

"If there's a film that will finally make you want to accept that friend request from your grandparents, this one is it."
- Village Voice

"A Must-See Movie"
- Huffington Post



"Cyber-Seniors is a fun look at seniors bridging the digital divide"
- Los Angeles Times

"Charming, Poignant, Hilarious"
- Maria Shriver, NBC News

Cyber-Seniors Newsletter - October 2016



Participants from the Cyber-Seniors group at the [Elsie Stuhr Center](#) in Portland, Oregon, with youth from the [Beaverton PAL Clubhouse](#) and local Best Buy employee volunteers

Hi there!

We hope that you and your family had a fun and safe Halloween.

Cyber-Seniors in Washington, Portland

Thanks to our partnership with the [Best Buy Foundation](#), we had two successful program launches in Washington, D.C. and Portland, OR this past month. Connecting local youth involved from Best Buy Teen Tech Centers with older adults working together to create a digital "This is My Life" story project.

Thank you to The Portland Tribune for featuring [the story](#). Here are some highlights from the article:

- "The goal is to actually get them to use the technology in a way that enriches their life," said Bret Nelson, general manager of the Best Buy at Tanasbourne. Best Buy employees volunteer additional support during the classes.
- "I thought it was going to be boring, but it's been a lot of fun connecting with them. They're so much like us, some of the stuff they don't know, I don't know either. I learned some, like, life lessons from them, actually," said Arianna Palominos, a Beaverton High School sophomore
- As the class progresses, seniors will put together their digital life story, creating a video or slideshow presentation to share family photos and personal history. "It gets them talking about, 'Show me your daughter,' or 'Where are you from?'" said Karin Madsen. "How do you connect with your children who may not live here, or your friends? Seniors' social interaction is such an important piece of aging well. This is a component that ties it all together." - Karin Madsen, Program Manager, Elsie Stuhr Senior Center
- "After starting the class, I feel a little more relaxed with it and not afraid," said Harris. - Betty Harris, 90-year-old participant

Feedback for High School Curriculum

Cyber-Seniors is developing a high school curriculum to support existing Cyber-Seniors student volunteer mentor programs. Our goal is to provide a flexible resource that can be used to supplement existing lessons or support a new track of learning around technology, service learning, intergenerational relationships and aging. We have held several focus groups to capture feedback, but we would love to hear from a broader group of educators to ensure we are creating materials that will be valued and used.

To contribute to the content of the curriculum and to be entered into a draw to **win a prize** package, please fill out the following survey: [Students](#) [Educators](#)

50% Discount on Screening Package ends *November 30th*

A big thank you to our partner "[Best Part Productions](#)" for supporting our campaign by offering a 50% discount on the Cyber-Seniors documentary 3-Disc Screening Package, including the 52-minute educational version, the 74-minute full length version, exclusive content and downloadable resources, and a 2-year Public Performance License. Regularly priced at \$325, this package will be offered through the duration of the campaign for \$160! [Purchase from our website](#) using coupon code CL438.

Cohort Study results

Over the past year, the Cyber-Seniors campaign has been studying the effect of its intergenerational tech program on social isolation among older adults and on the attitudes of young people about aging and volunteerism. Findings from the study, which was supported by [AARP Foundation](#) and the [University of Rhode Island](#), suggest that the Cyber-Seniors program has the potential to not only reduce social isolation, but also increase social engagement and interaction among older adults, while also positively affecting young people's attitudes about older generations and the importance of community service. Rich qualitative data shows that the program helps to break down negative generational stereotypes and reduces the generation gap, and that all generations particularly value the personal bonds and relationships that develop. Thank you to the [Boys & Girls Club of Greater Washington](#) - Fort Branch (Washington, DC), [University of Rhode Island \(Kingston, RI\)](#), [Volunteers for Community Impact](#) (Orlando) and [Wexford-Missaukee Career Technical Center/Cadillac Senior Center](#) (Cadillac, MI) for their valuable participation.

Help with Grant Applications

Are you interested in starting or growing a Cyber-Seniors program, but lack the necessary resources? We want to address this barrier and invite you to explore opportunities to partner with us for community grants. A Cyber-Seniors staffer will work with you to evaluate your community and identify program needs; provide guidance on writing a program proposal and developing a budget; share the latest data showing impact to older adults and student mentors and measurement tools that would be used to show your program results; and support outreach to potential funders. Please email info@cyber-seniors.ca for more information.

Cyber-Seniors coming to PBS

Look for Cyber-Seniors airing on your local [PBS station](#) in the coming months. To find out when it's airing on your local station, visit the station's website. If you don't see it on their schedule, please contact them to see when it will air. Remember that your PBS station relies on support from its viewers to air quality programs like Cyber-Seniors.

Cyber-Seniors on CBC Fresh Air

Lloyd Hayle, a senior at Shepherd Village in Toronto, was featured on CBC Fresh Air on October 2nd, 2016. [Listen to his experience](#) through the Cyber-Seniors program that occurred there.

November Webinars

Check out our upcoming Webinars for the month of November.

How to Start a Cyber-Seniors Community Program Webinar - Thur, Nov 3, 2016 2:00 PM - 2:30 PM EST

Youth Mentor Training Webinar - Wed, Nov 9, 2016 3:00 PM - 3:30 PM EST

How to Start a Cyber-Seniors Community Program Webinar - Thur, Nov 17, 2016 11:00 AM - 11:30 AM EST

Youth Mentor Training Webinar - Tues, Nov 22, 2016 3:00 PM - 3:30 PM EST

More webinars and webinar details, along with other upcoming events are on our site, see them [HERE](#).

--The Cyber-Seniors Team



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