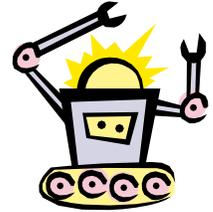# National Federation of the Blind &
Rochester Institute of Technology
Present
Computer Science Academy 2011
A STEM Leadership Academy

When
October 7-8, 2011, Students will arrive on Thursday evening and depart on Saturday evening.

Where
The program will be held at the National Federation of the Blind's Jernigan Institute

Who
Thirty blind students in Grades 7 through 11 and their parents will be selected to participate in this program. Students who would like to be considered must complete the online application and submit it to the Dr. Stephanie Ludi at the Rochester Institute of Technology by August 1, 2011. Students need not have a strong interest in science, technology, engineering, or math (STEM) in order to participate, enjoy, and benefit from this academy. Students will be randomly selected from those eligible to participate. This means that the student must be able to perform basic self-care skills, have some degree of independent travel skills, be able to read Braille, print, or both, and should, at a minimum, be able to understand content appropriate for students entering their grade level.

What
This two-day academy will inspire the next generation of blind youth to consider careers in computing fields through engaging activities and interaction with college and industry role models. At the Jernigan Institute, students and parents will explore computing careers in separate tracks. Students will learn about topics such as robotics and programming for areas such as the web and mobile devices. The activities are meant to be fun, challenging and to build confidence as students and parents plan what classes to take in middle and high school to prepare students for their career choices. The CS Academy will also provide opportunities for participants to learn about planning for college and life as a college student.

Cost
There is no cost to apply for or attend the program. Materials and food are included. Travel stipends are available for several participants. Lodging at the Jernigan Institute is available for many out-of-town participants.

How to Apply
Please complete the 2011 NFB-RIT Computer Science Academy Student Application before August 1, 2011. Applicants will be notified of their acceptance status by the late August. Accepted participants will then need to complete an additional form to complete the registration process. Please note, it may take approximately 30 minutes to complete this application. Application forms will be available in Late February at the CS Academy website at: http://www.se.rit.edu/~imagine-it or via email from imagine-it@se.rit.edu

Notification of Acceptance
Selected student participants will be notified by e-mail and regular mail of their acceptance status by late August 2011. Selections of participants will not be made until after the deadline of August 1, so as to give all who are interested in applying an opportunity to do so.