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June 6, 2018

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Cabrillo Extension Partners with Local Organizations to Bring Life-Changing Experiences to Local Youth Through Innovative Summer Camps

APTOS, CA – This summer the Cabrillo Extension Summer Youth Program will offer more than 150 youth camps focusing on a variety of subjects, including science and engineering, computers and technology, cooking and healthy eating, sports and movement, academics and leadership, and creative arts. The camps will be held on Cabrillo’s Aptos and Watsonville campuses, as well as other locations in Santa Cruz County. Camps are available for students age 4 to 17. Young students can enjoy the state of the art facilities at Cabrillo College and other unique learning environments while they explore careers, learn new skills, and make connections that will last a lifetime.

Several of the Cabrillo Extension’s Summer Youth Program Camps are the result of collaborations with Santa Cruz start-ups and community-based organizations. Cabrillo Extension has partnered with Seafloor Science Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV), Mini Mermaid Running Club, Code Naturally, Kuumbwa Jazz, and El Pajaro CDC Kitchen Incubator on camps that utilize dynamic, innovative models for education, are led by local scientists, musicians and community activists, and are designed to have a lasting impact on a child’s life.

Detailed information about each of the camps is below.

Seafloor Science ROV Camp

Dr. C. Geoff Wheat, a Research Professor at the University of Alaska, Fairbanks, an Adjunct Scientist at the Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute, and one of the founders of Seafloor Science and Remotely Operated Vehicle Camp, said “As the Seafloor Science and Remotely Operated Vehicle Camp (SSROV) begins our fourth year, we are thrilled to provide the camp through Cabrillo Extension. Our camp adds to the mission of this outstanding educational institution and we are proud to partner with other like-minded, forward-looking institutions that focus on enhancing the students’ experience.”

The camp will offer campers the opportunity to discover the exciting field of ocean exploration from both a technical and environmental view point. “For kids who have wondered about deep-sea exploration, the (SSROV) Camp is the answer. This is a unique, week-long summer day camp that started in 2014. We have built upon 25 years of ocean exploration and research to provide a hands-on learning experience for campers at two levels, those entering grades 3-5 and 6-9. The camp provides a learning experience that gives students an eye into the world of deep-sea exploration through scientific, technical and environmental perspectives. Campers are challenged by STEM-based activities that allow them to test new ideas and concepts in a stimulating, confidence- building atmosphere. We are looking forward to



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seeing local kids ‘take the plunge’ and join us this summer at Cabrillo to get their hands wet,” continued Dr. Wheat.

Kuumbwa Jazz Camp

Campers will also have access to Cabrillo’s state of the art performing arts and music venues in the Visual and Performing Arts Complex, as well as Kuumbwa Jazz Center stage, during the Kuumbwa Jazz Camp. Brian Fitzgerald, Artist Administrator and Education Coordinator at Kuumbwa Jazz, says his organization has a long, shared history of dedication to excellence in music education with Cabrillo College. “Since Kuumbwa Jazz began in 1975, education has been at the heart of our mission, now bringing jazz to over 1,000 students each year through our music education programs. Cabrillo has provided a home for our Summer Jazz Camp and shares our aim of extending fun and impactful learning opportunities throughout our community. We are very happy to have our Summer Jazz Camp be part of the Cabrillo Extension family. Kuumbwa envisions a community where all people can experience the joy of music and understand the value and legacy of jazz as an original American art form. Our education programs and partnerships, such as with Cabrillo, help us to achieve that goal.”

Code Naturally Summer Camp

Students in the Extension Summer Youth Program will also be exploring math and coding as a tool for creativity and design. Through a partnership with local tech start-up Code Naturally, students program in Javascript and make college-level projects. Code Naturally founder, Sukh Singh, says of the partnership with Cabrillo Extension “Code Naturally couldn’t be more excited about our partnership with Cabrillo Extension. Our Code Center in Downtown Santa Cruz can be quite a commute for parents coming from Monterey, Pajaro, Aptos, and Capitola. Our camps at Cabrillo Extension offer the perfect solution, while providing a beautiful location, great computers, and awesome support staff. This is our first time hosting a camp with Cabrillo Extension and the parent response has already been fantastic!” Cabrillo Extension and Code Naturally are also offering a girl’s coding camp this summer. Singh emphasized their shared commitment to encouraging young women to follow their dreams by introducing a broader range of knowledge and ideas through STEAM education, “We are extremely grateful that the Cabrillo Extension team was on board for our Girls Code Camp. We are dedicated to promoting women in STEM education paths and careers, while also giving young girls a summer experience that they won’t forget!”

Mini Mermaids Running Club Summer Camp

Heidi Boynton, founder of Mini Mermaid Running Club is also excited to partner with Cabrillo Extension this summer to share their empowering curriculum with girls in Santa Cruz County. “Mini Mermaid Running Club believes in harnessing the collective power of our communities and we are pleased to partner with Cabrillo Extension for their summer youth program. Often Mini Mermaids is offered in an afterschool setting and girls aren’t always able to attend. Having access to Mini Mermaids during the summer means more girls can experience the benefit of getting to know their inner self, developing resilience, managing peer relations and, having an increased physical self-awareness. Thanks to Cabrillo Extension Summer Youth Program and their enthusiasm for empowering children in Santa Cruz County, we can help more girls establish and achieve goals, as well as be kind, authentic voices among their peers and in their communities. With support and access to Cabrillo facilities, girls will learn to broaden the definition of strength beyond the physical and discover the finish line of the race is just the beginning of their journey in life. This our first ever Mini Mermaid Summer Camp and we can’t wait!”



