

Lisette Estrella-Henderson, Superintendent of Schools

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NEWS RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Solano County Office of Education Hosts UC Davis C-STEM Girls in Robotics Leadership (GIRL) Camps

The Solano County Office of Education (SCOE) is partnering with UC Davis Computing-Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (C-STEM) to bring Girls in Robotics Leadership (GIRL) Camps to Solano County for free. These camps are focused on introducing and motivating middle school girls to learn computing and STEM concepts through a fun and robotics-based curriculum.

"The Solano County Office of Education is excited to partner with UC Davis C-STEM to offer GIRL Camps in Solano County. This is an excellent opportunity for our middle school girls to learn coding and robotics through engaging hands-on activities. We hope to inspire more girls to consider engineering and related fields as a possible career," says Lisette Estrella-Henderson, Solano County Superintendent of Schools. Superintendent Estrella-Henderson serves on the C-STEM GIRL Advisory Board that provides valuable information and recommendations on community activities, robotics competitions, peer mentoring and other leadership opportunities for girls. More information about the C-STEM GIRL Advisory Board may be found at <u>http://c-stem.ucdavis.edu/students-parents/girls-camp/girl-advisory-board/.</u>

In these five-day camps, the girls learn teamwork, communication, and leadership skills. They will be introduced to robotics, principles in engineering and computer programming with a user-friendly RoboBlockly and Ch/C/C++ with a mock-up RoboPlay Challenge Competition. The girls will also learn film production and the creative process involved in making short videos with robotics in the context of a global problem. The best video from the camp can be submitted to next year's RoboPlay Video Competition at UC Davis. The week ends with student teams presenting their projects and celebration of the GIRL.

These camps are open to any middle school girl in Solano County. There are two opportunities for them to join the five-day camp. The first GIRL Camp is on June 11-15 from 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. at the Solano Community College in Fairfield. The second GIRL Camp is on June 18-22 from 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. at the Solano Community College in Vallejo. To apply, please email Lilibeth Pinpin at <u>lpinpin@solanocoe.net</u>.

For more information about the GIRL Camps, contact Lilibeth Pinpin, Director of Innovative Programs and Student Success at SCOE at lpinpin@solanocoe.net or 707-399-4439.

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