

EDUCATION

Micro:bits, big ideas. New summer tech camp opens in New Concord

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Muskingum County middle school students will have access to a new technology-focused summer camp designed to introduce coding and engineering concepts through hands-on projects. The opportunity is being offered through a partnership between [TECH CORPS](#) and the [Foundation for Appalachian Ohio](#), according to a community announcement.

The program, called Tech Quest, is scheduled for July 27-31 at 260 Stadium Drive in New Concord and is geared toward students in grades 6-8. Participants will work with micro:bits and sensors while completing coding, testing and problem-solving activities tied to global-themed challenges.

Campers will earn digital skills badges during the week and will be able to keep the micro:bit device used during the program.

Students attending Techie Camp programs across Ohio use technology to design, test and improve solutions to engineering and coding challenges, according to the announcement. Organizers say the activities are intended to build critical-thinking, creativity and teamwork skills.

“My team developed an eco-friendly night light,” said Efemena Adilike, a seventh-grade student from Columbus. “Our team coded the micro:bit to be energy efficient during the sleep cycle by adding a sensor to detect movement.”

Organizers said a limited number of openings remain for the upcoming session.

Camp aims to expand technology access

Jay Shaffstall, a senior designer at TECH CORPS and co-instructor for the Muskingum County camp, said the program is intended to give students exposure to technology-related learning opportunities.

“Many students still don't have access to quality tech-related education,” Shaffstall said. “We aim to fill that gap with summer programs designed to expose students to tech concepts in a fun and engaging way.”

The camp will operate from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. each day from July 27-31 at 260 Stadium Drive in New Concord.

Additional information and registration are available at techiecamp.org.

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