

INSPIRING A NEW GENERATION OF INNOVATORS



A signature program of The Tech, The Tech Challenge is an annual design challenge for teams of students in Grades 4–12.



**The Tech
Challenge**

Presented by
Dell Technologies

About the program

The Tech Challenge program is an engineering design challenge for students in Grades 4–12. Each year a new challenge is presented and participants spend months collaborating to design and build a device to solve a real-world problem. The program culminates in a two-day showcase.

The Tech Challenge is ...

... **focused on STEM.** This project-based learning program aligns with Common Core and Next Generation Science Standards supporting science, technology, engineering and math.

... **inclusive and inspiring.** It encourages girls and boys from all backgrounds to learn about science and engineering.

... **valuable.** It builds 21st century skills like critical thinking, problem solving and teamwork.

... **affordable.** Registration is just \$50 per team (fee waived for Title I schools and after-school programs) and solutions can be created with common, low-cost materials.

Year-round support is provided at no additional cost for teams and advisers:

- Info clinics
- Team workshops
- Adviser trainings
- Test trials

At a glance

The Tech Challenge reaches communities underrepresented in STEM

- 1,066 female participants and 854 participants from low-income schools in 2019
- Total participants in 2019: 2,423
- An additional 2,063 students participated in offsite program events throughout the year
- Students that participated in Tech Challenge-themed activity in The Tech Interactive: 2,884
- Students came from 60 different cities in Silicon Valley and the greater Bay Area

How you can help inspire the next generation

Program funding. The Tech depends on corporate, foundation and individual funding to make this one-of-a-kind educational STEM program possible. Please consider supporting as part of your corporate social responsibility program. There are many levels of support with associated benefits and recognition. For more information, contact Linda Antonopoulos at lanton@thetech.org or 1-408-795-6155.

Volunteer at the showcase. Corporate employees and individuals are invited to volunteer. No experience necessary, and there are many diverse volunteer opportunities. Volunteer registration will open in February 2020. Visit thetech.org/thetechchallenge/volunteer for information.

What people are saying about The Tech Challenge

Educators

“What was really incredible about it was the inspiration these ladies took from what they experienced at school and the group they formed. They presented at our board meeting. It developed their leadership skills, their creativity, exceptional communication, all the things educators talk about. The fact that the longer they worked on it, the more they were able to speak about it and apply the things they’d been learning at school. It was an exciting process.”

— Tanya Bailey, Principal of Norwood Creek, 6th grade team, Team Phoenix

Participants: What do they learn?

“How real world problems can be solved with engineering and physics.”

“I learned about engineering, mechanics, and circuitry. I learned about working in a team and how to listen and make compromises and sacrifices.”

“I learned how to engineer, the patience and perseverance that it takes, and that everyone’s idea counts.”

Local, national and global expansion!

We're taking the expertise we've developed with The Tech Challenge over the last 32 years to bring design challenge learning to students locally, nationally and globally:

- Tech Challenge Multisession lessons that allow educators to implement design challenge learning with more students.
- Providing in-person and online courses to train educators in facilitation methods for design challenge learning.
- Creating digital resources for educators

Established and potential partners include:

- Breakthrough Collaborative: U.S. (San Francisco and Central Texas)
 - Breakthrough Silicon Valley: two sites in San Jose
- Boys & Girls Clubs: U.S.
- Greene County Community School District, Iowa
- Agastya International Foundation: India
- LEAP Science and Maths Schools: South Africa
- Royal Institute of Australia: Australia
- Center for the Study of Adolescence: Kenya
- World Learning: U.S. and their education partners in Guatemala, Nepal, Algeria



Supporters

"It's really inspiring to see all these kids who have come here today practicing the skills that engineers need. As we think about the technology challenges of the future, that's going to require lots of new technologists."
— Simon Segars, CEO, Arm

"You cannot expect to solve major problems if you are only solving for part of the population. You have to have all the voices at the table and if you don't have that, you are likely missing out on the real solution."
— Tina Knauss, Partner, PwC

"We support The Tech Challenge because tomorrow's problems are going to be solved by scientists and engineers and we need as many of those as we can possibly get."
— Mark Smedley, President Genetics Sciences Division, Thermo Fisher Scientific

The Tech Challenge Executive Committee

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John Heinlein, Ph.D.
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George Apostol
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Greg Brown
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eBay, Director Product & Design



The Tech Challenge showcase

Saturday, April 25, and Sunday April 26, 2020

Thousands of students will bring their designs to the showcase. Hundreds of corporate volunteers and Silicon Valley VIPs will gather.

Won't you please join us to help develop the next generation of problem-solvers?

For more information:

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