



The History of Computing Project Biographies

<http://www.thocp.net/index.html>

This project is to be worked on when you have finished your work before others and if you have a C or above average for the keyboarding portion of class. While your classmates finish their assignments, you will work on this project. There is no rush on this because you have until the end of the semester to turn it in. Follow the steps below:

- 1. Ask Ms. Keyes for your “letter of the alphabet” assignment.**
- 2. Go to the web address you see listed below the title.**
- 3. Click on biographies. This part of the website will have a list of hundreds of people who contributed something to the computer industry. It could be a small contribution or a large contribution. Some of the people are no longer living while others are still impacting computing history.**
- 4. You will investigate and research up to five people in the list whose last name begins with the letter Ms. Keyes assigned you. The information in the site is only a starting point. You must then find other sites with information about that person so that you have more facts about them. You should find three to five other sites so that the information is valid and reliable. If the person only made a very small contribution, you may not be able to find that many sites. If that happens you should select a different person.**
- 5. After completing your research, you need to complete a written report on that person. Because we are in tech class and learning keyboarding, the report must be typed. It should contain the following information:**
 - a. Your name**
 - b. The name of the person you are reporting on**

- c. A picture of the person
- d. The year the person was born and, if no longer living, the year of death
- e. The contribution the person made to the computing industry
- f. Write a GOOD paragraph about the person – it should include at least another three to four things about their life and another three to four things about their contribution

NOTE: It is important that you understand the contribution so that you can discuss it with Ms. Keyes and answer questions she may have about it. Some contributions are SO technical that it is hard for a layperson (a person not in the industry) to understand them. If you don't understand it, you may need to do more research on the contribution and what it means. If it is still too confusing, you may want to choose another person.

- g. List the websites where you got your information (3 – 5 of them). Include the name of the site and its address (the entire URL).
6. The report on each person is worth 20 points. The entire project is worth 100 points.
7. You can receive 10 extra credit points if you create a poster with the findings on all your people. The poster should include names, pictures, contributions, important dates, etc. The poster should show evidence of creativity and effort. You can get poster board from Ms. Keyes.
8. Remember to ask for help if you have any problems.

