

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Cedar Rapids Selected as Host Site for Artificial Intelligence Bootcamp – APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN!

The Mark Cuban Foundation's Artificial Intelligence Bootcamp Initiative Teaches AI Concepts to Underserved High School Students through a 4-Saturday Bootcamp

**CEDAR RAPIDS, IA** – Circle Computer Resources will host a Mark Cuban Foundation Artificial Intelligence (AI) Bootcamp for high school students in the Fall of 2022 in conjunction with NewBoCo. The No Cost AI Bootcamp in Cedar Rapids will be targeted at high school students and will introduce underserved students in grades 9 through 12 to basic AI concepts and skills.

Circle Computer Resources is one of 20+ host companies selected to host 30 camps across the US in Fall 2022.

The Circle Computer Resources Bootcamp will be held over four consecutive Saturdays starting on October 22nd and ending on November 12th.

The student and parent application are now open at <u>markcubanai.org/application</u>. Students **do not** need any prior experience with computer science, programming, or robotics to apply and attend.

Throughout the Al Bootcamp, students will learn what artificial intelligence is and is not, where they already interact with Al in their own lives, and the ethical implications of Al systems including but not limited to TikTok recommendations, smart home assistants, facial recognition, and self-driving cars to name a few.

Students will benefit from volunteer mentor instructors who are knowledgeable about data science and able to help students quickly understand material normally taught at a collegiate level. As part of the 5-hour curriculum, students also get to work in Microsoft Azure, Microsoft's cloud computing platform, each day to build their own Al applications related to Chatbots, Computer Vision, Machine Learning, and Natural Language Processing.

The Mark Cuban Foundation provides the bootcamp's curriculum materials, trains volunteer mentors, and recruits and selects local students to attend camp. In addition, the Mark Cuban Foundation and Circle Computer Resources work together to provide food, transportation, and access to laptops for students at **no cost** throughout the duration of Bootcamp.

"This bootcamp gave me the opportunity to discover the potential that AI has to revolutionize our world, but more importantly, it helped me see that I have a place to make an impact and contribute to that progress. "- **Sarah S.** 

Founded by Mark Cuban in 2019, the Al Bootcamp initiative has hosted free Al bootcamps for students across several US cities, including Dallas, Pasadena, Chicago, Pittsburgh, Detroit, and Atlantic City to name a few. The Mark Cuban Foundation has impacted 450+ students to date and has a goal to have 1,000 students graduate from Al Bootcamps Program in 2023.

Students interested in applying to the Mark Cuban Foundation AI Bootcamp should do so **before Thursday**, **September 1**<sup>st</sup>, **2022** at <u>markcubanai.org/application</u>. To see our 2022 camp locations and to learn more about the Mark Cuban Foundation AI Bootcamps, please visit <u>markcubanai.org/faq</u>.