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Microsoft Imagine Academy



Prepare students for
success in the classroom
and their career



Welcome to the October 2016 edition of the monthly Microsoft Imagine Academy newsletter—news and information to help you get the most out of your Imagine Academy membership. **Help keep your team informed—please forward this newsletter to educators in your school.**

Welcome to the October MSIA Newsletter!



Fall is in full swing and we are excited to share with you the latest news from the Microsoft Imagine Academy (MSIA) program! Several key stories are included below in this month's newsletter that showcase how the MSIA program and technology are helping students and teachers succeed in the classroom to gain lifelong skills. **Minecraft: Education Edition** is an open world game that promotes creativity, collaboration, and problem solving in an immersive environment and we are excited to announce availability of Professional Development courses in MSIA. One of your peers, Mark Klune from Tolt Middle School in Carnation, Washington, USA has been charging ahead with Creative Coding through Games and Apps and is featured in the latest edition of the **Microsoft Innovative Educator Magazine**. And we've been busy putting together a new **MSIA toolkit** to help you unpack the benefits of the program and make it easier than ever to access all of the program resources. Lastly, we want to share an inspiring video story of a young woman who was a competitor during this year's Microsoft Office Specialist World Competition and how Microsoft and Pearson are working together to empower thousands of **students impacted by the Syrian crisis** to learn, certify, and showcase their employability skills.

Sincerely,

October 2016

Join us on Social Media

Join us on social media and get the latest and the greatest on Microsoft Imagine Academy. It is a great way for you to hear directly from us and for you to share your thoughts and feedback with us. Your stories inspire us to enrich the program and take it further every day. Your stories also inspire other educators worldwide to use technology to further their own career and as a means to student success. Let us know how the Microsoft Imagine Academy program made a difference in the lives of your students and in your own professional career.

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Reminder

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Morgan Dutton
Microsoft Imagine Academy Program Manager

What's New/Program Updates

Announcing the Microsoft Imagine Academy Program Toolkit



We are excited to announce the launch of our new **MSIA program toolkit**. Pin this online OneNote to access a wealth of information for understanding, using, and promoting MSIA at your institution. The toolkit will constantly be updated with the most current resources needed to take your program from concept to success.

Minecraft: Education Edition to Launch November 1



The **blog post** revealing the general availability date of Minecraft: Education Edition was recently released! In the post, general availability for purchase will commence November 1st, 2016. The Early Access version currently available will be free to use until that date.

In addition to the already known features, the blog post highlights new features to enhance the academic experience, including:

- Classroom Mode: a companion app that educators can use to manage world settings, communicate with students and more, including displaying a map view of the Minecraft world
- The remainder of Redstone functionality and pistons
- Updated user interface
- Additional player skins

Benefit Highlights

New Windows 10 App and Microsoft Testing on Console 8



Windows 10 features a Take a Test app which locks down the machine and then launches a testing site URL. **Please note: this app will not work in conjunction with Certiport's Console 8 to offer MOS, MTA, or MCE Exams.** As Console 8 is a dedicated app that launches the MOS/MTA/MCE Exams and uses its own interface and lockdown mode to deliver these Microsoft exams, it is imperative that you do not launch the Take a Test app prior to

launching Console 8.

Find out more about the [Windows 10 Take a Test app on TechNet](#).

For additional resources on Console 8, please visit your [Organization Administrator page at Certiport](#).

Community Insights

Microsoft Innovative Educator Magazine is now available



The current issue of the [Microsoft Innovative Educator Magazine](#) features Mark Klune, an MSIA teacher from Tolt Middle School and his students' success with Creative Coding through Games and Apps! Also featured are several articles featuring Microsoft Imagine Academy including Computer Science, MSIA/Showcase Schools, and the Worldwide MOS Competition.

We invite you to join the excitement! By registering for the [Microsoft Educator Community](#) you can collaborate with teachers all over the world, learn quick tips for using Microsoft technology, earn badges, and even go on Skype field trips! It's free and easy to join and sets you on an exciting path to becoming a [Microsoft Innovative Educator](#)!

Celebrate Success



Your learners and educators work hard to master 21st century technology skills and earn industry recognized certification.

Celebrate all their accomplishments by sharing their story with us to help inspire others. Spread the word in a variety of ways:

- Email us at iastories@microsoft.com
- Tweet with us [@msftita](https://twitter.com/msftita)
- Follow us at <https://www.facebook.com/MSFTIA/>
- Use the handy [social media and newsletter template](#) found on the MSIA member site

Resources

Hack the Classroom On-Demand



As the world changes and is moving more rapidly, it can feel overwhelming to know what and how to incorporate new technology into your classroom. Hack the Classroom is an exciting online live event designed to inspire and enable you to incorporate new ideas and tools into your classroom so your students can achieve more. The key is to start with just a few small steps.

By viewing the [Hack the Classroom](#) on-demand event, you'll hear from inspiring speakers and thought leading educators, learn from teachers by taking a glimpse into their classrooms to see how small changes result in huge student impact, and gain access to professional development resources and tools to get started. [Watch now on-demand until December 20, 2016.](#)

Become a OneNote All Star!



Confused about all the OneNote hype? With the recent addition of Office 2016 MOAC material via OneNote, many educators want to get started but don't know where. Join the [Microsoft Educator's Community](#) and begin with one of the engaging OneNote courses: [Introduction to OneNote](#) or

[Teacher Academy: OneNote, the ultimate collaboration tool](#). Along the way, you can earn points, badges and certificates as well as qualify to become a [Microsoft Innovative Educator](#).

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Microsoft Corporation
One Microsoft Way
Redmond, WA 98052 USA