

For Immediate Release

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## **Library becomes “learn to code” school Special launch event this Tuesday, September 24 at the Main Library**

**LOUISVILLE (September 18, 2013)** – Did you ever want to build your own website? What about [starting a business](#) or [developing your own app](#)? These are just a few of the skills you can now learn FREE online at the Louisville Free Public Library using a new service called [Treehouse](#).

Treehouse is an online video and interactive learning platform that teaches people how to design and develop websites and mobile apps. Classes include coding languages like HTML, CSS, PHP, and Ruby, as well as iPhone and Android apps.

“Many techies already know about Treehouse,” said Library Director Craig Buthod. “Individual subscribers currently pay Treehouse \$300 a year for access. Thanks to a generous gift from Brooke and Matthew Barzun to the Library Foundation, the Library is able to pick up the tab for all of Louisville – offering the exact same content for FREE to library card holders.”

LFPL is among the first libraries in the country to provide this service, with the goal of helping Louisville become a community with the technological skills to compete in today’s job market. To that end, the Library will be working with KentuckianaWorks, local high schools, colleges, business and community groups to encourage all who are interested to take advantage of this exciting learning program.

“If Louisville is to be a city of innovation in the 21<sup>st</sup> century we must have a workforce with the technology skills necessary to compete,” said Mayor Greg Fischer. “The training offered by Treehouse through the Louisville Free Public Library will give users the practical skills needed for real world applications.”

Treehouse offers unlimited access to more than 1,300 videos, covering topics from basic HTML coding to JavaScript to app development for iPhones, iPads, and Android smart phones. Learning with Treehouse is project-based, so you learn by doing. Projects are taught through a combination of short videos, code challenges, and quizzes to maximize engagement. You keep track of your accomplishments through gamification - earning badges to mark your progress.

In addition to projects, Treehouse also has Learning Adventures -- entire curriculums designed to get students job ready.

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Highlights:

- **Build a Website** - You'll learn the basics to building a website with an introduction to text editors, basic HTML tags, and advanced HTML skills.
  - **Start a Business** - Find out how to get your business off the right foot. Topics include corporate structure, marketing, finance, and more!
  - **Learn to Code** - Learn technologies such as Ruby on Rails to help you build the next world changing product.
  - **Build an iPhone App** - If you want to learn how to build iPhone or iPad apps, this is the spot. You'll learn the language, tools, and necessary concepts to get your app out the door.
  - **Build an Android App** - You'll see exactly how to build a finished Android app with touch & motion. You'll also learn the Java language and Android SDK.
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## **LAUNCH EVENT - *Startups: Big Ideas. Local Connections.***

In conjunction with the launch of Treehouse, LFPL is hosting a special event at the Main Library on Tuesday, September 24, at 5:30 p.m. *Startups: Big Ideas. Local Connections.* will be a panel discussion featuring local tech entrepreneurs Todd Earwood from [Try It Local](#), Zack Pennington from [US Chia](#), and Emily Gimmel from [GRACESHIP](#). The discussion will be led by Dan Vonderheide, founder of [Louisville.AM](#) and host of the podcast Startup (the LFPL event will be recorded live for his podcast). The event is free and open to the public.

To learn more about Treehouse, please join us for the launch event at the Main Library on September 24, or visit [www.LFPL.org/Treehouse](http://www.LFPL.org/Treehouse) to get started on your own learning adventure today.

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*Louisville Free Public Library connects the residents of Louisville and Jefferson County to knowledge and information at our 18 locations and on the Web at [www.lfpl.org](http://www.lfpl.org). Come on in, the whole world's inside. For more information about the Louisville Free Public Library, go to [www.lfpl.org](http://www.lfpl.org) or call 502-574-1611.*