FOREWORD

Developing solutions is fun, especially when the solution involves a mobile application. However, developing mobile applications used to require special programming skills and time. All of that changed for me when I first started using MIT App Inventor. It allowed me to focus on solving a problem rather than spending time on complex code. I wish I'd had this book when I first started playing with App Inventor. With easy instructions that take readers from downloading the MIT AI2 Companion application to creating their own chat app, this book is a beneficial friend for all the young changemakers who have ideas but don't know where to start or don't have a teacher or expert to guide them. Recently, I was contacted by a girl who had an idea for creating an app for dyslexic students like her but did not know how to start or code. I recommended that she use MIT App Inventor. This book is an ideal companion for anybody like her who is passionate about developing mobile apps.

The book starts with simple apps, and each chapter is organized to build on the one before and help readers create progressively more interesting apps. My brother struggled to make a weather app as part of a school

assignment. After spending just a few minutes exploring App Inventor and reading through the first chapter, he soon had a prototype ready to go. The book not only allows anybody to build apps relatively quickly, but it also enables teachers and educators to introduce their students to easy mobile app development without having to develop advanced skills themselves. Given that App Inventor allows more time to focus on problem-solving, teachers and educators can now include this in their curriculums for a problem-based learning approach.

Each chapter also features heartwarming true stories of young innovators and changemakers who used App Inventor to solve problems. It was great to read about their journeys from vision to implementation, all using the varied features App Inventor provides.

As a prolific user of MIT App Inventor, I strongly recommend this book for anybody looking to develop mobile apps using MIT App Inventor. I want to thank the authors, Ms. Lang and Mr. Tezel, for providing a step-by-step guide for all young students. This book should be in every library, school, and STEM and coding club, and I hope it will inspire a new generation of inventors and innovators.

Gitanjali Rao
Time magazine's 2020 Kid of the Year