

CONNECT2TECH

SUPPORTING COMPUTER SCIENCE AND COMPUTATIONAL CREATIVITY

New York City is the nation's second largest and fastest growing technology hub, with tech-related jobs increasing by over 28% in the past 5 years.¹ However, few teachers are prepared to teach computer science (CS). The after-school field and expanded learning programs can fill this gap by offering exposure to STEM careers, creating on-ramps for computer science, and empowering people to express themselves with technology.

HOW?

ExpandedED Schools and Google have partnered to create Connect2Tech, a CS program designed to spark students' technology interests and prepare them for success in 21st-century careers, while at the same time, equipping educators with the skills and confidence to lead technology activities.

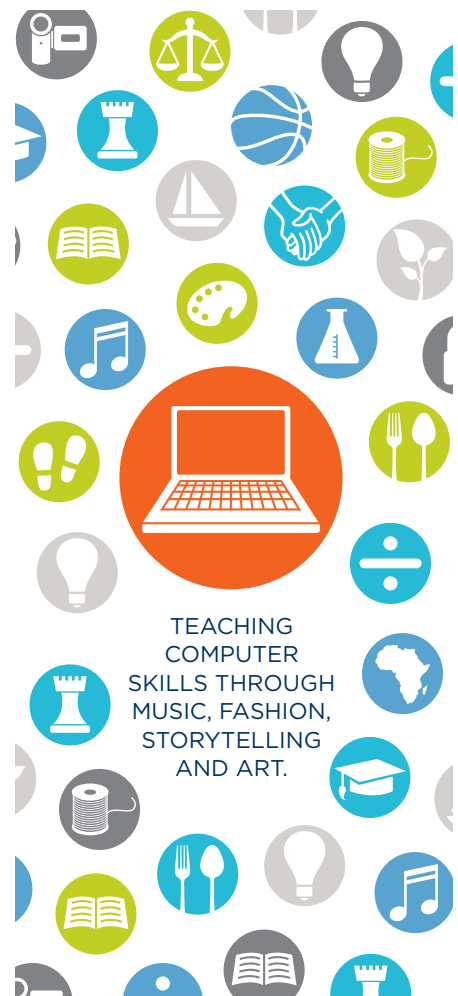
Educators receive professional development including in-person trainings, personalized coaching sessions and on-going support, as well as free materials, such as headphones for each student and print-resources for educators and students.

Students engage in hands-on computer science using Google's CS First program and, in some cases, a Coder for Raspberry Pi Toolkit to learn the basic building blocks of the web.

THE RESULTS

Connect2Tech offers educators and students a fresh computational perspective on coding. Students don't simply learn to code. Rather, they code in order to learn more about music & sound, fashion & design, storytelling, games and art.

¹ Bowles, Jonathan; Giles, David. "New Tech City." Center for an Urban Future. Center for an Urban Future, Web. May 2012.



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