



Summer

Horizons

An Environment for Effective Teaching & Learning Summer - 8/3/2018

HAUPPAUGE STUDENTS ARE STAYING BUSY THIS SUMMER!

HAUPPAUGE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS WELCOME CHALLENGES IN A COMPUTER SCIENCE SUMMER ENRICHMENT COURSE

This summer, Hauppauge High School students were invited to participate in the first-ever *Hauppauge Computer Science Summer Enrichment Course*. Students who participate in the class learn how to code through game development and data visualization. Beginners to experienced programmers were welcome to join the class. This course is offered three times during the summer; July 23-26, August 6-9 and August 27-30. Each week is being taught by one of our high school teachers; Dennis Petercsak, Physics and Computer Science; Briana Becker, Physics and Computer Science and Frank Hufnagel, Business and School to Career Coordinator.

Visiting this class on a hot summer morning, I found a group of students hard at work on various projects. Mr. Petercsak who was the teacher for this session, explained that students were working on blending several different coding programs to put together a project and from there build portfolios. He said that they are able to work through the



Rocco Lofria

OYO, (which stands for “Own Your Own”) website. They then have access through OYO to use programs such as *Python* and *Hatch*. The OYO platform enables students to code freely online. If a student has a problem with something they are working on or a question, especially from home, they are able to contact an OYO mentor.

Students are also able to have membership in a Hauppauge High School “Common Page” which they gain access to by being involved in coding or computer science. Through the challenges which are displayed on this page, they are able to earn badges. This is a page through Hauppauge High School for teachers and students.

Rocco Lofria, an incoming Senior, was working on creating a website and was using coding on different sections of his website with the *Python* and *Hatch* programs. Rocco has been working on tasks in order to earn badges in the completion of his website.

Kevin Murphy, an incoming Junior, said that this class is his first introduction to coding. He said that he took the class to see if it would be something he might be interested in doing. He said he may stay involved with coding because he does find it interesting.

Also taking this class was Jaikar Sai Muppidi, an incoming Freshman, who was working hard on earning badges. Since this program is accessible from anywhere, the students are able to work on it from home and continue what they learn in class. Jaikar has earned a number of badges this way.

Mr. Peterscak said that the students are able to work in this program whether they are taking classes at the present time in high school or not. It is something they can continue learning with on their own time.

This was the first session of a three-week enrichment course. Students were able to sign up for multiple weeks and become stronger in coding. Mr. Peterscak said “We are here to give them the basics. Students can work on this any time and anywhere they want to.” Mr. Peterscak feels that coding can help a student with their problem-solving skills. “If they are trying to get over an obstacle with their project, they can go back and figure out what was wrong and try again.”



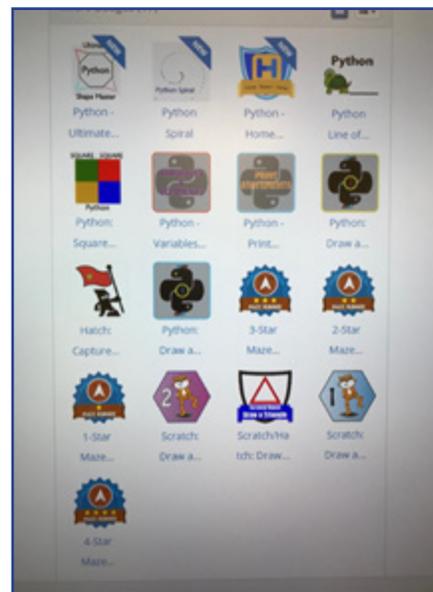
Kevin Murphy



Jaikar Sai Muppidi



**Dennis Peterscak
Teacher of
Physics and Computer Science
Hauppauge HS**



If you are interested in signing up for one, or both, of the remaining two sessions; August 6-9 and August 27-30, there are still a few spots open! Follow the QR Code to register! (You must be logged into a Hauppauge Google Account to register.)



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