



SANTA CRUZ TECH BEAT

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Digest #341

Last week I had tears in my eyes when I listened to the moving stories about how those who've been hit hardest by Covid-19 have been helped by Community Foundation Santa Cruz County (CFSCC). If you want to feel proud about how the local tech community is helping those in need, read this week's exclusive article by Jenny Kurzweil, Communications Officer at CFSCC.

After endless Zoom meetings, many of us have burned out on traditional video conferencing. On August 7, you can join faculty and graduate students from UCSC's Center for Computational Excellence as they discuss new ways technology can enhance social connection during a pandemic.

That and more. Scroll down and start reading!

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Top Stories

Are you craving a dose of optimism? Jenny Kurzweil of Community Foundation Santa Cruz County provides a positive outlook on how our local tech community has worked to make a difference during the pandemic. [Read the article.](#)

UCSC and Community Foundation Santa Cruz County partner to ensure low-income and vulnerable residents have access to rapid COVID-19 testing. [Read the article.](#)

Western Growers Center for Innovation and Technologies announces its first international partner. [Read the article.](#)

How can technology enhance social connection during a pandemic? On Aug 7, join panelists from UCSC's Center for Computational Excellence for a discussion of social tech followed by a VIRTUAL interactive reception. [Read the article.](#)

Our Partners



Do those fidget spinners work? A new scientific study that uses AI will assess whether fidget toys help increase focus and relieve anxiety in adults with ADHD. [Read the article.](#)

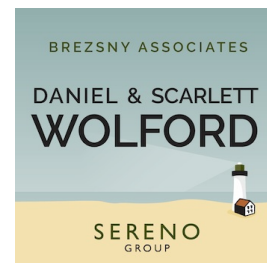
Could live action role playing (LARP) using wearable tech help girls build interest and confidence in computer science? The NSF awards \$1.2M to develop a Social Wearables Edu-LARP (SWEL) camp for middle school girls. [Read the article.](#)

The Naval Postgraduate School receives \$42.4M to expand partnerships in the development and fielding of autonomous systems and robotics. [Read the article](#)

Safer ride sharing could be on the horizon with Inhalio's dry-air virucide diffusion system. Using the system, active surrogate virus populations were significantly reduced. [Read the article.](#)

A new partnership adds industry-leading sustainable agriculture tool to SupplyShift's Standard Assessment library. [Read the article.](#)

Cosmic's Eric Ressler describes the "JAMStack" approach to making digital experiences fast, responsive, and immersive. [Read the article.](#)



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