

**GIRLS.EXE PRESENTS** 

# **BITS & BYTES**

THE FIRST EDITION





# #CREATE DON'T HESITATE

Girls.exe hosted a panel discussion, via one of our chapter leaders, on the 13th of November 2021. The panel discussion was based on the theme of 'Create, Don't Hesitate', and we had three esteemed panelists join us. Kanika, a student of The Delhi Public school and Ms. Madhu and Ms. Anita, who are teachers at this school were a part of this discussion.

# WHAT IS 'CREATE, DON'T HESITATE'?

'Create, don't hesitate' empowers the youth to break free from their misconceptions about creating a project, and steers them to take the first step towards learning about coding and coding languages. In this discussion, the panelists encouraged the audience to use coding to translate their ideas into reality.

However, the scarcity of appropriate resources and guidance makes the process of starting a project, from its conception to its completion, a lot more daunting. To address this, the panelists provided insightful suggestions, drawn from personal experiences and in the hopes of instilling confidence in students who are taking their first steps towards creating such projects.

# MS. MADHU'S INSIGHTS...

Ms. Madhu spoke about how coding is a process of trial and error. To succeed, students must have the patience to stick with their ideas through all the setbacks and doubts they may encounter. Students need to be driven to create programs that can have a positive impact on society.



#### KANIKA'S INPUTS

Kanika, a student herself, also sheds light upon these challenges, one of them being the intimidating process of having to come up with a novel idea for a project in the first place. She emphasizes the importance of being observant, and identifying the problems that the people around you face in their daily lives. She also urges the audience not to set unrealistic expectations for themselves, and choose an issue that they think they could contribute to, per their skill level. Aiming too high could often backfire, and result in feelings of frustration if you are unable to get the desired results.

#### MS. ANITA'S ADDITIONS

### Ms. Anita further contributed to the discussion by highlighting the importance of planning, a vital skill requiring adequate development before delving into a project. She advises having a clear blueprint of projects, along with a concrete plan to ensure timely completion.

# **EXCELLING IN COMPUTER SCIENCE**

The discussion ended on a lighter note, with the panelists reminiscing about some of the projects that they have seen students work on over the years. They concluded on the note that all the students who accomplished these outstanding feats started as mere beginners. Through passion, hard work, and guidance, they were able to excel in computer science. The panelists motivated students to push themselves to start a project and realize the steps that can be taken to ensure success in their endeavors.



#### **RESOURCES**

There are a million resources available on the internet today, but here is a list of a few that will help you understand where to begin.

TechTogether Hackathons: For female and non-binary high school students all across the globe! TechTogether hackathons consist of workshops, hackathons, and even an innovative pre-hackathon. The pre-hackathon showcases new and cutting-edge technology to facilitate participants in creating their technological masterpieces: <a href="https://techtogether.io/index">https://techtogether.io/index</a>.



Technovation Challenge 2022: For female high school students all across the globe! This program encourages girls to collaborate and create a mobile app that could solve a pressing issue in their community. An experienced mentor will guide each of these teams towards making their app the best possible version of itself: <a href="https://technovationchallenge.org/get-started/">https://technovationchallenge.org/get-started/</a>.





#### **RESOURCES**

Apple Entrepreneur Camp: For Black and Hispanic women! Centered around app-building, the program encourages women to submit their applications for a spot on the App store. The camp includes one-on-one guidance from an expert Apple technician and membership to the Apple Developers Program: https://developer.apple.com/entrepreneur-camp/.

Research Internships for Undergraduates: This list compiles available research opportunities for undergraduates: <a href="https://github.com/himahuja/Research-Internships-for-Undergraduates">https://github.com/himahuja/Research-Internships-for-Undergraduates</a>.

girls.exe also has a lot of exciting opportunities for you, from participating in workshops, opening chapters, and contributing to this newsletter! Find more here: <a href="https://women.hackedsociety.in">https://women.hackedsociety.in</a>.