

2024 ANNUAL REPORT

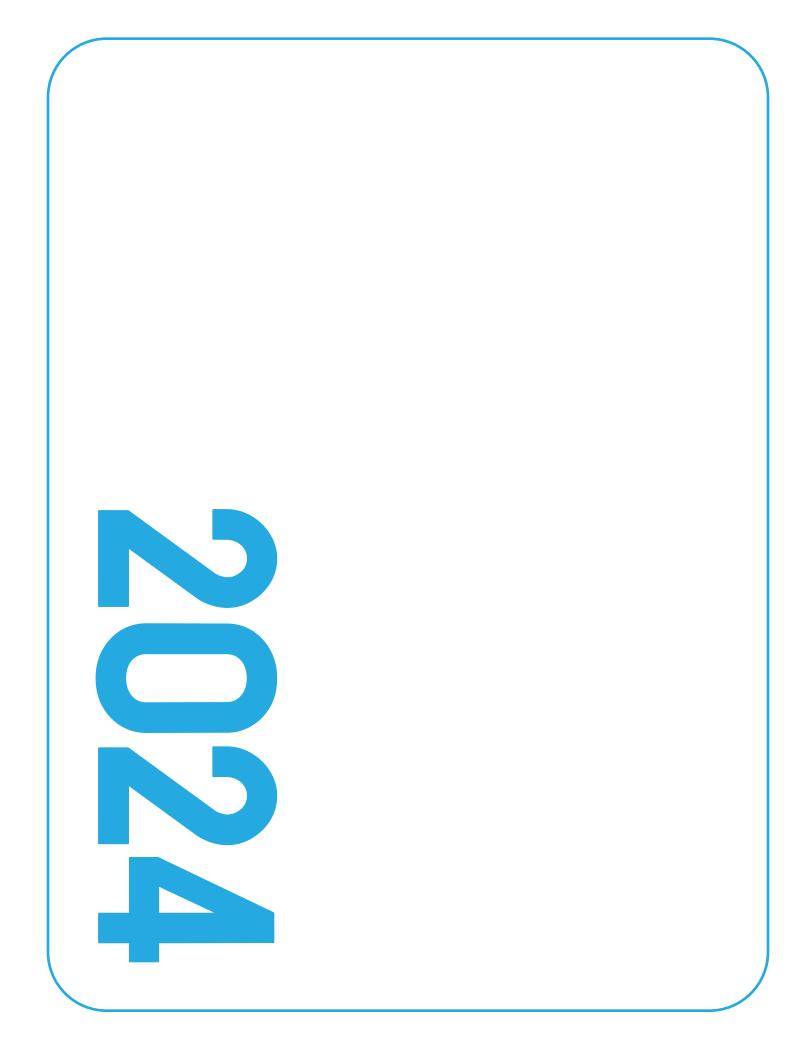


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FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

As we reflect on 2024, Tech Kids Unlimited (TKU) is proud of the strides we've made to **empower** neurodivergent youth through technology education and career preparation. We focused on deepening partnerships, adapting new curriculums, and launching specialized career pathway courses tailored to the unique needs of our students. By collaborating with industry leaders and community organizations, we created programs that teach 21st-century tech skills and help students apply them in meaningful, realworld contexts.



TKU continues to be dedicated to its **mission of equipping neurodivergent youth with the tools they need to succeed in an ever-evolving technological landscape**, shaping a future where every student has the chance to shine. Thank you for joining us on this incredibly important journey.

Beth Rosenberg Executive Director

FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT

This past year was exceptional for Tech Kids Unlimited. Special **thanks to our students**, **parents, teachers, staff**, **funders and partners** for making it happen. **TKU unlocks unlimited possibilities for neurodivergent students**, and we continue to make strong strides toward our mission.

Our partnership with the Pennsylvania Special Education Department (PATTAN) where **we created an adapted curriculum for a drone pilot training course** was a major accomplishment and it opened a new frontier.



We built on this by creating **an adapted Digital Marketing & E-Commerce Grow with Google course** to make it accessible. 23 students completed this course and in 2025 many of them will get internships through our partner AHRC. TKU is now acknowledged as a true expert in adapting curriculum for our students.

It is inspiring to see the impact programs have on the students as they **make new friends in a safe environment, build new technology skills with graphics, drones or programming, or learn workplace and social skills.** I am lucky to represent this incredible resilient non-profit organization whose focus is the success of our unique student population.

