Verizon STEM Achievers Program @ Cal State LA Newsletter JULY 7, 2023

Hello Verizon STEM Achievers! We had an exciting second week and hope this newsletter allows you to learn more about what we did.

We are committed to serve students and families to promote access to technology and quality STEM education. We are looking forward to seeing what students continue achieve and create in our STEM-Infused lessons.

- Dr. Jessica Morales-Chicas

Program Reminders and Updates

The last day of our summer session is **July 14th, 2023 (Friday).**

Our culminating ceremony will take place on **July 14th, 2023** (Friday) from **2:30pm-4:00pm** in **Golden Eagle Ballroom 1 & 2**. Given our space constraints, only **2 guests are allowed per student.** Parking will be in lot C and will need to be purchased at the pay-by-space kiosk at the lot.

Please remember to email Dr. Morales-Chicas for any excused absence at: jmora163@calstatela.edu

What we learned this week:

Theme 1 (Mentoring):
- Adaptability
- Individuality within groups
- Creativity and Imagination
- Critical Thinking

Theme 2 (Immersive Media):
- Model and code VR Stories in CoSpaces
- Recreating scenes from Hansel & Gretel using CoSpaces
- Using images to create a 360 tour in CoSpaces
- Utilize CoBlocks to make the tour interactive or automated

Theme 3 (Digital Product Innovation):
- Define architecture and scale
- Recreate a scale model of the Parthenon in TinkerCAD
- Define ergonomic and organic
- Prototype, 3D model, and 3D print an ergonomic pencil grip

Theme 4 (Smart Solutions):
- Use “If/Else” statements to encrypt information
- Using Micro:bit devices, create a wireless emergency communication device for the Atlantis Expedition
- Use advance coding features like if statements, while loops, and variables to code Micro:bit games

Theme 5 (Artificial Intelligence & Robotics):
- Work with other teams to draw a map for the Sphero RVR (robot)
- Program the Sphero RVR to drive autonomously with block coding
- Create a program to navigate various levels of maps/courses calculating distance, speed, and angle of turn

Week 2 Student Spotlight

Meet Angel Garcia!

"It's really fun. Coding is harder than I thought, but I'm getting it. I thought it would be simple, like moving things around and stuff like that, but it's a whole list of things. I've been interested in coding but I had not taken any classes on it. The project that I am looking forward to is the one where I get to build a small app. When I grow up I want to have a job that has to do with science, like computer science." – Angel Garcia

Meet Valentino Aviña!

"It's really fun. I like the variety of things we do everyday. It keeps me busy considering that the classes are two hours long. We are doing things like remaking Hansel and Gretel in CoSpaces, making 3D models on TikerCAD. We made rings and then we made the Parthenon. I don't know what I want to be when I grow up. At first, I wanted to be a librarian, but now I am considering other possibilities." - Valentino Aviña

Meet Aisen Leach!

"The camp is fun, we were coding a rock paper scissors micro bit; I find it eazy. This is my first time taking a coding class, it is fun. One of the projects I am most exited for is the robot, where you control the robot and make it go through a course that we make. I already started coding the robot and we got it to make turns and knock over stuff. When I grow up I want to be a chef." – Aisen Leach

Us in Action!