

The Joan Ganz Cooney Center at Sesame Workshop and E-Line Media present

TEACHER WORKSHOPS

To Grow and Support Young Game Designers

OUR WORKSHOPS ARE DESIGNED TO:

- Help teachers spark interest in STEM learning among their students by tapping into their natural passion for playing and making video games
- **Introduce** games as systems made up of components that work together to create a fun, challenging experience for the player
- **Show** how the iterative game design cycle supports the development of 21st century skills such as creativity, problem solving, critical thinking, and collaboration
- **Emphasize** core digital literacies to help students better critique and appreciate the games they play and the online resources they use
- **Encourage** teachers to serve as mentor for students interested in participating in the National STEM Video Game Challenge (www.stemchallenge.org)

WORKSHOP TYPES

- **TEACHERS ONLY** Teachers learn about the elements of game systems; complete hands-on, physical game design exercises to make and modify simple games; design an original video game; and play each other's games to receive play-testing feedback
- **STUDENT OBSERVATION** Teachers observe a student game design workshop, and meet both before and after to explore tools and resources and to strategize how they can implement similar learning experiences with their students

WORKSHOP LOGISTICS

STEM Challenge provides:

- Video game design and educational professionals to facilitate the workshop
- Materials for use in physical game making exercises and complimentary lifetime access to *Gamestar Mechanic* (www.gamestarmechanic.com), a game-based learning tool
- Marketing collateral including customizable recruitment materials, teaser video, sample student games, photos, and press talking points

Venue provides:

- Outreach efforts, space, and resources to support participation from 15+ middle and high school teachers for 2-4 hours between April 1 – July 31, 2016
- High-speed Internet-connected computers with Adobe Flash installed (a free download)