



base camp
C/CODING ACADEMY

NEWSLETTER
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STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

This month we are highlighting Loveleen Kaur. Loveleen came to Base Camp because she knew she wanted to pursue Computer Science. When asked about Base Camp she said, "Base Camp is a really open community. People come from different places and different interests with one thing in common: we all want to learn code. My favorite things about Base Camp are the people and the fact that we are able to learn and be ourselves all in one environment."

HALLOWEEN SHENANIGANS

Every so often, our students need a break from this fast-paced and rigorous program. On October 30th, we spent the afternoon participating in a costume contest and outdoor recreation...

FINISH READING ON PG. 2



PROGRESS TRACKING

This year's class has experienced many changes from past years, including a three month delayed start. During this unexpected delay, the staff at Base Camp wanted to ensure they used this extra time wisely...

FINISH READING ON PG. 3



HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

... we took the time to reflect on this year and everything we have been able to accomplish. We are extremely grateful for all of our wonderful sponsors, volunteers, board members, and the communities around us...

FINISH READING ON PG. 4





HALLOWEEN

SHENANIGANS

Every so often, our students need a break from this fast-paced and rigorous program. On October 30th, we spent the afternoon participating in a costume contest and outdoor recreation. Students and staff wore costumes throughout the day, and during lunch, the students selected the top 3 costumes. Patrick Star, a.k.a. Jeremiah Tatum, won 1st place, Business Narwhal, a.k.a. Lance Easley, was awarded 2nd place, and The Joker, a.k.a. Charles Mardis, finished in 3rd place. After lunch, all of the students and staff visited one of the co-founder's homes for a few hours of outdoor activities. The students enjoyed dodgeball, corn hole, frisbee, and basketball, in addition to some wonderful music played around the bon fire. Our student led Community Leadership Project Team planned and executed this afternoon of fun. When asked about the day Andy Duarte said, "It's nice to hang out with everyone without talking about code or our work. It's a nice break."



“An entirely revamped year with improved pedagogy and multiple new feedback structures has produced students with more mastery, independence, and love of their work than any cohort so far.””



PROGRESS TRACKING

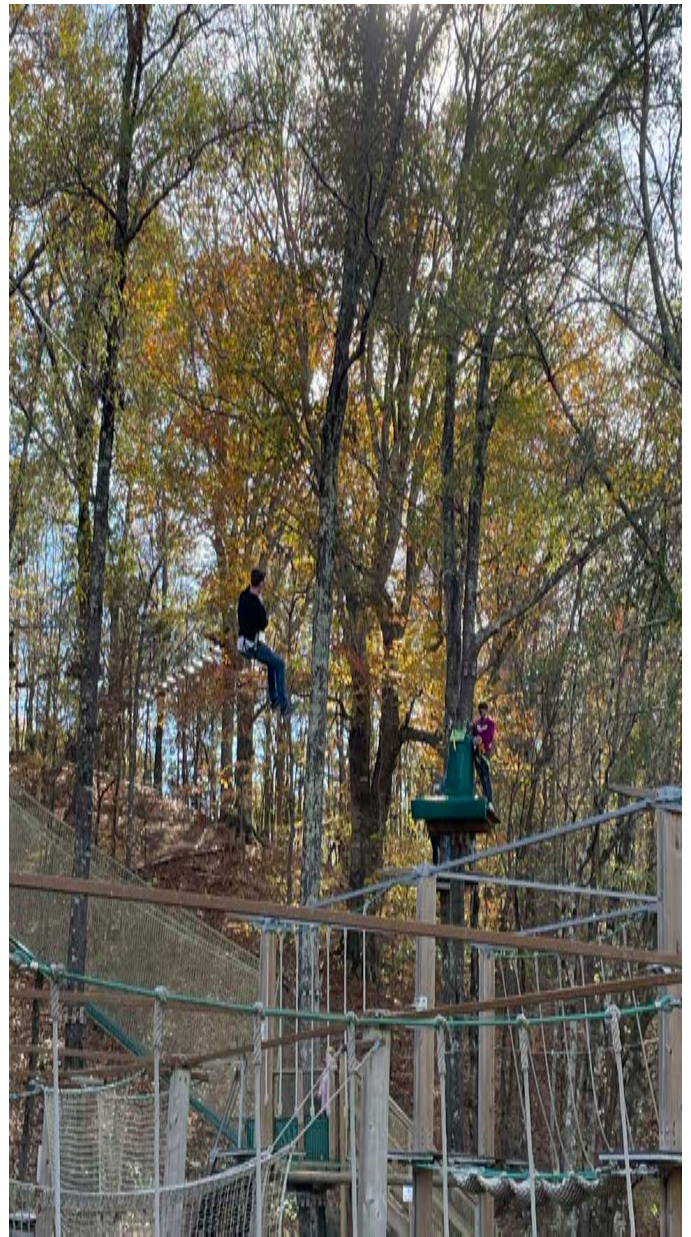
This year's class has experienced many changes from past years, including a three month delayed start. During this unexpected delay, the staff at Base Camp wanted to ensure they used this extra time wisely. “We really wanted to maximize this time,” says Fernae Ellard, Director, “by strategically making changes that focus on student development, feedback, and growth, both technically and professionally.” Working together to create a mapped out and clear program, Ellard, along with Nate Clark, Senior Technical Director, made significant shifts to the curriculum delivery. The biggest changes have come in being able to provide daily feedback and support to students through clear project development and increased clarity in independent and group work. In the professionalism and communication space, Ellard created a formal arc of development for students that has not existed in the past. “Last year was my first year at Base Camp,” she says, “I learned a lot from trial and error while constantly seeking feedback from the class, staff, and board on what could be improved. This year, it's been really fun to see the results of that work as students are progressing quickly, while having a great time

