

PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Flour Bluff High School Library Receives Funding to Develop Youth Coding Programs

Flour Bluff High School Library has received \$500 from the American Library Association (ALA) to help plan and implement coding activities during <u>Computer Science Education (CS Ed) Week</u> 2018 (December 3-9) and beyond. Flour Bluff High School Library is one of 250 school and public libraries around the country to receive this microfunding from <u>Libraries Ready to Code</u>, an initiative of the American Library Association sponsored by Google.

Flour Bluff High School Librarian, Sarah Chapman said, "This is a great opportunity and we are so excited to be a part of the ALA's efforts to promote *Libraries Ready to Code*. Using the library setting allows students a creative space to explore the world of coding."

"Libraries are the cornerstones of our communities," said Google program manager, Nicky Rigg. "We are proud to include Flour Bluff High School Library in our CS Ed Week activities this year. We hope these libraries will join the growing number of libraries excited to offer CS programs that help youth create, problem solve and develop the confidence and skills to succeed in their future careers."

"ALA is pleased to provide microfunding to Flour Bluff High School Library and other Ready to Code libraries," said ALA President Loida Garcia-Febo. "We hope this microfunding will not only generate enthusiasm for CS Ed Week, but spark year-round programming to develop critical thinking and digital skills youth can draw on over a lifetime."

The 250 libraries selected for CS Ed Week funding will each host activities based on Google's free CS First curriculum, which uses video-based instruction to introduce CS to kids through block-based coding. Libraries will pursue projects that reflect Ready to Code themes critical for advancing youth learning, especially for building computational thinking literacies. The Ready to Code team estimates that the CS Ed Week funding will support more than 60,000 youth all around the country taking part in coding activities throughout the week.

About Flour Bluff High School Library: The mission of the Flour Bluff ISD Library program is to ensure that students and staff are effective users of ideas and information, promote the enjoyment of literature and reading, and encourage lifelong learning.