

Kershaw County's Youth VIDEO GAMES Programmers

TAUGHT BY:

CONOR X. RON

CITADEL CLASS OF 2025 / TAX ACCOUNTANT / SCSG ADMIN OFFICER



PLANNING MANUAL

VERSION 0.1



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INTRODUCTION

PROGRAM'S PURPOSE:

To teach high schoolers and young adults valuable creative, analytical, and problem-solving skills through learning video game programming.

MANA ROCK GAMING'S MISSION:

The mission of Mana Rock Gaming is to make South Carolina the “Gaming Capital of America”. We believe that by sharing the joy and accessibility of board/video games to others, we can improve lives for the better.

Video/board game design is not just writing code/rules, but an opportunity to participate in a creative, artistic format that allows for the sharing of ideas and common cultural values.

Even if you don't design games, every Carolinian should feel the joy of sitting around a table or television enjoying the company of their friends and family over a shared medium.

MANA ROCK GAMING'S STRUCTURE:

Mana Rock Gaming is in the process of considering whether it should organize as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, directed by Conor Rom. At no time though will Mana Rock Gaming or Conor Rom ever ask for any form of payments from any of our collaborators for this program. No member of Mana Rock Gaming will receive any form of payment from the nonprofit, as our mission is to serve the people of South Carolina and spread the love of gaming.

PROGRAM DEMOGRAPHICS

Kershaw County's Youth Video Game Programmers is designed for high schoolers and young adults, aged 14 to 22 years old.

If there is extreme interest in the program, a preference will be given to participants aged 16 to 19 years old.

The program will be split into two groups: the Kershaw County Library and the Elgin-Lugoff High School. Though these may be consolidated in the case of low public interest.

ADDITIONAL DOCUMENT:

Program Syllabus - Kershaw County's Youth Video Game Programmers

Permission Slip for Youth Under 18 - Kershaw County's Youth Video Game Programmers

CONTACT INFORMATION:



Mana Rock Gaming

ManaRockGaming@gmail.com
ManaRockGaming.com

Conor X. Rom

Conor.X.Rom@gmail.com
803-556-7862

MARKETING REQUEST:

Mana Rock Gaming and Conor Rom will not ask for any form of payments. All that is asked is that Conor X. Rom's name is directly added to any published advertisements, interest forms, or published material which promotes our shared objective in developing the Kershaw County's Youth Video Game Programmers. Mana Rock Gaming / Conor Rom does not need prior approval for any published material our partners desire to release, but requests the ability to petition for a published material to be recalled if needed.

Though in good faith, Mana Rock Gaming / Conor will notify any collaborator if we intend to use their brand or logo in any published material.

Mana Rock Gaming's involvement or logo is not required to be in any published material, unless desired by the publishing collaborator.

STATEMENT ON AI USE:

Artificial intelligence was not used in the writing of this Planning Manual except as a spell checker.

Grammarly. (2025). Grammarly Handbook.
<https://www.grammarly.com>

WHO IS CONOR X. ROM:

Conor Rom was born in Rock Hill, South Carolina, in 2003, to a military family that would go on to move around America and even Europe. Prior to the start of Covid-19, during his Junior year, the Rom Family returned to South Carolina. Conor Rom would graduate from Spring Valley High School, then attending and graduate from The Citadel, the Military College of South Carolina, in 2025.

Conor Rom has a Bachelor of Accounting, with minors in Chinese, applied stats, and ministry. Conor Rom works as a full time tax accountant at CTPG, while also serving part time as an admin officer in the South Carolina State Guard.

In his free time, Conor Rom loves to program video games or websites, play trading card or miniature war games, or study history.



Photo from Conor Rom teaching Game Design at The Citadel's 2025 Merit Badge University.

TEAM ORGANIZATION

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

Kershaw County's Youth Video Game Programmer is a continuous program, designed to teach young programmers over a period of meetings.

The technical goal of the program is for all participants to walk away with a basic understanding of coding in C#, utilizing a game engine, knowing basic game design principles, learning how to conduct a play test, and having items interact in a 2D space.

While having a teacher present to answer questions is important, a key part of coding is learning how to problem-solve yourself. While learning to code is like learning another language, a big part is how you do research online to find a solution to your desired outcome.

