Changing the Lives of Students...*One Squad at a Time!*

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About This Newsletter
You will learn how MSCA helps increase the diversity of our future California workforce by preparing girls and underrepresented minority students to build STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) skills.

Welcome New MOUSE Program Director

It's been a busy summer at Mouse Squad! As many of you know, our founder and director, Jan Half, retired in June. I'm excited to introduce myself as the new Mouse Squad Director. I came on board with MSCA just over a year ago as the Program and Communications Manager and began working with Jan on her transition last spring. I bring two decades of experience in education, nonprofit management and community collaboration to MSCA and we are so excited for the next phase of the program.

The year has gotten off to a great start. We now have more than 120 schools and we continue to add schools and community sites every week. We are adding more of our most popular events

such as the Tech Speaker Series and Educator Summits; our curriculum continues to grow into areas like robotics and green tech; we have thousands of youth supporting the needs of 1:1 technology in schools and we have expanded our virtual training options.

One of our biggest projects is a complete overhaul of our branding and website; which we will begin implementing in January 2016. It's an exciting time to be a part of Mouse! If you're interested in learning more about Mouse or bringing the program to your site, please contact me at andrea@mousesquadca.org.

Best regards,

Andrea Jones
Director, Mouse Squad
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New in 2016: Mouse Re-Branding Project

MSCA is an affiliate program of MOUSE NY. A rebranding project has taken place over the last year to help clarify what Mouse stands for, how it's different and why audiences should engage with us. A strong brand helps

create an affinity for our organization from many groups, makes it easier for people to support us and is built on how we impact students, not just what programs we run.

Highlights of our New Brand
We are excited to share a glimpse of our new brand with you and hope you find it as impactful as we do! Our new branding helps us clarify:

- *New Language:* Mouse is a youth development nonprofit that believes in technology as a force for good. We empower students to harness the strength of technology to solve real problems and make meaningful changes in our communities and the world around us.
- *New Behaviors*: Mouse opens ways to engage; we design and develop with originality; we empower youth for the greater good.
- *New Voice:* Our voice as an organization is open, original and bold – which is a better reflection of the work we are doing every day with students across California.
- *A New Look:* While our name is staying the same, our look is changing and we've added a tagline: Technology with Purpose, which speaks to how we use technology that creates solutions for real world problems. It also communicates the intention behind all that we do – it's technology for the greater good!

Stay tuned to see all of the ways our new branding will be rolling out later in the year – from changes to our website, language, materials and more!

Christopher STEM Visits NetSuite

Youth from Christopher Elementary School recently spent the day interacting with tech industry leaders and learning to code at NetSuite's headquarters in San Mateo.

The visit and coding activity were part of NetSuite's Global Impact Week, a weeklong event where NetSuite employees had the opportunity to participate in more than 70+ employee-led volunteer events around the globe.

To kick off the day, students were paired with mentors (NetSuite employees) from across the company and given the chance to ask their mentors questions about their job at a technology company. Following the interviews, youth enjoyed working with their mentors on an egg drop activity that tested their creativity to create a contraption that would protect their egg from cracking when dropped from outside the building. During lunch, Mouse Squad youth met coders from NetSuite's product development team and joined them on the product development floor for a coding exercise. The 7th graders did an activity based on the Scratch programming language, while the 8th graders learned Java. At the end of the day, the group toured the office and enjoyed checking out the game room with a pool table, foosball, and unlimited beverages.

Funder Focus: Oracle

ORACLE®

Oracle has supported Mouse Squad through monetary grants and employee volunteering since 2010. We'd like to give a special shout out to Oracle for supporting real world STEM education in the schools! Thanks Oracle for helping us to provide opportunity, access and purpose-driven learning throughout the Bay Area. Your support helps us provide more than 1,000 youth every year with the education that will drive the future.

About MOUSE Squad of California

MSCA is the Student Tech Leadership program of Aspiranet, a CA nonprofit that provides after-school and youth development programs, and children and family services. MSCA is a licensed partner of MOUSE, a New York City-based nonprofit.

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