doing it.” In the technical space, there was an identified need to be able to provide accurate daily, weekly, and unit-based feedback for the students and staff on student learning and progress. The daily feedback manifests through the work of an application created by our Technical Director, Nate Clark. “I saw need for tighter feedback loops, multi-layer evaluations, a more centralized student experience,” Clark says, “I wanted to create something that felt more like a gym than a classroom.” Because of this app, students receive immediate feedback on their progress, and instructors have a clear understanding of what subjects or issues need to be reviewed. This shift to daily checkpoints has been incredibly helpful for gauging student learning, both for the staff and for the students themselves. Having just finished the first quarter of their school year, students are already showing incredible work and drive, moving beyond expectations and requirements of years past. Nate Clark summarizes the results well by saying “An entirely revamped year with improved pedagogy and multiple new feedback structures has produced students with more mastery, independence, and love of their work than any cohort so far.”

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

We have so many things to be thankful for this year:

To end our short Thanksgiving week, the students and staff visited Old Mountain Outdoor Adventure in Winona, MS for a day of team building and zip lining. During the day, we took the time to reflect on this year and everything we have been able to accomplish. We are extremely grateful for all of our wonderful sponsors, volunteers, board members, and the communities around us that have all supported us with their time and resources. What we've been able to do this year and the outstanding progress we've seen in our students would not have been possible without all of you. This amazing new space at Everest, our reliable C Spire fiber, all of our new equipment, and all of the time spent by the amazing staff, board members, and other volunteers are what has made this unpredictable and crazy year such a success for us thus far. We can never adequately express how much each of you have blessed us, but we want you to know that we are deeply thankful for all of the support you've each provided and continue to provide every day for all of our students.



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Community Sponsors – Facebook, Diane and Dickey Scruggs, Leigh Anne and Sean Tuohy with Making it Happen Foundation, BrainShark.

Base Camp Pilot (2016-2019):

Founding Partner - Northwest Mississippi Community College.

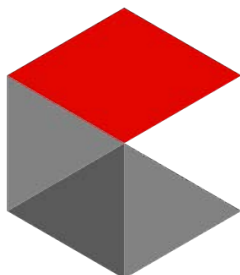
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