Communicating Computer Science

Association for Computing Machinery and Widmeyer Communications



Analyze the Landscape

- Determine where computer science education fits in the education, skills, economy conversation
- Identify who is reporting on what in media
 - Target each contact with relevant news (NY Times Tech Talk, etc.)
- Ascertain the thought leaders in this space



Build Coalitions and Partnerships

- Bring thought leaders together to maximize reach and news:
 - Computer Science Education Week
 - Computing in the Core
- Partner with like-minded organizations to leverage resources



Implement Media Outreach

- Determine audiences
- Develop messages
- Identify spokespeople
- Build relationships with targeted media



Activate Social Media Channels with Relevant Content

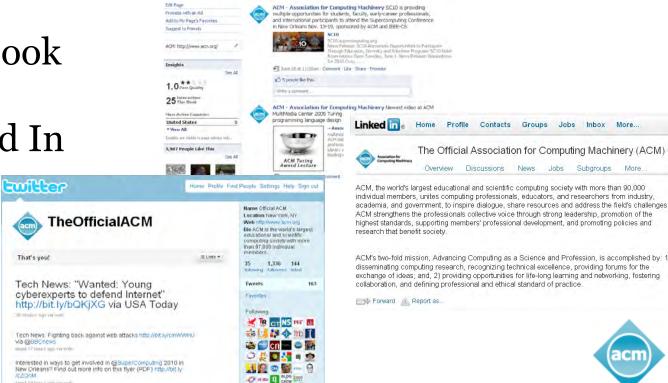
acm

ACM Twitter

ACM Facebook

ACM Linked In

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ACM - Association for Computing Machinery Wall Info Events Photos Discussions Boxes >> +

ACM - Association for Computing Machinery + Others

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CASE STUDY

Computer Science Education Week



The Issue: Computer Science Education

• Recognizing the transformative role of computing and the need to bolster computer science at all educational levels, the Association for Computing Machinery led a coalition to build public awareness of the first Computer Science Education Week (CSEdWeek), designated by the U.S. House of Representatives as the first full week of December 2009.



Strategies & Results: Partnerships

 Fostered partnerships with leading associations, government entities and technology industry leaders



Webcast--Computer Science Education Week



Multiple blog posts and news items distributed through partner networks, including the official Google blog and an NSF webcast

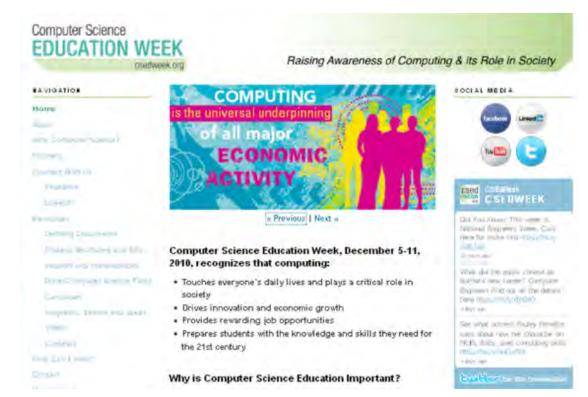




Strategies & Results: Website

- Developed interactive website as central resource hub for CSEdWeek and as a leading computer science education resource
- Strong initial results in site traffic
- Number of visitors and page views continues to increase seven months after launch





Strategies & Results: Social Media

- Created and continue to support a vibrant online community through the CSEdWeek social media networks
 - Facebook: nearly 1,400 fans
 - Twitter: more than 400 followers
 - YouTube: more than 4,000 channel views
 - Linked In: more than 100 group members

 Worked with Congressmen Jared Polis (D-CO) and Vernon Ehlers (R-MI) to tape personal video messages from each on the importance of computer science













CSEdWeek Media Results

• Garnered media coverage in prominent publications:
Business and Metro front page pieces in *The New York Times* and *The Washington Post*,
Education Week, Examiner,
Dr. Dobb's Journal, The New York Times Tech Talk Podcast, blogs and media from CSEdWeek partners; op-ed placed on Huffington Post

The New Hork Times

The Washington Post

EDUCATION WEEK



THE HUFFINGTON POST



Future CSEdWeek Plans: December 5-11

- Creation of targeted materials for educators, administrators, policymakers, etc.
- More local CSEdWeek celebrations at high schools, universities, organizations and other partners
- Targeted sections on website for wider array of audiences
- Video interview series, "What Computer Science Education Means to Me"

