'A once in a lifetime opportunity'          -26.

SSCC Computer Science Professor Dr. Joshua Montgomery said he was asked in May 2021 to build a coding class for DroidBuilders, a group that builds and supports building animatronic droids from the Star Wars movie series.

So, Montgomery and his computer science students built 20 miniature domes styled after R2-D2, a droid character from the Star Wars films. At the end of May, Montgomery, along with SSCC Computer Science students Alex Bradshaw, Blaine Parker and Elijah Siders, used the mechanical domes to teach two coding classes at Star Wars Celebration — Anaheim 2022 in Anaheim, Calif.

"I could not be more happy with the class," said Montgomery. "It went beyond my expectations. The students were excited and proud of their work."

Montgomery said students who were in middle school an

"These three students were not only willing and ready to do anything they were asked, but they were also fantastic with the kids," said Nancy Schunke, STEM director at DroidBuilders and teacher at Frenship High School. "Alex, Elijah and Blaine never complained and showed sincere enthusiasm… These Southern State students showed their muster while sharing their skills."

Montgomery and students will teach the same class at SSCC in July. Classes will be held July 25 from 1-5 p.m. for students entering grades 6-9 and Tuesday, July 26 for students entering grades 10-12. The cost is $75, which includes the class fee, snacks, materials, and a camp T-shirt.

Students must pre-register by July 20 to secure their spot at sscc.edu. STEM educators can attend one class each on either of the days for free. Those with questions can contact Amy McClellan at amcclellan@sscc.edu or 800.628.7722 x3510

Montgomery, an avid Star Wars fan, has built a fulfMo0-2 0 -1.848 0 Td (-)Tj -0.005 T10.007 Tw 0.337 0 6 (al) (