

# Shaping Future Digital Leaders: The ICSpark Initiative



## SIGNIFICANCE

Hawaii students lack CS mentors despite job growth.  
Only 6% of students took CS courses in 2019-2020, with 12 CS-licensed teachers statewide.  
In 2018, 182 CS bachelor's degrees were awarded, but 1,500 CS jobs remain unfilled.

## OUR OBJECTIVE

Near-peer mentorship for personal, educational, and professional growth  
Build a strong community for talent retention  
Develop future leaders with a focus on community values

## SUCCESES

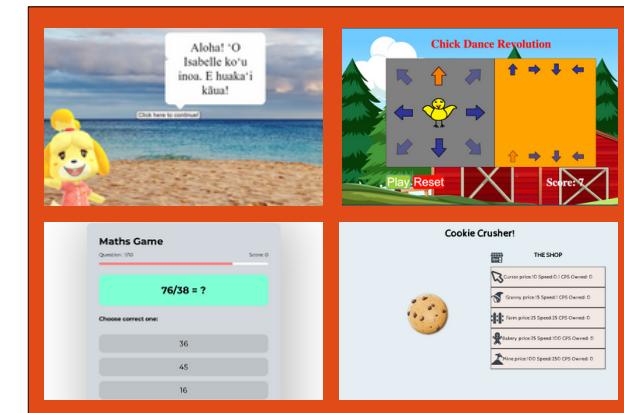
Since 2019, we have trained more than 35 mentors and 140 students  
100% of respondents were satisfied or very satisfied with our events  
Fantastic final projects from talented and creative young students

## LEARN MORE

**ICSpark**  
*Registered Independent Organization @ UHM*  
Website: [icspark.github.io](https://icspark.github.io)  
Instagram: [@icsparkhawaii](https://www.instagram.com/icsparkhawaii)  
Email: [icspark@hawaii.edu](mailto:icspark@hawaii.edu)

## OPPORTUNITIES

**For College Students:** ICSpark offers fun, skill development, impressive talking points for interviews, and boosts your resume.  
**For Faculty:** ICSpark offers a platform to create and introduce new coding or computer science curriculum.  
**For Industry:** Sponsoring ICSpark events or donating to our parent 501(c)3 non-profit Technology Outreach Hawaii (TORCH) that can aid in future recruitment efforts.  
**For Students:** ICSpark's objective is to create a fun and exciting environment to help student learn how to code!



## OCTOBER



### Mentor Training Begins

Mentors learn the course curriculum, create new curriculum, and develop their mentorship skills.

## DECEMBER



### Workshops

The mentors host a variety of public coding workshops to practice what they learned.

## JANUARY TO MAY



### Coding Course

Mentors facilitate weekly Saturday coding classes and provide mentorship to students.

## MAY



### Final Showcase

At the end of the course, students will design, develop, and present their own final project.

## REFERENCES

Nguyen, T. T. & Mordecai, M. Catching Up to Move Forward: A Computer Science Education Landscape Report of Hawai'i Public Schools 2017 - 2020. (2020).  
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Zennerbaum, L. S., Anderson, M. K., Jett, M. & Younick, D. L. An Innovative Near-Peer Mentoring Model for Undergraduate and Secondary Students: STEM Focus. *Innov High Educ* **39**, 375–385 (2014).

