Karen West, Assignment 1, Application #1, January 9th, 2014, Creative, Serious and Playful Science of Android Apps, From the Coursera University of Illinois at Urbana-Champagne online course by Professor Lawrence Angrave, originally from the UK:

I chose Ada Lovelace and Grace Murray Hopper as my 2 historically famous computer scientists since from the suggested list, these 2 were the only women, and women continue to be a minority in this field. Ada was alive from 1815-1852, born in England, and not only was it uncommon for women to choose the computer science field for work in those days, but it was unusual for women to work or be encouraged to study this subject area. Ada's mathematical talents led her to an ongoing working relationship and friendship with British mathematician Charles Babbage, and in particular Babbage's work on the Analytical Engine. Between 1842 and 1843, she translated an article by Italian military engineer Luigi Menabrea on the engine, which she supplemented with an elaborate set of notes of her own, simply called Notes. These notes contain what many consider to be the first computer program—that is, an algorithm designed to be carried out by a machine. Lovelace's notes are important in the early history of computers. She also developed a vision on the capability of computers to go beyond mere calculating or number-crunching while others, including Babbage himself, focused only on those capabilities. Ada's mind-set of "poetical science" led her to ask basic questions about the Analytical Engine (as shown in her notes) examining how individuals and society relate to technology as a collaborative tool.

Grace Murray Hopper came many years after the death of Ada Lovelace, born in 1906 and died in 1992, but even in the early 1900's, it was very unusual for women to choose to work, or if they studied, study the field of computer science. Grace was an American computer scientist and United States Navy rear admiral. A pioneer in the field, she was one of the first programmers of the Harvard Mark I computer, and developed the first compiler for a computer programming language. She conceptualized the idea of machine-independent programming languages, which led to the development of COBOL, one of the first modern programming languages. She is credited with popularizing the term debugging for fixing computer glitches (inspired by an actual moth removed from the computer). Owing to the breadth of her accomplishments and her naval rank, she is sometimes referred to as “Amazing Grace”. The U.S. Navy destroyer USS Hopper (DDG-70) is named for her, as was the Cray XE6 Hopper supercomputer at NERSC.

NOTE: Both Ada Lovelace and Grace Hopper Murray's photos and text captions were taken from Wikipedia, but that was only mentioned here, and not within the caption within the application itself. It could easily be added to comply with license and copyright material of the photos and captions taken from Wikepedia.

My Development Experience with Assignment #1 Application #1 was straight forward, based on the Week 3 video exercises that we did. The only part I had trouble doing were things like centering the name between both the picture and text in landscape mode, since at first I centered it within the image, as in portrait mode. I also noticed that my SUSE Linux Eclipse with the Android Development Tool Kit correctly runs my application for 3 of the 4 emulators (320x480 mdpi, 1024x600 mdpi, and 480x800hdpi) but the other emulator does not start at all on my system (2560x1600 xhdpi). The emulator rectangle starts up, but it never correctly initializes, so I had to take that one screen snap shot from the graphical layout, rather than the emulator.