FEMALES EXCELLING MORE IN MATH, ENGINEERING AND SCIENCE
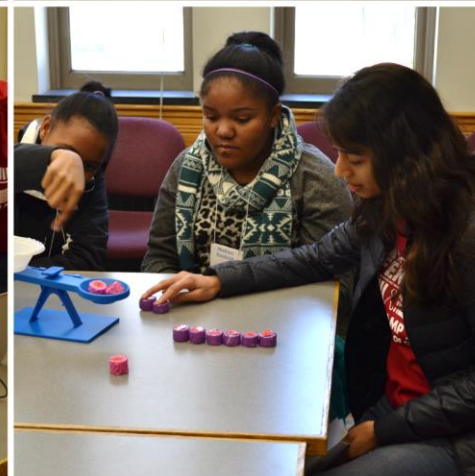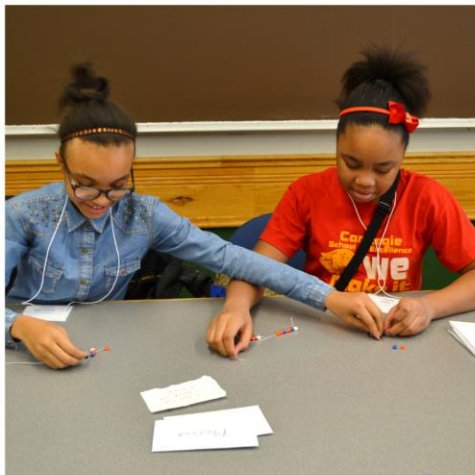
RECAP: 2015 UCHICAGO FEMMES CODE CAMP

FEMMES @ UCHICAGO

UCHICAGO FEMMES CODE CAMP

On February 28, 2015, FEMMES held its first-ever **UChicago FEMMES Code Camp**. The Code Camp was a day-long event aimed to introduce girls from neighboring Chicago middle schools to computer science in a fun and interactive way.

The event took place at the University of Chicago and featured a full day's worth of hands-on activities in computer science led by U of C professors and graduate/undergraduate students, as well as a Q&A session with current CS college students.

The UChicago FEMMES Code Camp was the kickoff event for our organization! In the following 2015-2016 school year, FEMMES plans to welcome students back for regular programs and workshops held throughout the year.

SCHEDULE

TIME	ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION
9:30 - 10:10	Welcome	Students arrive, (have breakfast), meet groups, get schedules, and receive group assignments.
10:10 - 10:20	Welcome Speech	FEMMES board and Office of Special Programs welcome students to event, thank everyone, and go over basic logistics of the day.
10:20 - 10:35	Keynote Speech	Jenna Suarez Garcia, Chicago Region Program Manager of Code.org, delivers keynote address.
10:35 - 10:55	Intro to Scratch	Presentation by FEMMES curriculum team.
10:55 - 11:10	Break into Groups and Traveling	Volunteers get together their groups and together they travel to their classroom in Cobb Hall.
11:10 - 11:30	Ice Breakers and Warm-up Activity	Groups get to know one another.
11:30 - 12:00	Activity 1	FEMMES teachers move to assigned classrooms, introduce themselves and teach their activity.
12:00 - 12:30	Activity 2	--
12:40 - 1:20	Lunch with Student Panel and Q&A	A Subway lunch is provided. Professor Adam Shaw of the UChicago CS department will moderate a panel featuring 5 current female undergraduate UofC CS majors.

TIME	ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION
1:20 - 1:30	Traveling	Students return to their classrooms for remaining activities.
1:30 - 2:00	Activity 3	--
2:00 - 2:30	Activity 4 ---------- Parent's Room Speech	Simultaneous presentation by Jennifer Wesley from Google Chicago for those in the Parent's Room.
2:30 - 2:45	Snack Break	Snacks are provided.
2:45 - 3:20	Google Innovation Presentation	Presentation by Jennifer Wesley from Google Chicago on different ways Google is innovating.
3:20 - 4:20	Final Activity	--
4:20 - 4:30	Traveling	Students return to Mandel Hall for closing remarks.
4:30 - 5:00	Closing Remarks Raffle winners Swag bag distribution	FEMMES Board and Special Programs talk about the day, throw a raffle, and say goodbye. Direct students to FEMMES website and explain how they can use the resources provided for them on their thumb drives.
5:00	Bus Boarding and Departure	Students are led to their buses and returned to their schools.

KEYNOTE

The day kicked off with a keynote by Jenna Suarez Garcia, the Chicago Region Program Manager of Code.org, called "How Computer Science Found Me."

WORKSHOPS

The day featured four high-energy workshops that introduced the girls to programmatic thinking. Activities ranged from using algorithmic thinking to create bracelets, applying sorting algorithms to balance a scale, creating basic animations with the Scratch by MIT programming language, and using algorithms to solve a maze.

PRESENTATIONS

Jennifer Wesley, the Head of Industry at Google Chicago, delivered two moving presentations. First, she presented to the Parent's Room, and explained to parents the importance of introducing their daughters to coding.

