

The logo for the 2022 National Coding Symposium features the numbers '20' and '22' stacked vertically on the left. The '20' is a teal color with a white circuit-like pattern, and the '22' is a darker teal with a similar pattern. To the right of the numbers, the words 'National Coding Symposium' are written in a bold, black, sans-serif font. Below this, the text 'Presented by APH and Partners' is written in a smaller, black, sans-serif font.

2022 National Coding Symposium

Presented by APH and Partners

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For Immediate Release

2022 National Coding Symposium Aims to Introduce K-12 and College Students to Career Opportunities in World of Coding

Louisville, KY (April 19, 2022) – American Printing House for the Blind’s (APH) virtual 2022 National Coding Symposium Presented by APH and Partners will take place Monday, May 9, through Friday, May 13. The free, annual event aims to demonstrate that coding and programming is accessible to students with visual impairments while showcasing the plethora of opportunities in the career field of computer science.

Computer science-related jobs are found in many career fields and are growing faster than any other industry; however, the pool of potential candidates is decreasing. According to the U.S. Department of Labor Bureau of Labor Statistics, the computer and information technology field is expected to grow by 13 percent from 2016-2026 - faster than the average growth rate of all occupations. By 2026, another 557,100 jobs are expected to be added within the field.

“Coding allows children to improve their math and logic skills by fostering important problem-solving skills. Being able to code helps children become independent in a highly technological world, and building those skills as a student will lay the foundation for success, flexibility and advancement in their future careers,” said Leanne Grillot, APH National Director of Outreach Services.

This year’s National Coding Symposium features special coding projects at various schools for the blind and visually impaired. The projects included coding activities related to products and program languages such as Code Jumper, Code Quest, HTML, Quorum and Python.

1839 Frankfort Avenue, Louisville, KY 40206

Some of the activity sites are, California School for the Blind, Maryland School for the Blind, The Center for Assistive Technology Training (CATT), New York Public Library and Washington State School for the Blind.

The activities were done in advance of the Coding Symposium and will be discussed during the event. The five-day event also features daily keynote speakers, forums, and panel discussions (for teachers and students). Keynote speakers, presenters, and panelists come from a diverse coding career background including programmers, business leaders, entrepreneurs, inventors, hiring managers, career center directors and counselors, university and high school instructors and more.

Registration for the Coding Symposium is open and free for all attendees. While the targeted audience is students considering a career in or related to programming, the contents of the symposium will benefit teachers and parents as well.

Scholarship opportunities for students majoring in STEM will be available. Learn more and apply at www.APHConnectcenter.org/coding/STEMscholarships.

Award opportunities are also available to be used towards the purchase of select technology products. Learn more and apply at www.APHConnectcenter.org/coding/Awards.

APH 2022 Coding Symposium Partners

Thank you to our principal partner, California School for the Blind.

Thank you to our supporting partners, Maryland School for the Blind, The CATT Center, New York Public Library and Washington State School for the Blind.

Thank you to our sponsors

Thank you to our generous sponsors, Fox Family Foundation and PPG Foundation.

Speakers, presenters, and panelists include:

Sina Bahram, Prime Access Consulting Inc.; **Syed Billah**, Assistant Professor at Penn State; **Michael Curran**, NVDA; **Chancey Fleet** and **Claire Kearney-Volpe**, NYPL; **Michael Forzano**, Amazon; **Gina Fugate**, MSB; **Andres Gonzalez**, Apple; **Glen Gordon**, JAWS/Vispero; **Jason Grieves**, Apple; **Radhika Grover**, Founder SPEL Technologies Inc. Santa Clara University & UC Santa Cruz SV Extension; **Ted Henter**, JAWS; **Vanessa Herndon**, CSB; **Robin Lowell** and **Beth Dudycha**, i2e; **Amanda Rodda**, Washington State School for the Blind; **Celeste Simone**, Northside Independent School District Texas; **Andy Stefik**, University of Nevada, Las Vegas;

Kisiah Timmons, Yahoo, Inc.; **Peter Tucic**, HumanWare; **Leonie Watson**, TetraLogical; and **Michael Whapples**, **Ken Perry**, **Joe Hodge** and **Greg Stilson**, APH.

For more information and to register for the 2022 APH Coding Symposium, please go to <https://aphconnectcenter.org/coding/>

About American Printing House for the Blind's ConnectCenter and CareerConnect

The APH ConnectCenter offers curated advice and resources to assist children, parents, adults, job seekers who are blind or visually impaired and their associated professionals, leading to greater independence and success in their lives. Trained staff at the ConnectCenter Information and Referral Line are always ready to help. Those looking for resources and services related to vision loss can call 800-232-5463, or visit www.aphconnectcenter.org. American Printing House for the Blind is headquartered at 1839 Frankfort Avenue in Louisville, Kentucky. To visit APH's website, please go to www.aph.org.

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