Ryan Linden President, Board of Directors

WELCOME TO

MISSION

Tech Kids Unlimited (TKU) uses technology tools, computer science thinking, and social-emotional learning to ignite *unlimited* futures for neurodiverse students in need. Students who learn and think differently explore the creative power of tech, practice work readiness skills, and build confidence through virtual and in-person programs in a fun and supportive community.

> Tech Kids Unlimited is a 501(c)3 tax-exempt organization. EIN: 46-2451747 info@techkidsunlimited.org

Empowered Neurodiverse Youth

Supported 540+ students to gain tech and social-emotional skills through tailored workshops.

Built an Inclusive Community

Fostered a safe, creative space for students to grow and connect with one another.

Expanded Career Pathways

Prepared teens and young adults for meaningful employment in tech and related fields.

Advanced Digital Literacy

Provided cutting-edge tech education to empower students to thrive in a digital-first world.

542 Unique Students

"Digital Agency helped me navigate how to communicate on the computer."

T., Student, Age 17

"Just a proud mom that she gets this far—TKU is one of our best partners in moving forward for her career future!"

Parent





"I love participating in TKU because it is fun to interact with others and do fun projects together. Everyone is nice to me and they are always there to help me when I need it."

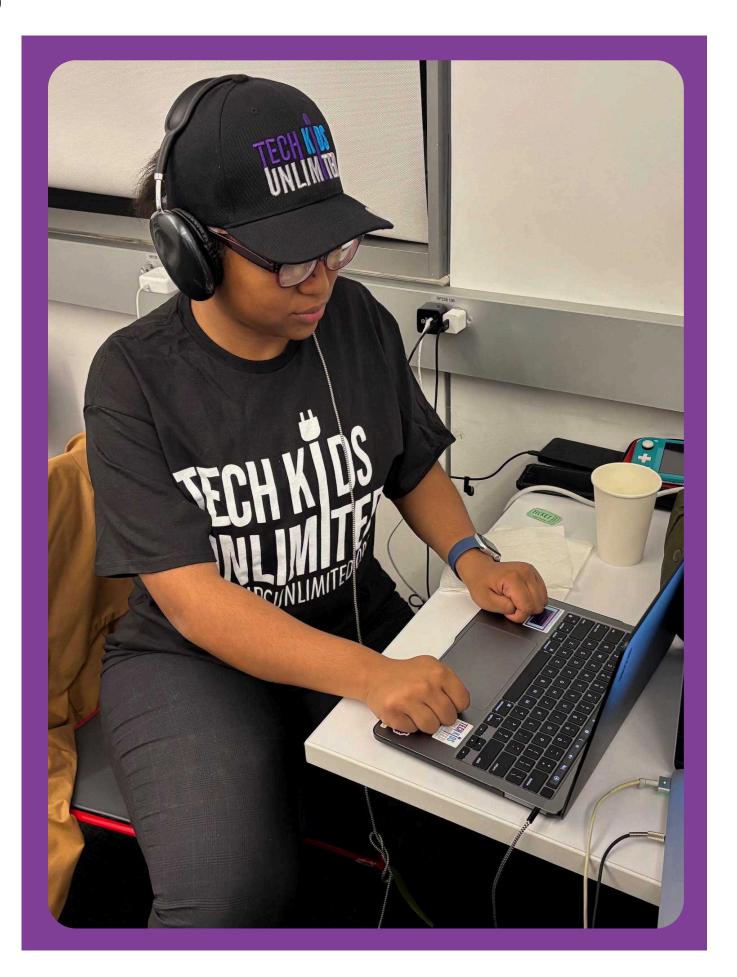
M., Student, Age 19



Students at a Friday night Tech Social.

"Tech Kids Unlimited is more than just an organization—it's a community where neurodiverse students grow personally, professionally, and socially through the power of digital technology. TKU empowers them to build skills, confidence, and connections for a more balanced and fulfilling life."

> Harrison Lung Board Member



Internship Worksites

"I like virtual programs at TKU because I get to make some new friends and learn things—unlike most schools nowadays. In TKU they actually teach you things."

R., Student, Age 18

"My child's confidence has improved being a part of a team that fosters and matches one of her innate interests. My child is eager to attend and complete TKU class sessions."

Parent

850+ Hours of Instruction

Students from

I2 States "I hope to go to college or learn more technology skills...I feel like Tech Kids Unlimited has helped me in job skills, like working on our resumes."