A full break down of all the learning objectives may be located in the *Program Syllabus*.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

To encourage mass youth participation and to reutilize all the time and resources put into planning each meeting's lesson plan, there will be two groups that meet on separate days. The Elgin-Lugoff High group will be composed of members enrolled at that school, and youth and students from other schools will be encouraged to join the Kershaw County Library group.

TEAM ORGANIZATION

Participants will be organized into small teams numbering around three members. Individuals interested in participating in the program are encouraged to invite their friends to form a team, but those who come alone will be organized into a team.

Each team will design their own video game based upon the lesson plan for the day. Every team will design the same style of game utilizing the lesson plan, but are given some creative liberties to express themselves.

These teams will also help to develop soft skills in the form of collaborating with others in a creative process, and help to consolidate the learning process.

If one member of the team cannot participate in one meeting, the rest of the team can catch them up on what was taught in the following meeting.

Individuals who join the program late may be added to a team, or if there are multiple new members, organized into a new team.

SCHEDULED MEETINGS

SCHEDULED MEETING #1:

Camden Library - RMXXXX
January XXth (1st Week)
Xpm - Xpm

Lugoff-Elgin High - Computer Lab RMXXXX
January XXth (2nd Week)
Xpm - Xpm

SCHEDULED MEETING #2:

Camden Library - RMXXXX
January XXth (3rd Week)
Xpm - Xpm

Lugoff-Elgin High - Computer Lab RMXXXX
January XXth (4th Week)
Xpm - Xpm

SCHEDULED MEETING #3:

Camden Library - RMXXXX
February XXth (1st Week)
Xpm - Xpm

Lugoff-Elgin High - Computer Lab RMXXXX
February XXth (2nd Week)
Xpm - Xpm

SCHEDULED MEETING #4:

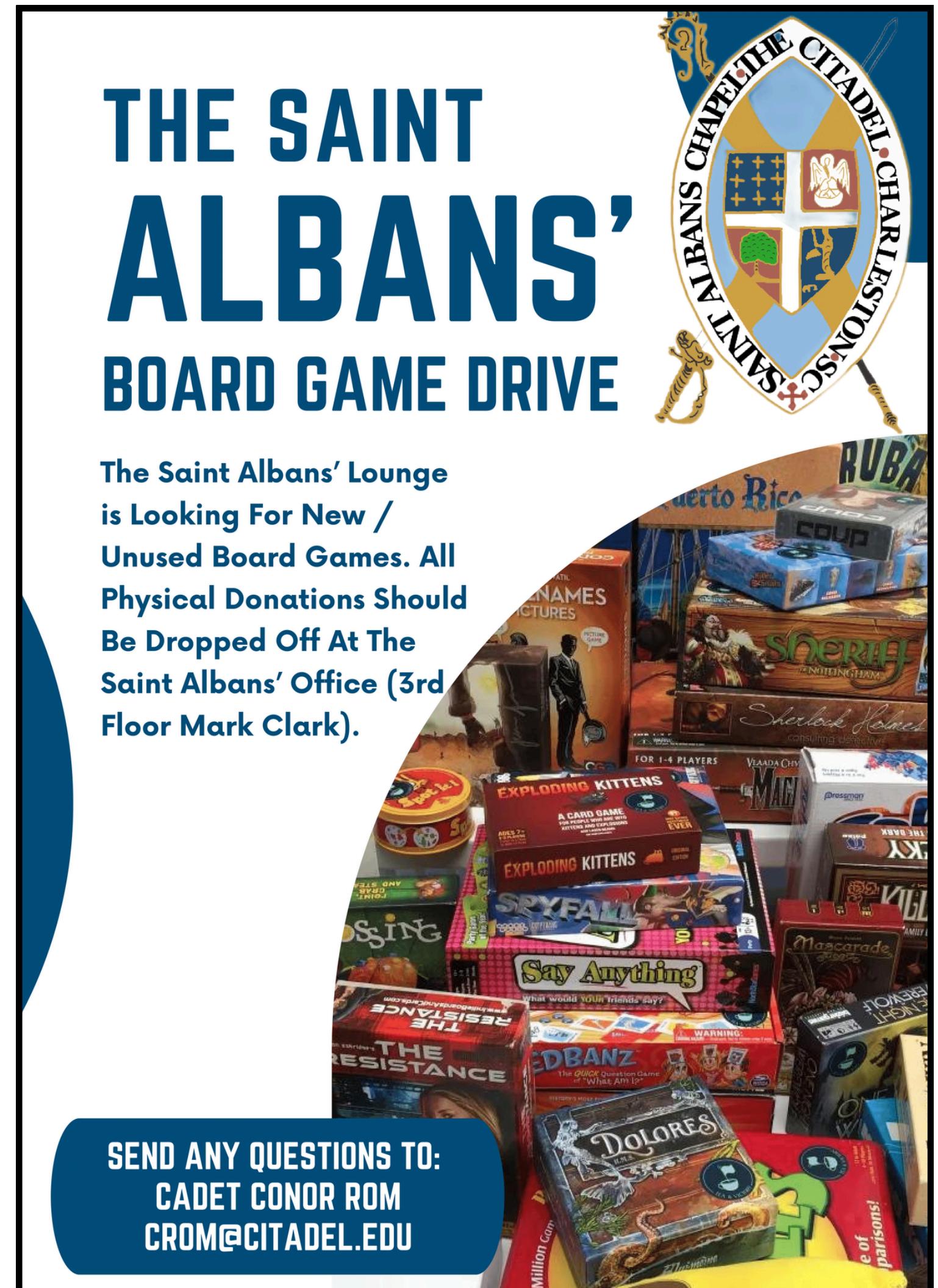
Camden Library - RMXXXX
February XXth (3rd Week)
Xpm - Xpm