Next, Jennifer presented an innovation segment to the girls. She talked about ways Google is changing the world as well as exciting Google[x] projects. She also showed the girls inspiring clips of current Google engineers, including U.S. CTO and former VP of Google[x], Megan Smith.

RAFFLE TIME!

The day wrapped up with an exciting raffle! A few lucky girls went home with brand-new Chromebooks, Chromecasts, and lots of fun swag, donated by Google and Jane Street.

WRAP UP…

The girls went home with certificates of completion and swag bags. Here you can see our board hard at work at putting together the swag bags.

The messenger bags were donated by Orbitz, and swag was provided by Jane Street, eSpark Learning, Google, and Stroz Friedberg. The girls also went home with USB flash drives that were preloaded with additional Scratch learning materials, so they could continue learning coding on their own.
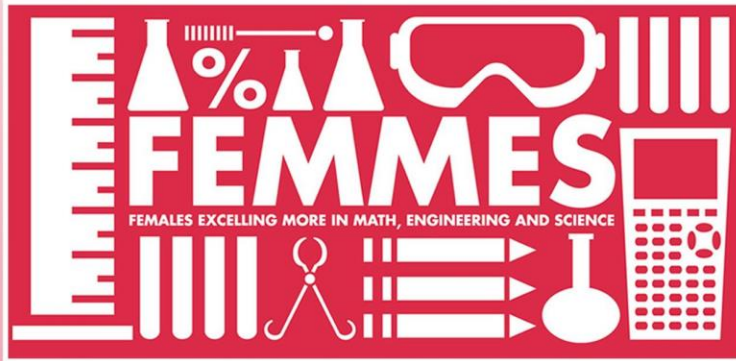
BREAKING IT DOWN

94% of Code Camp attendees said if given the chance, they would participate again.

Feedback from attendees included the following:

- **"There is nothing I would change since this is the best female including computer/coding program I have ever been in" –Sylvia**

- **"I really enjoyed it. The overall experience is great. I hope to attend future coding camps to improve my science and math skills" –Madisin**

- **"I had a great time. I will be getting on scratch.mit at home." –Desiree**

THANK YOU!

FEMMES would like to give a huge thank you to our proud sponsors. We could not have pulled off the Code Camp without you.

RECAP: OUR MISSION

FEMMES (Females Excelling More in Math, Engineering, and Science) at the University of Chicago is a newly founded chapter of the Duke-founded organization, which seeks to introduce girls to STEM fields.

At UChicago, we launched FEMMES specifically with the mission of targeting the computer science gender gap via hands-on workshops and mentorship, starting with our very own Chicago community. We will provide local middle school girls with the opportunity to explore their interests in technology by giving them real-world technological skills to build upon.

By intervening at the crucial age when girls overwhelmingly begin to drop out of STEM, we hope to bridge the technology gender gap as well as inspire girls to help end gender disparity in this growing field.

WHO WE ARE

Originally from Miami, **Megan Renshaw** '16 is a computer science and math double major. She also serves as a Board Member and tutor for the Chicago Adolescent Mentorship Program (CHAMP). Last summer, she worked as a teacher for Girls Who Code. As part of FEMMES, she is excited to continue Girls Who Code's mission and bring computer science to the lives of girls in the Chicago area.

Alice Chang '16 majors in computer science and economics at UChicago. Last summer, she was a software engineering intern at Google Zurich, where she launched a major internal diversity initiative in collaboration with Women@Google and Google Women in Engineering (GWE). In her spare time, Alice enjoys horseback riding and visiting downtown Chicago - especially in the winter!

Emilee Urbanek '16, originally from New Jersey, is a Computer Science major and a Computational Neuroscience minor. She is passionate about sciences and music and pursues these interests both inside and outside of the classroom. As Director of Curriculum, she hopes to inspire Chicago area girls to get excited about computer science through engaging and hands-on activities. When she can, she also enjoys snowboarding and woodworking.

WHO WE ARE

Originally from Montreal, **Morgane Richer La Flèche** '15 is a History major enamored with the Slavic Languages and Literatures department. Outside of the classroom, she serves as the Marketing Director for FEMMES and as the President of MODA. In 2013, she represented Canada at the Girls20 in Moscow, where she advocated for greater recognition and support of women in STEM fields, especially technology.

Gamal DeWeever '16, originally from Boston, is a computer science major and potential linguistics minor. Outside of the classroom, his passion lies in experimenting with small scale educational tools and all kinds of music. He hopes to serve FEMMES across many areas, ranging from outreach to technical development.

Richard Hanson '16, originally from Plano, Texas, is a Linguistics turned Computer Science major. He is passionate about community service and music and pursues both outside the classroom. When he's not volunteering, he can be found singing and dancing.

THANK YOU FOR HELPING US SHAPE THE NEXT GENERATION OF FEMALE ENGINEERS!

SEE YOU NEXT YEAR!