S., Student, Age 19

RESEARCH

Listen4Good

TKU participated in Listen4Good, a strategy program that helps nonprofits gather data on student experiences to improve success.

"He has become more confident in his computer skills and in his ability to learn. He spoke about his experience at TKU and hopes to attend more workshops and eventually make some friends."

KF-STRIDE

Students in Career Ladder programs participated in KF-STRIDE, a software training initiative focusing on developing unique strengths. Through 10 web-based lessons, the program helped students develop effective interview skills.

Parent

Graduate Research

PhD research by doctoral candidate Gina Tesorio (University of Washington) focused on young adults with special education experiences and the role of emerging technologies in shaping learning environments. The study aimed to collaboratively evaluate the integration of AI tools to create a more dynamic and empowering educational space.



Students and staff members presented at the CUNY Neurodiversity Conference, Spring 2024.

"When you have a neurodiverse kid, you just automatically come into spaces with your guard up, and it was nice to just come and just let him be himself. Just the welcoming vibe from the moment we go here is what you're always looking for."

TECH KNOWLEDGE WORKSHOPS

SUNDAY TECH WORKSHOPS

Virtual & in-person workshops focused on learning new tech skills and building on existing skills.

TOPICS INCLUDED:

- Digital Art Studio
- Digital Storytelling Studio
- Photo and Video Editing
- 3D Modeling
- Video Game Design

DIGITAL EMPOWERMENT WORKSHOPS

A free virtual afterschool program where students explored topics of interest with peers and built communication skills in a supportive environment.

TOPICS INCLUDED:

- AI Usage in Videos
- Plagiarism & Copyright
- A History of the Internet
- How to do Online Research
- Benefits of Video Games

TECH SOCIALS

Evening gatherings where students hung out, played games, and shared in a community of techies.

TOPICS INCLUDED:

- 2000's Nostalgia
- Fall Festival
- Winter Wonderland: Polar Express Party
- Mystery Masquerade
- Friendsgiving

SUMMER WEEKLONG WORKSHOPS

In-person and virtual week-long workshops from 10AM to 4PM ET each day for 6 weeks.

TOPICS INCLUDED:

- Video Game Design & Tabletop Games
- Digital Art & Animation
- Photo Editing & Video Production
- Creative Coding & STEM Maker Lab
- 3D Modeling & Game Development

PROGRAMS

CAREER LADDER

CREATIVE TECH INTERNSHIP (CTI)

A career-readiness program held throughout the school year on Fridays for teens/young adults interested in creative tech-based fields.

TOPICS INCLUDED

- Workplace Soft Skills
- Graphic Design
- Digital Marketing
- Artificial Intelligence

COLLEGE ACCESS PROGRAM (CAP)

A virtual program designed to help students navigate the transition to college life.

TOPICS INCLUDED

- Educational Rights & Accommodations
- Handling New Academic Environments
- Practicing Self-Advocacy

LEVEL UP TECH (LUT)

Career pathway programs designed to help students develop the skills needed to start exploring employment in specific fields.

- Digital Marketing and E-Commerce
- Introduction to Drones

DIGITAL AGENCY (DA)

A virtual program where teens with advanced tech skills completed projects for actual clients and received stipends.

TOPICS INCLUDED

- Web Design & Development
- Product Feedback
- Marketing Content Creation
- Video Production
- Graphic Design

CAREER READINESS INTERNSHIP SUMMER PROGRAM (CRISP)

College age students worked on technology projects in an internship site matched to their skill level and interests, in-person or virtually.

TOPICS INCLUDED

- Social Emotional Management
- Networking Practice & Setting Goals
- Portfolio & Resume building

"This is the best class I've ever taken in my entire life."

D., Student, Age 22, Level Up Tech

PROGRAMS

18 Tech Knowledge





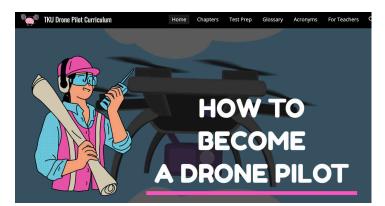




<u>Career Ladder</u>



A Digital Agency virtual meeting.



The Drone adapted curriculum.



Students created social media content for AMC Network's "Orphan Black: Echoes."

General Highlights



TKU received an award from the Center for Workplace Accessibility and Inclusion.



A comedy fundraiser held at Yext drew 75 people.



A TD Bank financial literacy day on Fraud 101.



Board member Luke DuBois talked to students about his installation, "The Choice is Yours."