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Teen Chef: Farm to Table Healthy Cooking Camp

Another innovative partner Cabrillo Extension is working with is El Pajaro Community Development Center's incubator kitchen. Teen Chef: Farm to Table Healthy Cooking Camp, which is held at the CDC Incubator Kitchen in Watsonville, offers students the opportunity to learn about nutrition, wellness, and the "farm-to-table" concept. Carmen Herrera-Mansir, Executive Director of El Pajaro CDC, says of the collaboration with Cabrillo Extension "We are honored and excited to partner with Cabrillo Extension to bring meaningful food systems education to the youth of the Pajaro Valley. This aligns with our mission of equal access to economic opportunity and our commitment to fostering the development of an inclusive and equitable community."

Jill Gallo, Assistant Director for Cabrillo Extension and Cabrillo Extension's Summer Youth Program Director, said "We can offer the very best opportunities to our community members by collaborating with entrepreneurs and small businesses with a shared mission, values and vision. By partnering with these local organizations, Cabrillo Extension delivers innovative, relevant learning opportunities to the community, while offering these organizations the opportunity to amplify their impact and expand their reach. It's a win for everyone!"

For additional information about Cabrillo Extension Summer Youth Programs and its partner organizations, please visit: www.cabrillo-extension.org or call 831-479-6331.

About Cabrillo College

Cabrillo College is a leading California community college serving Santa Cruz County with locations in Aptos and Watsonville. It is ranked #1 in transfers to UC Santa Cruz. Founded in 1959, the college offers over 100 academic and career technical education programs that serve multiple educational goals such as A.A. and A.S. degrees, certificates of achievement, skills certificates, transfer to 4-year institutions, lifelong learning, personal enrichment, and summer youth programs. Cabrillo College is a dynamic, diverse and responsive educational community that is dedicated to helping all students achieve their academic, career, and personal development goals.

About Code Naturally

Code Naturally transforms students from consumers of technology into creators. We make this possible by providing a space designed to let students brainstorm, collaborate, and work 1 on 1 with our educators. Students complete projects from top universities using the JavaScript Programming Language. Students get individual attention as they grapple with new & challenging concepts. Students guide their learning through deciding what they'd like to create to meet the requirements laid out by our educators.

About Kuumbwa Jazz

Since 1975, Kuumbwa Jazz has grown from its small beginnings to one of the most highly respected jazz-presenting institutions in the country, attracting artists of national and international renown. The nonprofit organization is dedicated to preserving the history and legacy of jazz through weekly concerts in their intimate 200 seat venue and education programs for all ages. Kuumbwa is a Swahili word meaning act of spontaneous creativity. Kuumbwa Jazz provides opportunities for residents and visitors in the Santa Cruz area to enjoy and appreciate the full spectrum of jazz music through live performance and education. We present extraordinary regional, national and international musicians and provide educational programs for people of all ages.



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About Seafloor Science ROV

Motivated by the desire to address today's technological workforce needs, SS-ROV Camp was started in 2013 through the collaborative efforts of Dr. Geoff Wheat and his team of program developers with funding from University of Mississippi, NIUST, NASA, NSF-USC (C-DEBI) and University of Alaska Fairbanks. Their premise was to provide a hands-on, STEM, summer, learning opportunity that mimics a research ship mission – held in a classroom setting. Children entering grades 3 – 5 or entering grades 6 – 9 learn about ocean exploration and the science, technology, and operations that enable it. Hands-on STEM activities focus on the scientific method and ocean technologies in a real-world framework of discovery. Students engage in hands-on activities in the areas of robotics, sensor technology, programming, marine geology and ecology. Like professional ocean research, the SS-ROV Camp emphasizes purposeful engagement and vision, planning and preparation, teamwork and execution, and discovery and problem solving.

About El Pajaro CDC Kitchen Incubator

The mission of El Pajaro CDC Kitchen Incubator is to promote equal access to economic opportunity. Our vision is to transform people's lives through entrepreneurship. El Pájaro CDC accomplishes its mission through various strategies. Since its inception, El Pájaro CDC has focused on developing micro-enterprises and small businesses. We have successfully assisted hundreds of small businesses with technical assistance, loan application and packaging, business plans, marketing, management, and business technology applications.

About Mini Mermaid Running Club

The mission of the Mini Mermaid Running Club is to teach every girl to lead a healthy life by listening to her inner voice, valuing her uniqueness, learning to love movement and discovering the finish line is just the beginning. MMRC was born in 2009 having discovered a lack of after-school running clubs for girls at or below the poverty line. MMRC has empowered over 6200 girls and now boys in thirteen states and seven countries through an easy, flexible, transformative curriculum.

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