

Author creates computer science doll to promote STEM learning

PHOENIX, Ariz. (BlackNews.com) -- Bukola Somide, creator of 14-inch Somi, the first ever Computer Science Interactive Doll, is on a mission to make playtime educational

and entertaining. Equipped with 12 voiceovers, Somi teaches computer science concepts in a fun way and deters cyberbullying.

The first of its kind, Somi STEM doll was

designed based off the looks of the main character in her children's storybook, "Somi, The Computer Scientist: Princess Can Code." In the book, Somi (pronounced shaw-me) is a curious, bright, humorous, and beautiful young girl who has a natural interest in learning computer programming concepts from her mom. Her inquisitive nature allows her to connect what she's learning with real life ex-

periences. Somi's persona was created with the intent that young learners would find her relatable and would want her as a friend.

Bukola's words succinctly capture the essence of this project and her drive as a change agent. "My passion is to bring computer science awareness to underserved communities while deterring cyberbullying. I'm so excited for everyone to experience Somi, The Computer Sci-

ence doll!"

To pre-order a Somi, The Computer Science Doll, visit www.innovant-tech.com/somidoll. Mass production process of the dolls is set to begin in March 2020 and quality-assured dolls would be delivered to customers by August 2020. However, this is dependent on the sales of a minimum of 1,000 units of the 14-inch Somi, Computer Science Interactive Doll by Jan.

27, 2020.

Help us to achieve this goal! Share this information with family and friends on social media, email and by word of mouth. Refunds on all doll orders (minus credit card processing fees) will be made if the minimum order is not reached by the deadline.

For details of a special giveaway, or to order the Somi Smart Doll, visit www.innovant-tech.com.



Submitted photo

Bukola Somide and Somi, the Computer Science Doll

Kimberley Park Tennis Club honors legends with the return of the Christmas Dance

SUBMITTED ARTICLE

The Kimberley Park Tennis Club (KPTC) was established in 1974. Its purpose was to expose and develop the game of tennis among the Winston-Salem African American community. This was done through tennis lessons, playing and competing against other African Americans throughout the southeast United States.

During the time of its

discontinued after 1997.

This year marks the 45th year of the club's existence and what better way to commemorate it than to bring back the Christmas Dance. At the Christmas Dance, KPTC will honor and recognize five community legends of the game. The Legacy awardees nurtured, developed and grew the game for decades in the African American community. Recipients are Weldon



Submitted photo

The Christmas Dance was created as a fundraiser for the Kimberley Park Tennis Club.

origin, there were very few African Americans playing on a national stage. But here in Winston-Salem, there was the Archie family that played and competed in high school and at the college level. Many children and adults would flock to the Kimberley Park red clay tennis courts to watch the talented and majestic moves of the family children. In 2013, the city of Winston-Salem dedicated the Kimberley Park courts for the Archies.

In 1977, the KPTC created the Christmas Dance as a fundraiser for the organization. The event, held on Christmas night, attracted thousands over a 20-year period. It was known to sell out a month in advance. The event was

Stroud, George Johnson, Leon Kay, Charles Kennedy and Katie Carter. Monies raised from the event will support the junior tennis program. The Christmas Dance will be held Wednesday, Dec. 25, at the Hawthorne Inn from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. Ticket purchase and donations can be done at the club's website - www.kimberleyparktennisclub.org - or call 336-757-0036.

Arnice Wall is the club's president. The club continues to provide free tennis lessons and development for juniors and adults. This year there have been over 150 juniors participating in the programs provided on Sunday afternoons at Hanes Park and Friday night indoors at Vision Tennis Center.

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