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Converse College Partners with Girls Who Code to Expand Technology and Mathematics Opportunities for Young Women

SPARTANBURG, S.C. (October 5, 2020) – In an extension of its program development in mathematics and technology, Converse College announces its partnership with Girls Who Code during the 2020-2021 academic year. Girls Who Code aims to close the gender gap in technology and encourages young women to pursue their interest in mathematics and computer science through hands-on learning and mentorship.

The Department of Mathematics and Computer Science at Converse is hosting Girls Who Code club meetings virtually each week for middle and high school students who are interested in computer science and coding. Each week, participants learn new skills and work on real coding projects, while being mentored by Converse undergraduate mathematics majors and Converse mathematics and computer science professors.

"We are excited to be partnering with Girls Who Code to host these meetings for middle and high school students each week. We want each and every student who is a part of the club to realize their potential in coding and understand that they can make a real difference in the mathematics and technology fields," said Dr. Jessica Sorrells, Assistant Professor of Mathematics and Chair of the Department of Mathematics at Converse.

Girls Who Code extends efforts being made by Converse to broaden educational opportunities for women in mathematics and technology. Over the past two years, Converse has added two faculty members to provide instruction within the institution's interdisciplinary data science minor that launched in fall 2020. The data science minor, housed in the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science, consists of courses that provide fundamental skills in processing, analyzing, and inferring meaning from data sets. The minor was created to further develop students' transferable skills, such as project management, critical-thinking and problem-solving, and open up opportunities across industries in data management, data consulting, consumer and market knowledge management, business analytics, and healthcare informatics.

Converse is proud to partner with organizations preparing the next generation of programmers, engineers, and computer scientists to develop their voice, discover their value, and shape the future of technology.

Click here to learn more about participating in the FREE Girls Who Code meetings each week.

About Girls Who Code
Girls Who Code is an international nonprofit organization working to close the gender gap in technology, and leading the movement to inspire, educate, and equip young women with the computing skills needed to pursue 21st century opportunities. Since launching in 2012, Girls Who Code has reached 500 million people through its work and 300,000 girls through its in-person programming. College-aged alumni of Girls Who Code are declaring majors in computer science and related fields at 15 times the U.S. average. In 2019, the organization was named the #1 Most Innovative Non-Profit on Fast Company's Most Innovative Companies list. Follow the organization on social media @GirlsWhoCode.

About Converse College
Converse was founded in 1889 by citizens of Spartanburg, SC who aimed to create an educational experience that enables women "to see clearly, decide wisely, and act justly." Effective July 1, 2021 it will acknowledge its university status under the name Converse University, and in fall 2020 it welcomed its first undergraduate co-educational incoming class. Converse is a creator of opportunity for all academically-qualified students through a personalized education that is combined with the professional and technical skills graduates need to be successful in their careers. Converse pushes beyond traditional boundaries to make a quality educational experience available to every qualified student who seeks it – both at the undergraduate and post-graduate levels. Converse College's mission is to help students develop their unique voice, a sense of value, and a vision for the future.

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