

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** – December 1, 2016

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**‘HOUR OF CODE’ WEEK AND ST. CHARLES COMMUNITY COLLEGE STEM EFFORTS RECOGNIZED**

**ST. CHARLES COUNTY, MO** --- With the Hour of Code Week 2016 starting Dec. 5, St. Charles County Government is recognizing local efforts to celebrate this international event. That recognition includes thanking St. Charles Community College for offering free, introductory workshops on computer programming every month at the Missouri Job Center of St. Charles County.

“The ability to understand and engage in coding, or computer programming, is becoming an increasingly important aspect of successfully competing in the global economy of the 21<sup>st</sup> century,” St. Charles County Executive Steve Ehlmann said in a proclamation issued at last night’s County Council meeting.

More than 100,000 Hour of Code events currently are planned around the world, including those at the St. Charles County Department of Workforce & Business Development, the OPO Startups in historic St. Charles and local school districts.

“The Computer Science Department of St. Charles Community College has been collaborating with the County’s Department of Workforce & Business Development by holding free ‘Intro to Coding’ workshops every month at the Missouri Job Center of St. Charles County since 2015,” Ehlmann said.

“We are proud to recognize St. Charles Community College and its Computer Science Department for being leaders in STEM Education and in local Hour of Code efforts.”

Hour of Code activities at the Missouri Job Center of St. Charles County will include:

- 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Dec. 5 – 8: Public Computer Lab reserved for Hour of Code, self-guided/online tutorials
- 1 to 3 p.m., Dec. 5: Intro to Coding Workshop
- 9 to 11 a.m., Dec. 7: Intro to Coding Workshop
- 4 to 6 p.m., Dec. 7: IT Job & Training Fair

For free and fun online tutorials in coding for people of all ages and abilities, visit [www.hourofcode.com](http://www.hourofcode.com). For more information about Hour of Code Week events at the Missouri Job Center, please call 636-255-6060.



St. Charles County Executive Steve Ehlmann, far left, congratulates St. Charles Community College representatives, from left, Rex McKanry, Assistant Professor and Department Chair, Computer Science; Lauren Dickens, Dean of Business, Science, Education, Math and Computer Science; Amanda Sizemore, Dean of Corporate and Community Development; Dr. John Bookstaver, Vice President of Academic and Student Affairs; and Dr. Barbara Kavalier, President.

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