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ARIZONA SCIENCE CENTER BRINGS COMPUTER SCIENCE WORKSHOPS TO EDUCATORS IN UNDERSERVED SCHOOL DISTRICTS THROUGH REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP WITH CODE.ORG

PHOENIX (Aug. 28, 2019) – Arizona's technology sector is booming, as evidenced by the CompTIA *Cyberstates 2019* report showing a year-over-year net job gain of 5,127 in available tech sector jobs. Currently, Arizona has nearly 10,000 available jobs in the tech and coding space—nearly three times that of the number of qualified workers. To change that equation, <u>Code.org</u>, a national nonprofit committed to expanding access to computer science in schools, has announced Arizona Science Center as its regional partner bringing its curriculum to the educators at underserved schools throughout Arizona.

Thanks to financial support from Arizona Public Service (APS) Foundation and Go Daddy, the Arizona Science Center Learning Team, in partnership with Code.org, will be conducting workshops across the state to train educators and administrators on the latest computer science curricula and empower them to bring the lessons into their classrooms. Arizona Science Center will be offering one day workshops on CS Fundamentals throughout the coming school year for teachers K-5 to learn the basics of the Code.org curriculum.

Applications for CS Principles and CS Discoveries for middle and high school teachers will open later in the fall. These are yearlong cohorts that take teachers through detailed lessons and curriculum that they can implement in their classrooms.

"Coding and computer science are subjects that can intimidate educators; the programs developed by Code.org are designed to take the myth out of the equation," says Dr. Rob Robertson, senior vice president of learning partnerships at Arizona Science Center. "As a Code.org Regional Partner, we're excited to work directly with teachers and administrators across the state to show them that computer science is a teachable subject that can have a hugely positive impact on the futures of their students and our state."

Those interested in teaching computer science are invited to visit www.azscience.org/codeorg or email cs@azscience.org to explore training options and scholarship information.

ABOUT ARIZONA SCIENCE CENTER

The mission of Arizona Science Center is to inspire, educate and engage curious minds through science. The Center, located at 600 E. Washington Street in downtown Phoenix, features more than 300 hands-on exhibits, live demonstrations, the state-of-the-art Dorrance Planetarium, and the five-story Irene P. Flinn Giant Screen Theater. Adjacent to the main building is CREATE at Arizona Science Center®,

a 6,500-square foot community makerspace providing workshops including 3D printing, laser cutting, microcontrollers, woodworking, and sewing. The Center also offers various programs for all ages including CAMP INNOVATION, Preschool Saturday Science, professional development and learning for educators, and a monthly adults-only evening titled Science With A Twist. For additional details, please visit azscience.org.

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