head over to the APBP website (startheregoplaces.com/teacher/apbp-advanced-accounting) to register for the Helena training. To see the topics to be covered in the training, download a [PDF of the sample rubric](#).

Computer Science Week is Here—Sign up for the Hour of Code

This week is the week to participate in the one of the largest learning events in history . . . [Computer Science Education Week](#). From December 3-9, tens of millions of students will gather all around the world to participate in the annual [Hour of Code](#). For many, it is 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.

Get creative with Scratch for Computer Science Education Week

Celebrate CSEdWeek with Scratch 3.0. This year, Scratch (www.scratch.mit.edu) is featuring two new creative coding activities, providing kids with opportunities to create imaginative projects based on their interests.

In anticipation of the official release of Scratch 3.0 on January 2, 2019, we're inviting everyone to create projects using the [Beta version of Scratch 3.0](#) (beta.scratch.mit.edu/).

Create Animations That Talk: Bring characters to life in Scratch using new Text-to-Speech blocks powered by Amazon Web Services. This project will show you how to create talking animations that spin, zoom, and change colors. The possibilities are endless.

Animate an Adventure Game: Send your favorite Cartoon Network characters on a quest, from the farthest reaches of the universe to the edge of Craig's creek. Unlock secret treasures and discover new characters while creating an adventure game.

Looking for CSEdWeek ideas using Scratch 2.0? Visit the [Tips page](#) at scratch.mit.edu/tips for starter projects, activity cards, tutorials, educator guides, and more.

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.

Attend a FREE Webcast-Oracle Academy Presents: Get Your Students Started in Programming Using Alice

Are you looking to engage your students in programming using innovative tools? Attend a free webcast-Oracle Academy Presents: Get Your Students Started in Programming Using Alice.

Alice (alice.org) is an innovative Carnegie Mellon block-based programming environment that makes it easy to create 3D animations, build interactive narratives, or program simple games. Alice motivates learning through creative exploration and teaches logical and computational thinking skills and fundamental principles of programming. It can be used for teaching object-oriented programming to students of all ages.

Join Oracle Academy and The Alice Project director Eric Brown in this live webcast that will cover:

- 1) A live demo of Alice world
- 2) Fun ways to use Alice to get your students started in programming
- 3) Free Oracle Academy resources using Alice

Date & Time: January 9, 2019 at 3 pm (Mountain Standard Time)

Join us for this free webcast and learn more about using Alice to teach object-oriented programming in your classroom.

To register for the webcast, please go to

<https://event.on24.com/eventRegistration/EventLobbyServlet?target=reg20.jsp&referrer=&eventid=1880364&sessionid=1&key=21E87B7CF12E8694690FB584EC6C5C82®Tag=&sourcepage=register>.

U.S. Computing Olympiad Announces 2018-2019 Season

The USA Computing Olympiad (USACO) provides free online training materials and programming contests to prepare and equip pre-college students with coding and computational problem solving skills.

USACO (usaco.org) offers four online programming contests (about 3-5 hours in length) at four separate levels—free, open, and accessible to all (even students with no algorithmic training).

While targeted to pre-college students, others may compete and be ranked separately as observers. Submissions in C, C++, Java, Pascal, or Python will be accepted.

Students can schedule and complete their contest individually at anytime during the following windows (all web-based with proctoring or pre-registration required):

- December 14-17
- January 18-21
- February 22-25
- March 29-April 1

Looking to improve algorithmic coding skills? The USACO website, usaco.org, offers several free training and practice materials, including prior contest problems and solutions.

Contact Brian C. Dean (bcdean@clemsun.edu) with any further questions.

Unity Game Programming for Your Classroom

CompuScholar is pleased to announce their latest course, "[Unity Game Programming](#)". You can teach your students fundamental programming skills using the popular Unity game engine. Students will be immersed in video game design from the beginning and complete hands-on game projects in every chapter. Along the way, students will learn all the C# skills found in typical introductory coding courses. Who knew that flow control, functions, arrays and OOP could be so much fun?

CompuScholar's turn-key online teaching system (www.compuscholar.com/schools) includes multi-media instruction, automated quizzes and tests, a syllabus, teacher's guides, fully coded activity solutions, and built-in professional development.

Novice and experienced teachers alike will appreciate our full-year roadmap for success in the classroom, including regular outreach, free technical support and comprehensive reporting.

New classrooms can be rolled out quickly at any time. Visit us today at www.compuscholar.com/schools/courses/unity to get started.