Lugoff-Elgin High - Computer Lab RMXXXX
February XXth (4th Week)
Xpm - Xpm

LOCATIONS:

Camden Library
1304 Broad St, Camden, SC 29020

Lugoff-Elgin High School
1284 U.S. Rte 1, Lugoff, SC 29078



Poster from Conor Rom's participation in the Saint Albans' Board Game Drive in 2024.

PUBLIC OUTREACH

GENERAL OBJECTIVES:

To reach out to youth and parents to inform them of the Kershaw County's Youth Video Game Programmers' first meeting in January, and direct them to sign up prior to gauge interest and send them a reminder just prior to the first meeting.

The goal would be to have at least 10+ people interested in both the Kershaw County Library group and the Elgin-Lugoff High group. If we hit around 20 people interested in each group, limitations may need to be implemented.

KERSHAW LIBRARY INTEREST FORM (KERSHAW LIBRARY):

The central point where all published material will be directed, for both the Kershaw County Library group and the Elgin-Lugoff High group, to gauge interest and collect their contact information.

SOCIAL MEDIA (JOINT COLLABORATION):

Social media will play a critical role in reaching interested individuals. Instagram posts should be focused on targeting the youth, while Facebook posts should be targeting parents to motivate them to sign up their interested children.

Lugoff-Elgin High School

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/kcsd.lhs/>

Kershaw County Library

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/kershawcountylibrary/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/kershawcountylibrary>

ARTICLE IN LOCAL NEWS (CONOR ROM + LOCAL NEWS):

One of Conor Rom's goals is to get an article in the local newspapers targeting parents, and he intends to reach out to the local papers to help advertise the event.

POSTERS (CONOR ROM + INDIVIDUAL COLLABORATORS):

Conor Rom fully intends to do a boots on the ground physical poster hanging advertising campaign with the help of all the high schools and organizations collaborating in this program.

COLLABORATOR CONTACT LIST

NON PROFITS:

MANA ROCK GAMING:

Conor X. Rom

Director

Conor.X.Rom@gmail.com

803-556-7862

KERSHAW COUNTY LIBRARY:

Lauren Decker

Youth Library Director

LaurenD@kershawcountylibrary.org

803-425-1508 Ext. 3208

SCHOOLS:

LUGOFF-ELGIN HIGH SCHOOL:

Name

Title

Email

Phone

NORTH CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL:

Name

Title

Email

Phone

CAMDEN HIGH SCHOOL:

Name

Title

Email

Phone

CORNSTONE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Name

Title

Email

Phone

MOUNT OLIVET CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Name

Title

Email

Phone

CAMDEN MILITARY ACADEMY:

Name

Title

Email

Phone

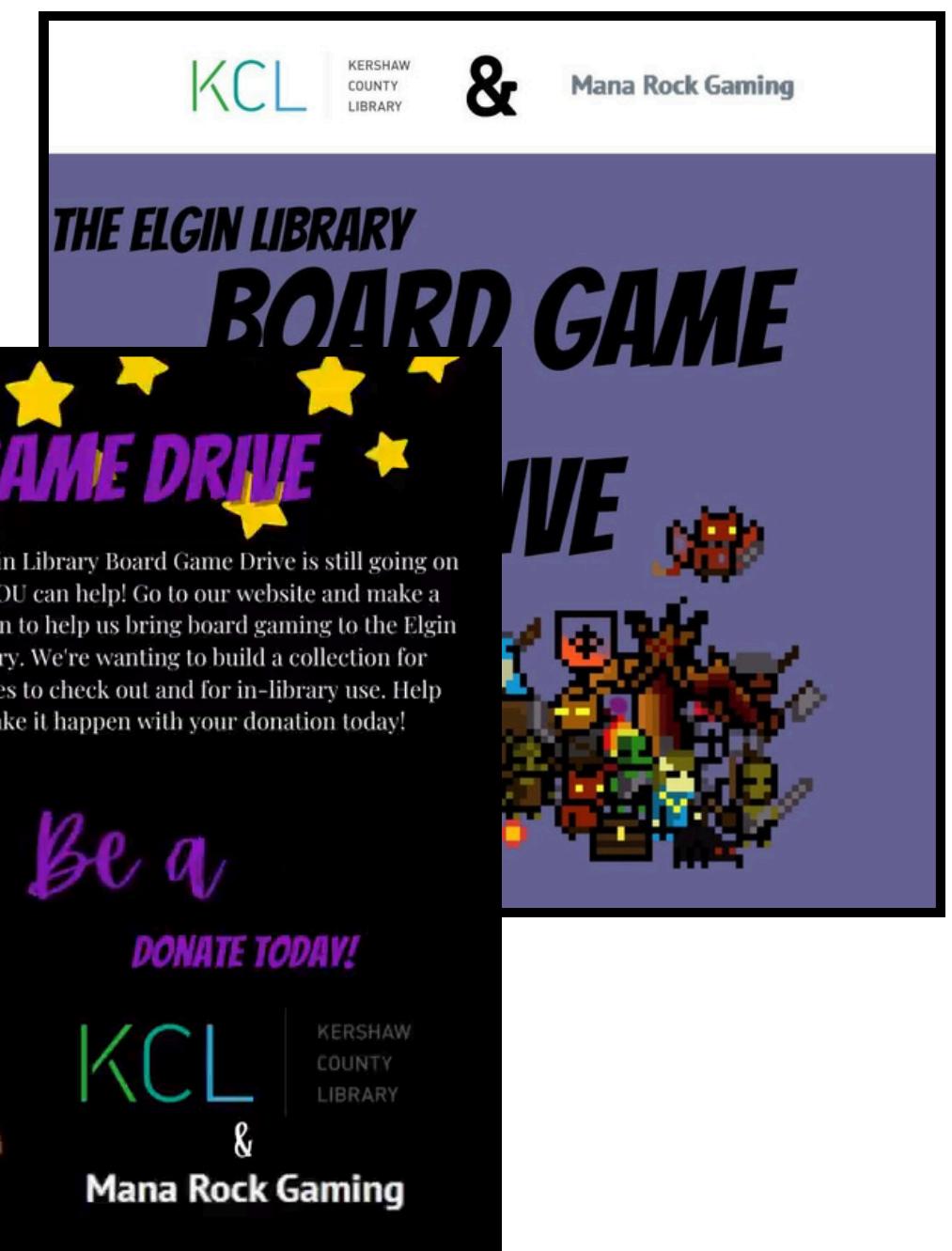
CENTRAL CAROLINA TECHNICAL

Name

Title

Email

Phone



Kershaw County Library Instagram Post for the Elgin Board Game Drive in 2021.

LOCAL NEWS:

THE CHRONICLE INDEPENDENT

Name

Title

Email

Phone

THE ELGIN NEWS

Name

Title

Email

Phone

THE NEWS ERA

Name

Title

Email

Phone

LOCAL BUSINESSES:

SPECTER GAMES

Name

Title

Email

Phone



Photo from Conor Rom teaching Game Design at The Citadel's 2025 Merit Badge University.

RESOURCE REQUIREMENTS

COMPUTER REQUIREMENTS:

10+ WiFi Connected Laptops / Desktops

Each participant will utilize their own computer and game file, but will work within their team to create their finalized single game. Through the use of periodic mergers, each individual of the team will combine their game files into a single file, which the team will continue to develop independently until the next merger.

