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CONTACT: Kimberly Mundell
PHONE: (501) 683-4788
kimberly.mundell@arkansas.gov

Arkansas to Recognize Approximately 50 Computer Science Students

LITTLE ROCK — The Arkansas Department of Education is looking for outstanding students who have demonstrated their commitment to computer science education.

Through the Arkansas Students of Distinction in Computer Science Recognition Program, up to 50 public and private school, as well as homeschool students, currently in grades 11 or 12 will be recognized for their efforts in computer science education.

"There is no doubt that Arkansas' Computer Science Initiative is a great success both nationally and internationally," ADE Secretary Johnny Key said. "While the program would not be successful without strong academic leadership and exceptional teachers, the initiative's success can primarily be attributed to the students. Through their interest and commitment to the program, Arkansas is leading the nation in computer science education."

The program, which is facilitated by the Arkansas Computer Science Initiative, will be administered by the Arkansas Academy of Computing. The AAOC is comprised of more than 175 members who have demonstrated a significant impact on computing in Arkansas.

"When considering who to partner with on this program, my thoughts immediately went to the Arkansas Academy of Computing," Anthony Owen, state director of computer science education, said. "Their membership includes industry leaders from around Arkansas whose jobs are, or have been, to judge talent and skills in computing and computer science. They will be an excellent partner in helping us recognize the best of our computer science students."

The application process will be announced via an ADE Commissioner's Memo on or before January 31, 2020. The application window will open in February, with the winners being announced in April or May.

Computer Science Education Week

Computer Science Education Week is from December 9-15, 2019. Arkansas is releasing computer science announcements throughout the week. To see the announcements that are made, visit the ADE computer science webpage at http://bit.ly/ARCSedWeek.

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Arkansas Department of Education • Four Capitol Mall • Little Rock, AR 72201 • 501-682-4475