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Cir No: HBT ATH/GEN/15/25-26

Date: 24/06/2025

Invitation to Apply for The Knowledge Society (TKS) Dubai Program 2025-2026

Dear Parents,

We are pleased to inform you about an exciting opportunity for students to participate in **The Knowledge Society (TKS)** — a prestigious 10-month global accelerator program designed to develop young innovators, leaders, and changemakers.

Program Overview

TKS runs from **September 2025 to June 2026**.

During the program, students will attend **weekly 3-hour sessions** with their dedicated cohort, consisting of approximately 30 students, led by a full-time **Program Director** and **Associate Director** who coach and guide them throughout the journey.

Students will work on high-impact projects in frontier industries, develop a **professional portfolio**, and create videos and articles to showcase their work, explaining how they built it and how it functions.

Eligibility Criteria

Students must:

1. Be **13–17 years old** and successfully pass a selection interview.
2. Have a strong interest in **science, technology, engineering, mathematics (STEM)**, leadership, and extracurricular innovation activities.
3. Demonstrate **curiosity, drive, passion for learning**, and a desire to be part of a **global community of like-minded individuals**.
4. Maintain an overall **minimum GPA of 90%**, including in English.
5. Submit the **most recent academic transcript** along with the registration.
6. Commit to **consistent attendance and timely completion of assignments** throughout the program.

Program Pathways

- **Innovate (10 months):** The core program.
- **Activate:** Selected students may be invited to join this advanced program the following year.

Global Access

TKS is a **virtual program**, connecting students from over **400 cities worldwide**, allowing them to collaborate and grow in an international learning environment.

Tuition and Scholarships

- **For Emirati Students:**
Full scholarships are available through the **Dubai Future Foundation (DFF)**, covering 100% of the tuition fee valued at **AED 27,000**.
- **For Non-Emirati Students:**
Tuition is **AED 27,000**. Students may apply for **merit-based scholarships or needs-based financial support**. Financial aid will be considered based on demonstrated need and student merit.

We are committed to supporting ambitious students regardless of their financial circumstances. **Please do not let financial constraints prevent you from applying.**

Registration

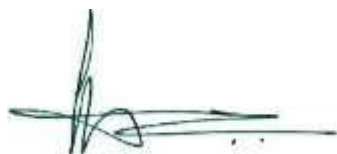
Interested students can register via the link below:

<https://www.tks.world/program/dubai>

For detailed information, please refer to the **attached PDF**.

Thank you for your support in encouraging our students to explore this unique opportunity.

Regards,



Principal

Mariyam Nizar Ahamed

Program Overview



مؤسسة دبي للمستقبل
DUBAI FUTURE FOUNDATION

TKS
دبي DUBAI

Supported by:



UNITED ARAB EMIRATES
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

We train the next generation of entrepreneurs, scientists, and innovators.



"The Knowledge Society (TKS) was designed to mirror the environments of major technology companies, exposing learners to the most cutting-edge innovations."



"Ordinary teenagers being recruited into an elite program designed to give them the power to do extraordinary things, and maybe even save the world."



"Kids who apply to TKS are evaluated on their curiosity, ambition, and passion – and most TKS students enter the program without a tech or science background."

Overview

Founded in 2016, TKS is the world's top human accelerator for teens ages 13-17 years old. TKS was developed with CEOs and global leaders, modeled after curriculums from Stanford, Harvard, and MIT, and is designed to replicate the learning environment and culture of Silicon Valley.

4,500+

Students and alumni from across the world.

1,147

Enrolled students in the 2024-2025 program.

450+

Cities represented in our global online programs.

9

Years since inception, founded in 2016.

13-17

Age of students who can apply to join TKS.

10

Month program from September - June.

TKS



Our Partners

We work with many of the world's most influential and innovative organizations to provide our students with the best education.

 Microsoft	 Google	 amazon	 instacart	 SXSW
 Meta	 Walmart	 ENBRIDGE	 Deloitte.	 PRIZE
 Ellison Institute of Technology	 Morgan Stanley	 McKinsey & Company	 Desjardins	 BenchSci
 Shell	 pwc	 RBC	 CAE	 SCHMIDT FUTURES
 United Nations	 mastercard foundation	 Villars Institute	 Calgary Economic Development	
 مؤسسة دبي للمستقبل DUBAI FUTURE FOUNDATION	Masason Foundation			

Outlier Outcomes

TKS alumni have started venture-backed companies, worked at top research labs, and are amongst the youngest employees at the most innovative companies in the world.

