LMC sets computer camp for kids

BENTON TOWNSHIP — A new kind of day camp is coming to Lake Michigan College this summer for computer-savvy kids 8-14, LMC announced.

Week-long workshops range from beginner to advanced and cover subjects like video game design, app design, animation and coding.

The program is designed by Black Rocket Productions, an international organization, which has been providing digital arts courses for 14 years. Student-created projects will be available on a password-protected website to share with family and friends.

The first camp begins June 6. Each camp is priced at $149 and will be on LMC's main campus, Monday through Friday, for three hours per day. Registration is available online at www.lakemichigancollege.edu/camps or by calling 926-6832.

LMC is recruiting instructors to teach the camps. Technically proficient adults who enjoy working with middle-school-aged children can apply at www.lakemichigancollege.edu/blackrocket. Training and a financial stipend will be provided.

The following programs will be offered:

■ **MAKE YOUR FIRST VIDEO GAME:** The class introduces the keys to designing a 2D platformer game. Conceptualization, play experience, challenge levels, graphics, sounds and simple coding will be explored. No experience necessary. June 6-10. Ages 8-10, 9 a.m.-noon. Ages 11-14, 1-4 p.m.

■ **MINECRAFT DESIGNERS:** Students will learn the basics of creating 3D models using new software to design objects, create skins for characters and import them into Minecraft games. To use their project from home, students must own a PC/MAC version of Minecraft. Tablet, phone, and game console versions of Minecraft are not compatible. June 13-17. Ages 11-14, 9 a.m.-noon. Ages 8-10, 1-4 p.m.

■ **APP ATTACK:** Students will explore the world of web-based (HTML5) mobile apps. The basics of mobile app design and game development, as well as app publishing functions will be introduced. No experience is necessary and students do not need to own a smartphone or tablet to take the class. June 20-24. Ages 11-14, 9 a.m. -noon. Ages 8-10, 1-4 p.m.

■ **MAKE YOUR FIRST 3D VIDEO GAME:** June 27 to July 1. Ages 8-10, 9 a.m.-noon. Ages 11-14, 1-4 p.m.

■ **MINECRAFT ANIMATORS:** Students will learn how studios like Pixar and Disney make movies like "Inside Out" and "Frozen." July 11-15. Ages 11-14, 9 a.m.-noon. Ages 8-10, 1-4 p.m.

■ **APP ADVENTURES: THE NEXT LEVEL!:** The camp moves past the basics learned in App Attack, though the previous camp is not required. July 18-22. Ages 11-14, 9 a.m.-noon. Ages 8-10, 1-4 p.m.

■ **CODE BREAKER:** Students will learn the basics of coding languages like HTML, JavaScript, and CSS through a series of web projects. July 25-29. Ages 11-14, 9 a.m.-noon. Ages 8-10, 1-4 p.m.