Newsletter, July 2016

FLASTEM Friends,
Thank you for registering and participating in one of our coding workshops. If you are scheduled to attend a future workshop, please continue to read further as the newsletter contains some of the exciting educational events in coding and robotics scheduled in next few weeks. Here is a brief overview about our initiative:

Who We Are

Started by a STEM high-school sophomore in spring 2015, FLASTEM fosters STEM learning with focus in computing, robotics, and technology for K-8 students and aim to provide connected learning opportunities for diverse group of students. The mission is to engage the underrepresented and varied group of students in K-8 grades and spark an interest in robotics, programming & technology by providing hands-on workshops and project-based learning beyond the classrooms.

What We Do

Our program is run by high-school students who have a background in robotics and computer science and a passion for serving their local communities as role models for K-8 students. Using an innovative approach to student mentoring and volunteerism, the high school students are able to connect with K-8 students who have never had previous exposure to these fields and break some of the stereotypes among future makers by educating them about the importance of being technology-savvy in the 21st century. We plan to impact learning outcomes not only in Pinellas and neighboring school districts of the Tampa Bay region but also across the entire state of Florida.

Why FLASTEM

Learning computer programming and technology have become an essential requirement in every research and study major. With active learning engagements through self-guided workshops and do-it-yourself activities beyond the classrooms, FLASTEM plans to increase K-8 engagement in Robotics and Coding so that the students are well prepared for future learning choices and identify with technology and computer programming disciplines. The outreach initiative also promotes learning of 21st-century soft skills including creativity, problem-solving, critical thinking, and collaborative learning to build students' understanding in these fields and unlock the potential to tackle current and future challenges faced by communities.

Upcoming Events:

Coding 101: Mobile Apps, Animation, and Game Programming – **Wed, Aug 3,** SPC Seminole. Visit site [for more information.](#)

FLASTEM Technology Challenge 2016: Project submission deadline – **Thurs, Aug 11**, online. Visit site [for more information.](#)

Remember to like us and follow on [Facebook](#) and [twitter](#) for latest announcements. If you are interested in coding, robotics, and all-things-technology, join our network of volunteers and start making an impact! Visit our [website](#) for more information.
Best,
FLASTEM Outreach Team