Montana Teenpreneur Roundup—Submission Portal Now Open

Calling all BPA and DECA advisors. Will your students be entering a Competitive Event for entrepreneurship-related categories OR do they operate a School-Based Enterprise?

If YES, you should encourage them to submit entries to [Montana Teenpreneur Roundup](#) where they can receive cash prizes and a free 4-day entrepreneurship workshop at MSU.

The *Roundup* provides BPA and DECA students a great “twofer” opportunity to win prizes and receive statewide recognition for their business savvy while also preparing for their CTSO competitions. *Roundup* submissions can copy-and-paste from materials they create for Competitive Events and our business summary template is easy to complete for students running a SBE.

Submission deadline is February 10, 2019.

Visit the [Montana Teenpreneur Roundup](#) homepage for information about our two submission categories, examples from last year's entries to help guide your students, evaluation rubrics our judges will use, and much more.

The *Roundup* is part of a suite of entrepreneurship-related programs for high school students and educators hosted by Bozeman-based [One Montana](#). For additional information or questions, contact Jim Masker at jim@OneMontana.org.

State Match Funding for Broadband Internet Access

The [Montana Department of Commerce Community Development Division](#) is accepting applications for state match funding for schools to upgrade their internet access. All public Montana K-12 schools are eligible to apply regardless of location.

Visit the [Community Development Division's website](#) for the application and more information about the program.

New for 2018—the Bank On It!® Challenge Online Accounting Game has been Taken to a New Level

[Bank On It](#) (bankonitgame.com), the ever-popular online game created to reinforce the accounting fundamentals you're teaching, has been expanded once again. This new **Advanced Accounting** version takes things up a notch with an entirely new game board and more complex questions on topics such as Fixed Assets, Inventory, Time Value of Money and Debt & Equity financing.

The advanced version also gives students the opportunity to complete high-level financial statement analysis through a new feature that puts financial statements right in the game. And like all of our [Bank On It](#) versions, it can be played in the classroom, on the go or via tournaments.

So whether you're new to Bank On It or it's already a classroom staple, learn more about our new advanced version by trying a game for yourself or downloading the updated [Educator's Guide](#) (startheregoplaces.com/teacher/classroom-resources/bank-it-game-and-educators-guide)

2018-2019 Montana Teenpreneur Roundup Now Open for Student Submissions

Do you teach students who exhibit an innovative spirit, the kind who ask "How might we?" or "Couldn't we try it this way?" or "I have an idea." Are you looking for a unique Project-Based Learning activity to try with your students? If yes, then please help us find, celebrate and reward Montana's next generation of entrepreneurs and innovators. You know who they are for they are already sitting in your classroom and participating in your CTSO club.

Now in its third year, [Montana Teenpreneur Roundup](#), sponsored by Bozeman-based nonprofit [One Montana \(onemontana.org\)](#) provides high school students an opportunity to demonstrate their creativity by submitting ideas for innovative products and services that solve problems in their lives and for solutions they see to improve their communities, Montana and the country, as a whole.

Since 2017, the *Roundup* has distributed \$5,000 to students with innovative ideas and their teachers. Students are celebrated during an awards ceremony hosted by the Governor at the Capitol. And, they are eligible to attend an all-expenses-paid 4-day accelerated entrepreneurship workshop at Montana State University.

The *Roundup* seeks students who have...

Category 1- New Business Ideas: Students with innovative ideas for new products or services that have the potential to improve our lives. It doesn't matter if the idea is serious or whimsical as long as it is an innovative solution to a contemporary problem.

Category 2- Existing Businesses: Students who already run small businesses. Some do it to earn spending money, while some do it as fundraising projects for their school clubs. It doesn't matter how small the existing business is, as long as it is profitable.

For more information about *Montana Teenpreneur Roundup*, go to www.OneMontana.org and click on the hyperlink for the *Roundup*.

Looking for Resources to Teach Online Safety? Try these Free Online Resources

Microsoft Education (education.microsoft.com) has developed free online safety resources for parents, students, and educators. [Visit their website \(education.microsoft.com/onlinesafety\)](#) for more a variety of resources to boost your online safety curriculum.

Common Sense Media (commonsensemedia.org) also has great online resources for [parents](#) and [educators](#).

Google's [Be Internet Awesome \(beinternetawesome.withgoogle.com/en\)](http://beinternetawesome.withgoogle.com/en) site also has resources and curriculum to help teach students how to be safe online.

