



December 14, 2017

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**BRISTOL COMMUNITY COLLEGE AND NEW BEDFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
ANNOUNCE GIRLS WHO CODE STEM PARTNERSHIP AT BCC NEW
BEDFORD CAMPUS**

Bristol Community College and New Bedford Public Schools are proud to announce a partnership to bring the Girls Who Code program to BCC's New Bedford campus this winter.

New Bedford Public Schools is currently seeking middle-school aged girls to join Girls Who Code, a national organization that seeks to close the gender gap in computer information technology fields. In this program, girls work with club members on a computer science impact project, utilizing computer science to solve a problem relevant to the club and the community.

Participants will also learn fundamental computer science concepts of loops, variables, conditionals, and functions that form the basis for all computer programming languages, while developing teamwork and leadership skills.

Classes meet on Saturdays, from 9-11 a.m., beginning January 20, until May 5, 2018, at the Bristol Community College New Bedford campus, 800 Purchase Street. Participants will receive special "swag bags" and a custom-made Girls Who Code t-shirt.

This collaboration is made possible by community partners including Bristol Community College, New Bedford Public Schools, The Landing Gift Shop and Chandlery, and a generous grant from the William & Mary Woods Fund for Arts & Literacy and the New Bedford Cultural Council.

For more information, or to apply to the program, please contact Dr. Paula Bailey by

emailing pbailey@newbedfordschools.org or by calling 508.997.4511 ext.3238 or contact Nathan Vaughan by emailing Nathan.Vaughan@bristolcc.edu, or by calling 774.357.4008.

About Bristol Community College

Bristol Community College is a leading resource for education and workforce development in Southeastern Massachusetts. BCC has locations in Fall River, Attleboro, New Bedford, and Taunton, along with flexible online offerings that lead to an associate degree, a career-ready certificate, or the ability to seamlessly transfer to baccalaureate colleges throughout the state and country.

The College's Center for Workforce and Community Education provides customized training for businesses and the community including healthcare, workforce and sustainable initiatives, corporate services, and Kids College.

The BCC Foundation, a non-profit organization utilizing community donations and partnerships, supports the College's mission to meet the lifelong educational needs of the community. For more information, visit <http://www.bristolcc.edu/aboutbcc/>.