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**LOS ANGELES SELECTED TO HOLD ‘GIRLS WHO CODE’ IMMERSIVE SUMMER WORKSHOP
INTRODUCING HIGH SCHOOL-AGED GIRLS TO CAREERS IN COMPUTER SCIENCE,
TECHNOLOGY**

LOS ANGELES--The innovative “Girls Who Code” summer workshop is returning in 2016 to the Boyle Heights Technology YouthSource Center. Girls Who Code is a national program aimed at closing the gender gap in technology by immersing high school-aged girls in a computer science-based curriculum for seven weeks. Students learn about coding languages, mobile app development, robotics and web design. Participants have the chance to develop their own products and to meet with mentors at area technology companies.

Last year 1,200 girls were placed into the tuition-free program across the nation, including 20 in an inaugural Boyle Heights class. Applications for the 2016 session open on January 19. Students interested in taking part should fill out an interest form to receive updates or go to the Girls Who Code website at <http://girlswhocode.com/programs/>.

Reshma Saujani, a New York executive, created Girls Who Code in 2012 to empower young women to pursue careers in technology and engineering. Studies show that men outnumber women in technology fields 4 to 1. In its first two years, 90% of Girls Who Code graduates went on to major or minor in computer science or a related field.

“Girls Who Code shows that not only can girls succeed in technology--they can thrive,” said Jan Perry, General Manager of the Los Angeles Economic & Workforce Development Department, which contracts for youth development services at the Boyle Heights facility. “That’s a message we can’t say enough.”

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