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Barbie teams up with *Black Girls Code* to encourage girls to explore STEM

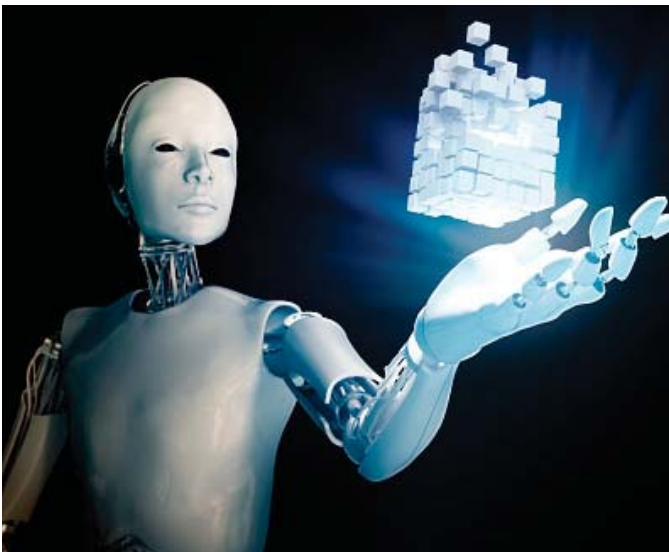
► **EL SEGUNDO, CA**— The Barbie Career of the Year Robotics Engineer doll, created in partnership with the educational outreach organization *Black Girls Code*, comes equipped with a doll-sized laptop, a robot and lab safety glasses. Available in four different versions, she joins a lineup of more than 200 career-specific Barbies created since her debut in 1959. In addition to calling attention to a critical need for more female scientists and computer coders and civil engineers, the ultimate aim of Barbie Robotics Engineer is to pique interest in STEM careers from a young age and inspire and unlock the limitless potential in every girl.



Today, only 10.8 percent of civil engineers are women, and just 20 percent of all software coders are women. Meanwhile, African-American representation in the U.S. tech industry continues to average only 2.5 percent, and African-American women comprise just one quarter of that percentage. Barbie is not only encouraging girls to explore STEM through imaginative play with the new Robotics Engineer Barbie, but also to venture into robotics and coding through its support of Black Girls Code robotics workshops. **bt**

— Sources: Mattel, Inc.

Survey finds 52% believe robots will perform most human activities in 30 years



▼ **WASHINGTON, DC // BDPA Washington //** — Robots, artificial intelligence, and machine learning will affect employment and public policy. This Brookings Institution survey asked how likely robots are to take over most human activities within the next 30 years. Nineteen percent feel this was very likely, 33 percent believe this is somewhat likely, 23 percent feel it is not very likely, and 25 percent of us are not sure.

There were not significant differences by demographic group or region. People aged 35 to 54 were a bit more likely to believe this was very likely, compared to those living in the South or adults under the age of 35. Males and older individuals were the ones most likely to say this was not very likely to happen. The poll also found people divided 32 to 29 percent regarding whether the U.S. government should set up a Federal Robotics Commission to regulate robot development and usage.

This online survey polled 2,021 adult Internet users in the United States June 4 to 6, 2018 through the Google Surveys platform. Responses were weighted using gender, age, and region to match the demographics of the national Internet population as estimated by the U.S. Census Bureau's Current Population Survey. **bt**

— Source: *The Brookings Institution*



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Celebrating National BDPA's 40th Conference
and BDPA-DC's 40th Anniversary in 2018

Let's Define Your "BDPA" | Big Data & Predictive Analytics -or- Billion-Dollar Programs Available?

Founded in 1975 as *Black Data Processing Associates* by Earl A. Pace, Jr. and the late David Wimberly, National BDPA was created to bring underrepresented communities together whose members were employed in information technology, programming, operations, and related computer science fields for the purpose of professional development and academic enrichment. Today, BDPA remains an international organization with its diverse membership of professionals and students engaged at every level across all industry verticals. BDPA and its Mission Partners continue to develop community engagement programs in support of a stronger technical workforce for America's information and communications technology (ICT) pipelines.

Student Information Technology Education and Scholarship (SITES)

Throughout the year, local BDPA chapters conduct SITES training programs for youth in their communities. These programs are designed to expose students to new information technology (IT) and cybersecurity (CS) concepts of computer and data science giving them the expertise to develop applications. Several BDPA chapters will participate in regional competitions throughout the country to further prepare their students. BDPA chapters are able to send one (1) team of 3 to 5 students to the National BDPA Technology Conference to compete for scholarships and internships with teams from other BDPA chapter cities across the United States.

National High School Coding Competition (HSCC) and Mobile App Showcase

Our HSCC Program was founded in 1986 by Dr. Jesse Bemley, of Washington, D.C. What started as a two-team event between Washington, D.C. and Atlanta, GA has grown to over 20 teams of various high school students from local BDPA chapters throughout the nation. Local HSCC and Jr. Dev programs, such as our Mobile App Showcase, are uniquely designed to introduce our Youth to the field of Information Technology to encourage them to seek higher levels of education, and groom many of them to become our next generation of IT and Cyber professionals. Industry mission-partners provide funding and support.

Full Membership | \$100.00 per year

Professional BDPA Membership is open to anyone interested in supporting BDPA's mission, while embracing new trends in technology, telecommunications, cybersecurity, information technology (IT), or Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM). To apply, join, or renew, visit: BDPA.org

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