In case of heavy interest in the program, participants may be required to share a computer.

Conor Rom will work with Kershaw County Library and Elgin-Lugoff High to ensure the Unity game engine is downloaded on each computer prior to the start of the first meeting.

Participants are also encouraged to bring their own personal laptops if interested. Conor Rom will work with these individuals to get Unity downloaded onto their laptop.

UTILIZED PROGRAMS:

Unity (Free - Desktop Download)

Game Engine

<https://unity.com/>

Github (Free - Cloud Service)

Repository

<https://github.com/>

Pixilart (Free - Cloud Service)

Online Pixel Art

<https://www.pixilart.com/>

Itch.io (Free - Cloud Service)

Game Assets & Publishing Platform

<https://itch.io/>

EMAIL REQUIREMENTS:

To utilize each of the Cloud Services requires an email; this should be a personal email instead of a school email. All participants using a public computer will be reminded to sign out of these programs prior to the end of each meeting.

Assistance can also be provided to those without an email to set up a free Gmail if needed.

YOUTH SAFETY

YOUTH PROTECTION:

Man Rock Gaming and Conor Rom are both dedicated to the safety of everyone involved with the Kershaw County's Youth Video Game Programmers.

Conor Rom has been active with younger individuals dating all the way back to when he was a Boy Scout den leader for a younger Cub Scout troop, to his time in College helping multiple youth programs. As the primary teacher for the coding program, additional responsibilities are placed upon him to ensure the safety of everyone who participates in the program.

COLLABORATOR RULES:

During the running of this program, all rules set by the Kershaw County Library or Elgin-Lugoff High School will be followed.

YOUTH UNDER 18 INVOLVEMENT

As this program is designed for individuals who may be below the age of 18 years old, additional responsibilities are laid in the hands of its organizers and the individual participant's guardians.

Individuals under the age of 18 years of age, must have their legal guardian fully complete and sign the *Permission Slip for Youth Under 18*.

DIGITAL COMMUNICATION

All digital communication with participants in Kershaw County's Youth Video Game Programmers will be performed through group or team emails. For individuals under the age of 18, a legal guardian will be CC'd in all communication. It is for this reason that the *Permission Slip for Youth Under 18* requires an accurate email address for the individual's legal guardian.

Participants under the age of 18 will not contact Conor Rom. If needed, the legal guardian will contact Conor Rom on their child's behalf. If Conor Rom receives a message from an individual under the age of 18, he will not respond until a legal guardian reaches out.

Participants aged 18 years or older are permitted to contact Conor Rom, but must CC everyone in their team.

PHYSICAL MEETINGS

All Kershaw County's Youth Video Game Programmers will be conducted in a group setting in a public location. Conor Rom will not meet with participants individually or outside of scheduled program meetings.

PROTECTING LEARNING

The program has the right to remove any participant who creates a hostile environment to learning.

SAFE DEPARTURE:

Participants under the age of 18 will be required to be picked up by an adult identified on their *Permission Slip for Youth Under 18*. If a legal guardian would like to add an adult or older sibling over the age of 18 to this list, they are requested to contact Conor Rom.

If a participant under the age of 18 is not picked up 10 minutes following the concluding of a meeting, Conor Rom will reach out by phone to the legal guardian.

Participants under the age of 18 years old will not be authorized to walk home or to another location, unless identified on their *Permission Slip for Youth Under 18*.

TAKING PHOTOS:

The Kershaw County's Youth Video Game Programmer would like to take a few photos during the program for the purpose of using the photos in promotional material or social media posts. If a legal guardian would like that no pictures of their child are taken, please indicate it on the proper section of the *Permission Slip for Youth Under 18*. Individuals over the age of 18 who don't want their picture taken should notify Conor Rom.



Photo from Conor Rom teaching Game Design at The Citadel's 2025 Merit Badge University.

Kershaw County's Youth VIDEO GAME Programmers

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Scan
For Dates,
Times, &
Locations



KCL | KERSHAW
COUNTY
LIBRARY



SCAN FOR INTEREST FORM
WWW.MANAROCKGAMING.COM

PROGRAM DESIGNED FOR:
HIGH SCHOOLERS &
YOUNG ADULTS