Graduate Credit Available for ACTE Region V 2019 Leadership Conference—Only \$99

The [ACTE Region V's 2019 Leadership Conference](#) will be held in Bozeman, Montana, April 10-13, and Montana ACTE is excited to provide attendees with an added benefit. Attendees of the ACTE Region V 2019 Leadership Conference will be able to earn graduate-level college credit from Montana State University Billings. The cost for the credit is \$99.00—and keep in mind Montana does not have a sales tax.

The Montana Association for Career and Technical Education has partnered with Montana State University Billings to provide ACTE Region V 2019 Leadership Conference participants with the option to earn one (1) graduate-level credit from MSU Billings' Extended Campus. Registration and payment for the credit can be completed at <https://goo.gl/7k4WRi>.

The credit, EDCI 589-400, is not applicable to a Master's degree offered by MSU Billings; however, the credit may be used to fulfil K-12 licensure requirements, "lane changes," or other continuing education requirements for professionals.

[ACTE Region V 2019 Leadership Conference](#) attendees who wish to earn the graduate credit will be required to provide proof of registration and attendance (such as a copy of registration receipt and nametag), a provide a written agenda/synopsis listing all the conference sessions and all the conference-related activities attended (including workshops, tours, networking sessions, etc.), and create a lesson plan in which materials and/or resources gained from the ACTE Region V 2019 Leadership Conference are implemented. All materials will need to be submitted by May 3, 2019.

For complete details about the credit offering, including a syllabus, a template for the lesson plan, directions for utilizing the lesson plan template, and a copy of the rubric which will be used to evaluate the lesson plan and lesson materials can be found on the ACTE Region V website at www.acteonline.org/region-page/region-v-events along with other details regarding the 2019 event in Bozeman.

Questions regarding the graduate credit offering can be sent to Eric Swenson at eswenson@mt.gov. See you in Bozeman.

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.

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.

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.

Fun Facts and Trivia

The earliest incarnation of Mexico City was in 1325, when the Mexica people, now known as the Aztecs, built the city of Tenochtitlán on an island in the center of a Valley of Mexico lake system.

Mexico City is built on a lake called Texcoco.

The original name of Mexico City is Tenochtitlan in the local indigenous language (Nahuatl); the name was preserved by the Spanish crown, but then changed to Mexico in 1585.

The word “Mexico” is a Nahuatl word meaning the “*bellybutton of the moon*”—Metztli (moon), Xictli (bellybutton) and co (place).

The city is constantly sinking and has sunk more than 30 feet in some areas over the last 100 years.

Mexico City has had many nicknames in the past including “City of the Palaces”, “City of Hope” and “Capital in Movement”.

More than 20 million people live in Mexico City.

The population of Mexico City has grown by more than 20 million people in just over 110 years, from 500,000 in 1900 to 21.2 million people in 2012.

Mexico City is the largest metropolitan area in the western hemisphere and the largest Spanish-speaking city in the world.

Over 600,000 U.S. Americans live in Mexico City; the largest concentration of Americans living outside of the USA.

Mexico City’s Metro is the largest in Latin America and the cheapest in the world at only 3 pesos per journey (\$0.23 USD).

The city is so big and the traffic so bad that the super-rich have taken to using helicopters to get from one place to another; you can often see them landing on the tops of buildings.

Avenida de los Insurgentes is one of the longest avenues in the world.

Mexico City International Airport is Latin America’s largest and busiest airport.

Mexico City has the most museums in the world, with more than 160, almost all of which are free on Sundays.

Mexico City has the fourth highest number of theatres in the world after New York, London and Toronto.

Mexico City is also home to the largest amusement park in Latin America, Six Flags Mexico.

Mexico City is home to the only real castle in the Americas; the Chapultepec Castle was home to the Spanish viceroys and the Austrian Emperor Maximilian of Habsburg, and is a museum today.

The food in Mexico City is among the best Mexican food you will ever have in the entire country because it gathers the flavors from all states.

Bosque de Chapultepec is the biggest city park in America; with an area of 1,695 acres, it is twice the size of Central Park, which is 840 acres.

Mexico City has won over 400 Guinness Records with few of the most notable ones being The Biggest Flower Carpet in the World, The Largest Group of People Dancing Thriller, The Largest Group of Naked People in Public, The Biggest Vintage Cars Parade, and The Largest Group of People Kissing.

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