



Contact: Lisa Noble
602-317-1589
lisa@noble-media.com

State-of-the-Art Cox Innovation Lab Debuts at the Boys & Girls Club of the Valley in Peoria
Cox Innovation Lab provides robotics, 3D printing, virtual reality, gaming, laser cutters, computers and more

PHOENIX – Boys & Girls Clubs of the Valley (BGCAZ) has added a Cox Innovation Lab for the youth at the Peoria Jerry & Helen Wisotksy Branch. Leadership from BGCAZ and Cox Communications recently helped Club kids cut the ribbon on the new computer lab.

The lab, accelerated during the pandemic to ensure that youth in distance learning would have access to the technology they need, includes 20 new computers, two media production computers, virtual reality technology, a 3D printer, a laser printer and cutter, and STEAM tables and stools. There is also specialty lighting, paint and artwork to make the lab an engaging destination for youth between the ages of 5 and 12.

“This new Cox Innovation Lab really speaks to kids,” said Boys & Girls Clubs of the Valley CEO Marcia Mintz. “It’s filled with the technology they need to do schoolwork, and the laser cutters, 3D printers and media production computers to explore their creative interests. Our Peoria members will have hours of fun in this lab.”

Cox has an ambitious 34-by-34 goal that gives the company an opportunity to take action in the communities where its employees live and work. In partnership with national and local nonprofits like the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Valley, Cox will deliver help and support where it’s needed most. The Cox Innovation Labs are part of Cox’s plan to help 34 million people live more prosperous lives and provide opportunities for children who have little to no access to the Internet by 2034.

“Cox Labs give thousands of kids daily access to leading-edge technology in their Club,” said Susan Anable, Cox Southwest Region Vice President of Public Affairs. “These students are digital natives who need time and space to explore virtual reality, digital programming, and other tech not available in their classrooms and homes, that will prepare them for careers of the future.”

Cox Communications enjoys a longtime partnership with Boys & Girls Clubs of the Valley. Both entities are dedicated to serving youth in their communities and supporting their academic success. Together, the organizations are creating equity for students by bridging the divide between Valley youth and teens with no access to technology to a technologically advanced world with the resources and experiences they need to succeed in a digital world.

About Boys & Girls Clubs of the Valley

Boys & Girls Clubs of the Valley offers affordable after-school and summer programs for more than 17,000 young people in grades K-12. At more than 30 Clubs across the Valley, BGCAZ provides award-winning programs designed to change the lives of young people. For nearly 75 years, BGCAZ has been creating equity and opportunity for youth through academic, social, and workforce opportunities. We help young people make healthy decisions and focus on social and emotional development to build resilient young adults. Most importantly, we work to develop strong character and leadership skills by creating positive connections with caring adults and their communities. For more information: visit bgcaz.org or on social channels at @BGCArizona.

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