Founders

Alumni have raised over \$100M in capital for their startups.

Raised \$32,000,000



Raised \$23,000,000



Raised \$10,000,000



Raised \$2,300,000



Innovative Companies

Alumni get offers from the world's most innovative companies.

Autonomous Vehicles



Consumer Technology



Artificial Intelligence



Space Advancement



Early Employees

After the program, alumni join emerging high growth startups.

Valuation \$100,00,000



Valuation \$160,00,000



Scientific Research

Alumni work on cutting-edge research with top labs.

Brain-Computer Interfaces



Genomics



If we can train Olympic level athletes from a young age, why can't we train Olympic level CEOs and innovators?

- Nadeem Nathoo, TKS Co-Founder



[Click here to see alumni stories and outcomes.](#)

Founders

TKS alumni have started companies valued over \$250M.



Mitra 

Building next-generation diagnostic platforms using nanomaterials to detect cardiovascular diseases.



Lynx 

Non-invasive diagnostics for canine skin cancer - a more accessible and affordable screening tool, powered by AI.



Biogenesis 

Developing blood-based diagnostics extending to personalized medicine, clinical trials and emergency testing.



induced

Pioneering the evolution of actionable AI. Backed by Sam Altman, Nat Friedman, Sequoia India, SV Angel and others.



RIPTK 

Implementing wireless 5G energy savings solutions for telecom network operators.



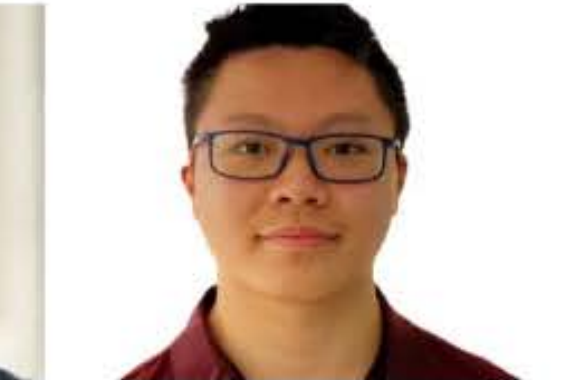
Biotein.

Measuring proteins involved with age-related cellular damage related to inflammation, protein misfolding, and DNA repair.



80eight

Leading stock and FX brokerage company for high-net-worth and retail clients in South Africa.



 **SKYLOCK**

Security for DeFi protocols against on-chain exploits by detecting malicious transactions.



AXIOME

Developing low cost, high throughput electronic biosensors to power molecular diagnostics.



Rndrd


Consumer social platform to activate real world (IRL) experiences, launched in New York City.



 **faura**

Insurance-tech company that uses prevention data and climate analytics to protect properties.



 **Utopia Labs**

Global stablecoin-powered infrastructure to enable stable banking. Including faster global payments and diverse investing options.



 **SYNEX MEDICAL**

Developing compact, portable technology that provides real-time, non-invasive metabolic data to accurately measure blood metabolites like glucose.



G

Goodcash develops fintech products for credit score management; backed by investors in Facebook, Airbnb, Uber, Dropbox, 776 Fellowship.



Fallyx

Detecting & predicting falls by integrating sensors into clothing. The solution is targeted for the elderly, reducing injuries and death.

