Women in Computing

*Women in Computing* brings women to the forefront in this self-paced journey through the evolution of computing at Los Alamos.

A multitouch, motion-based interactive *Ideum Portrait Wall* depicts the historic contributions made by women in the field of computing at Los Alamos. Guests can travel along a digital timeline to learn about how computing work at the Lab began with human computers, who could perform one operation per second. Then, they can discover how this early work by women at Los Alamos led to the supercomputing capabilities of today’s Lab, who’s newest supercomputer should be capable of 165 petaflops. For scale, to match what a one petaflop computer system can do in just one second, you'd have to perform one calculation every second for 31,688,765 years!

The exhibit introduces some of the women who pioneered the development and advancement of computing methods and technologies in use today. Women have played a key role in computing at Los Alamos since the Manhattan Project, building and shaping the Lab’s world-renowned computing capabilities to this day. This timeline highlights the women who have been at the center of Los Alamos' long computing history, with the purpose of bringing greater recognition to all women who have contributed to the success of Los Alamos computing, and of computing everywhere.

**Who are our partners for Building Immunity?**
Los Alamos National Laboratory, High Performance Computing Systems group

**Interesting facts:**
- The only patents issued for the Cray-1 computer were for its cooling system.
- The first large program for an electronic computer took up one-million punched cards!
- "Debugging" originally referred to removing insects from mechanical equipment. It was later applied to removing errors from computer software.
- In the beginning, they weren’t even allowed into the ENIAC room because they didn’t yet have the security clearance

**Requirements**
- Compact exhibit needs only 6’ x 6’ of space
- Ships in one ATA travel case
- Sets up in 30 minutes
- Needs only one standard electrical outlet
- Includes promotional materials to help advertise it at your location
- Includes educational activity suggestions

Contact us to schedule this exhibit to your location!