



Media Advisory

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**Codecraft Lab Opens Computer Programming Community Center**

**Grand Opening, Friday, March 6th, Historic Eau Gallie Arts District**

Codecraft Lab, a non-profit business dedicated to creating learn-to-code curriculum and opportunities for young people through hands-on computer programming labs, will hold a grand opening event Friday, March 6 from 5 to 8 p.m.

This event, which is open to the public, will feature food, refreshments and a raffle, as well as an opportunity to tour the facility. The Melbourne Regional Chamber of East Central Florida will conduct a ribbon cutting at 6PM with Melbourne Mayor Kathy Meehan.

"We're delighted to open this new location, connect with local talent, and foster opportunities for kids to learn about computer programming in particular. This facility allows us to expand our STEM field trip offerings and after-school labs, and most importantly, to put coding projects into the hands of more young people," said CEO and Co-founder Shannon Landin.

"We're also very pleased to be opening in the Eau Gallie Arts District. Not only is it central and easily accessible for many in our county, but the critical thinking required for learning to program and solve complex problems intersects elegantly with the promotion of creativity and design here in EGAD. We're striving to give participants a taste of high-tech, STE(A)M power both inside our center and through their contact with the surrounding community."

"The arts district is the place to come for activities that require creativity and that challenge your way of thinking. Codecraft Lab is an ideal fit with how we identify ourselves — the smart place to have fun," says Lisa Packard, executive director of the Eau Gallie Arts District Main Street Program.

Major Sponsors of Codecraft Lab include IBM, Rockwell Collins, Code School, and GE Transportation. "We all know our country needs to produce students skilled in STEM fields to fill jobs and continue our country's tradition of innovation. GE is very pleased to support

Codecraft Lab's learn-to-code initiatives, which we view as fundamental in the preparation of our next generation.” said Keith Szewczyk, a Space Coast Tech Council Founding member and Executive GM at GE Transportation.

More information regarding Codecraft Lab can be found on the web at [www.codecraftlab.org](http://www.codecraftlab.org) or on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/codecraftlab](https://www.facebook.com/codecraftlab).

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