A field trip to Google for summer interns.



Staff spoke at the "Neurodiversity at Work" conference at the University of Maryland.

Team

<u>Staff</u>

Indira Ardolic Community & Partnerships Coordinator

Raymond Barash Curriculum & Learning Manager

Bridget Daugherty Special Projects & Design Associate **Kiana Eddy** Education Assistant

Ellen Goldstein Development Strategist

Laura Olivieri Robles Director of Operations Beth Rosenberg Executive Director

Haley Shibble Education Director

Sofia Wheeler Education Program Associate

Teaching Artists and Counselors

Elijah Alvarez	Nolan Duarte	Tina Mbiti	Dana Sy-Ching
Michael Bashner	Sam Forster	Sevan Mujukian	Matthew Toups
Anna Boyarko	Leah Gauthier	Fran Rojo	Seth Truman
Gage Delprete	Michaela Lee	Daniel Ryan Johnston	Steven Yoo
0		David Sainté	Weixiong Zhu

Social Workers

Brittany Banks, LMSW	Ellen Mullan-Jayes, LMSW	Amita Sekhon, LMHC-SP	
Grad Student Supervisor	Deniz Ozcan, Student	Hunter Soileau, LMSW	
Aafia Alladin, Student	Ria Sarkar, LMSW	Laura Zaugg, LMSW	
Aliyah K. Harrell, Student			

Board Of Directors

Ryan Linden	Paul Jeruchimowitz	Harrison Lung	Roseanne Legrand, CCC/SLP
President	Vice President	Interim Treasurer	Secretary
loel Bencosme		ois PhD	

Joel Bencosme Stephanie Borgman Aaron Chu Luke DuBois, PhD Erik Dykema, JD Jean Kang

Alex McKay Beth Rosenberg Sheena Thomas



"Family Guy" Animation Director, Dominic Bianchi spoke to students about the creative process.

"I love being in the Neurodiversity Advisory Council and feel honored to be a part of it, especially since it was TKU who reached out to me to be in the group. I can't explain how much that means to me."

J., Student, Age 21

Your Opportunity. Their Future.

Become an internship worksite. Give a guest lecture. Host a field trip.

Professional Development for Educators, Schools & Community Centers

TKU offers comprehensive training to equip educators with best practices.

Curriculum Adaption

Partner with TKU to create specialized curricula for students, whether you're a school, community center, therapist, or educator.

Donate

Tech Kids Unlimited is a 501(c)3 tax-exempt organization. Donations, no matter the size, help sustain programs.



Contact: info@techkidsunlimited.org

Partnerships

Career Ladder:

AMC Networks

Brooklyn Law School Disability Clinic

Cancer Cabaret

ConEdison

Council on Developmental Disabilities

Einstein Montfiore

HeightSites

Infosys

Infosys Pathfinder Institute with Elementari.com (coding website)

MUD Foundation

NYU – Close the Loop

NYU Metropolitan Center for Research on Equity and the Transformation of Schools

Opera on Tap

PA Training and Technical Assistance Network

Point Polish

Schools That Can

Shivoo.com

Weill Cornell Medical Center

Schools:

Brooklyn Autism Center

Summit School

Winston Prep Transitions

Titus

Cooke Academy

Community:

AHRC

Bridges to Work

Career Internship Network

DYCD

ExpandEd

Listen4Good

New York City Employment Training Coalition

NYU Ability Project

NYC DOE

NYU K12 STEM Education

Pace University

Student Success Network

SYEP

Supporters

Foundations & Organizations

J.E. & Z.B. Butler Foundation Doug Flutie Jr. Foundation for Autism Elephant Rock Foundation The FAR Fund John H. & Ethel G. Noble Charitable Trust Joseph H. Flom Foundation Fund for the City of New York Harman Family Foundation Hyde & Watson Foundation Ichigo Foundation The Molina Foundation New York Community Trust

NYC Employment & Training Coalition NYU Community Fund The Omer Foundation CD&R Foundation Schoenheimer Foundation Sea Change Capital Partners SparkYouth NYC Stavros Niarchos Foundation The Taft Foundation The Disability Opportunity Fund UP Sircar Family Foundation

Corporations

Akamai Foundation ConEdison Google.org Infosys Foundation USA

ation

Mizuho National Grid Foundation PwC Charitable Foundation TD Charitable Foundation

Government

National Endowment for the Arts New York State Council on the Arts NYC Discretionary Fund

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