



NEWS

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GIRLS INC. OF CARPINTERIA TEACHES TEENS TO CODE THEIR WAY TO A SUCCESSFUL FUTURE

Local nonprofit hosts coding workshop in support of Google's 'Made with Code' initiative to help spark girls' passion for computer science

CARPINTERIA, CALIFORNIA, December 15, 2014 — [Girls Inc. of Carpinteria](#), a nonprofit organization that seeks to inspire girls to be strong, smart, and bold, held a “coding party” on Friday, December 12 in support of [Made with Code](#), the Google initiative aimed to inspire millions of girls to learn to code, and to help them see coding as a means to pursue their dream careers.

Approximately 25 local teenage girls, including current and former members of Girls Inc.'s [Teen Program](#), participated in the workshop, putting their creative minds into high-gear and exploring the countless possibilities of what can be done through code.

Following a brief overview about Made with Code and how coding touches every part of our world, the girls selected one of the five creative projects offered to jump into – from composing their own unique soundtrack to building an avatar with 3D personality – all through code.

The workshops are designed to introduce girls to the field of computer science, to help spark and encourage their interests in science and technology.

“As parents, teachers and role models, we all have a responsibility to help make coding relevant and exciting for girls, and to provide them with just as much encouragement as we do for boys,” said Victoria Juarez, executive director of Girls Inc. of Carpinteria. “Google’s Made with Code initiative falls in line with our commitment at Girls Inc. to teaching girls that no matter what they want to do with their futures, STEM skills—including computer science—can help them get there.”

In June, Girls Inc. National joined Google and fellow supporters, including Chelsea Clinton, Girl Scouts of the USA, TechCrunch, Seventeen, Mindy Kaling, MIT Media Lab, and National Center for Women & Information Technology (NCWIT), to kick off Made with Code.

During 2014, Girls Inc. has hosted coding parties throughout its network reaching thousands of girls with an introduction to coding, building upon programming where girls explore science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) as part of their lives and potential career options. In addition, an intensive coding program will be piloted in early 2015.

Made with Code also features stories of women and girl coders who are creating a diverse array of projects with code, as well as introductory coding projects that can help build girls' confidence and show them they can code.

Girls Inc. of Carpinteria currently serves more than 700 girls each year through a variety of programs, in which girls learn to set and achieve goals, boldly confront challenges, resist peer pressure, see college as attainable, and explore nontraditional fields such as STEM.

Girls Inc. is also hosting similar coding workshops throughout this month in Ventura County, with its [Juvenile Justice Program](#).

For more information about Girls Inc. of Carpinteria or its programs, please visit www.girlsinc-carp.org or call (805) 684-6364.

About Girls Inc. of Carpinteria

Girls Inc. of Carpinteria is a member of Girls Incorporated®, a nonprofit organization that inspires all girls to be strong, smart, and bold. With local roots dating to 1864 and national status since 1945, Girls Inc. has responded to the changing needs of girls through research-based programs and public education efforts that empower girls to understand, value, and assert their rights. We provide programs for girls 6 to 18 years old that focus on science, math, and technology; health and sexuality; economic and financial literacy; sports skills; leadership and advocacy; and media literacy. To learn more, become a volunteer or offer support, please visit www.girlsinc-carp.org/.

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