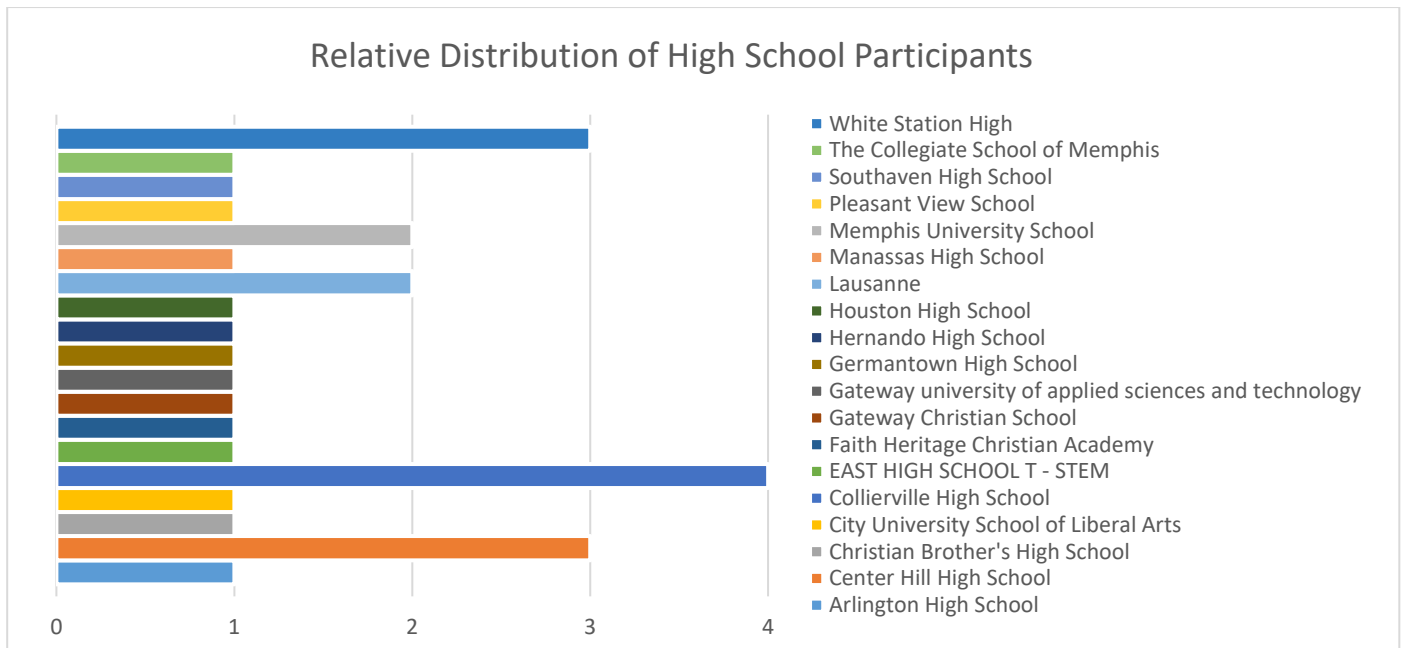# Cyber Ambassadors Tech Camp
Hack. Patch. Code.
Summary Report.

The Center for Information Assurance (CfIA) successfully hosted its first annual Cyber Ambassadors Tech Camp from June 18-22. Over 25 high school students, from different places, came to the University of Memphis to learn more about cybersecurity, computer science and technology. The chart below displays that campers came from 19 different schools across the mid-south region. The highest number of applicants came from Collierville High School.

Relative Distribution of High School Participants

Legend:
- White Station High
- The Collegiate School of Memphis
- Southaven High School
- Pleasant View School
- Memphis University School
- Manassas High School
- Lausanne
- Houston High School
- Hernando High School
- Germantown High School
- Gateway university of applied sciences and technology
- Gateway Christian School
- Faith Heritage Christian Academy
- EAST HIGH SCHOOL T - STEM
- Collierville High School
- City University School of Liberal Arts
- Christian Brother's High School
- Center Hill High School
- Arlington High School

The camp started with a welcome from the Dean of Arts & Sciences, Dr. Thomas J. Nenon. The week-long camp was divided into multiple sessions that allowed students to be engaged in activities that involved coding, digital forensics, capture the flag and career planning. The main theme of the camp was Cybersecurity. With the help of the Nova Labs and Social Media Sentinel software, instructors were able to reinforce the importance of cyber safety throughout the week. Students were also introduced to careers in Cybersecurity. These lessons were combined with logic-based coding sessions that allowed students to create an animated short that reflected potential future career choices. Students were also introduced to the JavaScript and Python coding languages. On the last day, the students were able to utilize the skills learned earlier in the week to compete in both a Digital Forensics and Capture the Flag competition. The campers were also given the opportunity to tour the FedEx Institute of Technology at the end of the week.

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The security professionals who shared their experiences with the campers included Ms. Karen Bell (U of M Systems Analyst), Agent Tim Marsh (FBI), and Ms. Avanti Pandit (Business Information Technology). The University of Memphis provost, Dr. Karen Weddle-West, addressed the audience at the closing ceremony on June 22nd and encouraged students to pursue higher education after high school. The Co-Director of ESU Scholars, Dr. Janet Burks, also spoke to the High School campers on the importance of early preparation for college.

When asked about their experience, one camper had this to say "It was an amazing learning experience where I met new friends with common interests and it exceeded my expectations." Another student stated that," In the camp, I learned more about cybersecurity, coding, and the jobs in cybersecurity, as well as how my career aspiration is related to cybersecurity..."

More information about this camp can be found at http://www.memphis.edu/cfia/projects/tech-camp.php. This camp was featured on WMC-TV, WUMR 97.1 and Local 24.

The Center Director, Prof. Dasgupta offers special thanks and recognition to Dr. Karen Weddle-West, Dr. Thomas J. Nenon, Ms. Karen Bell, Agent Tim Marsh, Ms. Avanti Pandit, Mr. Terrance Campbell, Mr. Top Malasri and Dr. Denise Ferebee for their contributions and support. He also highlighted that the CfIA successfully hosted summer bootcamps for students for three consecutive years and continues to put the University of Memphis in the forefront in cyber security education and outreach.

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