

Technology

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This is no ordinary computer camp

CONTRIBUTED STORY
FOR THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

The concept of "computer camp" paints the picture of a group of students banging away on old beige computers, programming in some obscure language. Who would want to do anything like this? Even worse, who would send their child to something like this?

"You've got it all wrong. This is the cool camp!" exclaims Kathryn Ingram, co-owner of iD Tech Camps, the national high-tech computer camp for kids.

Ingram may be on to something. Ingram has brought her technology program to 21 national university locations in 8 states—one of them at Reed College.

"Technology is cool." Says Ingra. "We've got a wide range of young students who attend our camps. Some have a ton of experience. Others have never turned on a computer. The common denominator is that technology is in. It's cool. It's here to stay."

The concept of "computer camp" can be intimidating, especially for a young student with no experience, but Ingram's program addresses this. Upon entering one of iD's labs, filled with brightly colored iMacs, neatly arranged PCs, scanners and DV cameras and energetic instructors, students feel safe and secure.

"I went to soccer camp last week. Now I'm at computer camp. I will be back at computer camp next week. I need to add the credits and some morphed graphics," says Aaron Cimino, 12. You can't blame him. Aaron is shooting footage for his very own digital movie. Tomorrow, he'll be taking the footage and editing it using Apple Computer's Final Cut Pro. At the end of the week, he will have integrated rock music and animated graphics into the project, and will take it home to share with his parents and friends.

iD Tech Camps teaches digital video and movie making, multimedia and 3D Arts, programming and virtual reality, and internet web-authoring. "We're teaching the latest in technology. Kids are so fun to watch. They absorb everything so quickly, and have so much fun doing it. They have no idea how much they are learning," says Ingram.

Students and Parents aren't the only ones who are excited about iD Tech Camps. High-Tech icons such as Apple Computer, Intel,



Kids can join a computer camp this summer at Reed College through iD Tech to learn digital video and movie making, multimedia, internet web-authoring and other cool skills.

Cisco, Macromedia, and Iomega support the program.

"It's a win-win situation for everyone," says Ingram. "We're educating the future. We're building self-esteem. We're providing a

valuable summer program for parents and students. And, we're having fun doing it."

The next internalDrive (iD) High-Tech Computer Camp will be held at Reed College for boys and girls

of all skill levels, ages 8-17 on July 16 through August 11, 2000. Call 1-888-709-TECH (8324) or check their website at www.internalDrive.com for more information.



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