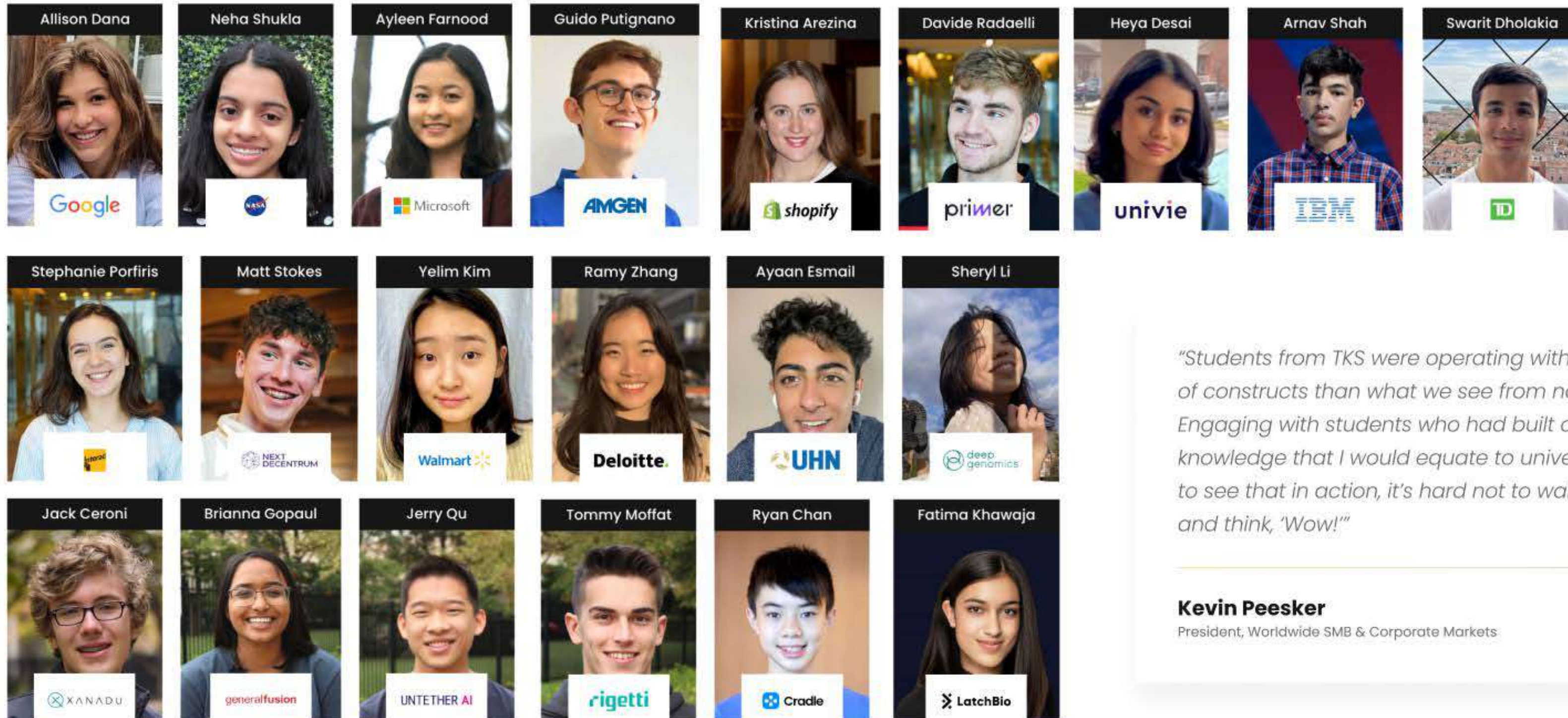


 **minthouse**

Full cycle design and development studio that builds custom solutions for visionary companies.

Internships

Many of our students receive summer internships after the program.



"Students from TKS were operating with a different set of constructs than what we see from normal students. Engaging with students who had built a level of knowledge that I would equate to university graduates – to see that in action, it's hard not to walk away and think, 'Wow!'"

Kevin Peesker

President, Worldwide SMB & Corporate Markets



Program Overview

The next section explains the components of the program.

The Basics

Program Outcomes

Topics

Challenges

Mentors

Digital Platform

FAQs

The Basics

An overview of how TKS works.

Duration

TKS is a 10-month program, running from September to June.

Weekly Sessions

Sessions are 3 hours and hosted weekly on the weekends.

In-Person Program

TKS hosts in-person programs in Canada, USA, and UAE.

Mentor Network

TKS has the largest mentor network for teens, with over 350 experts.

Eligibility

Students must be 13-17 years old, and are selected through an interview process.

Innovate & Activate

TKS offers 2 programs: Innovate, which lasts 10 months, followed by Activate, where a select group of students are chosen to join the next year.

Virtual Program

The online program includes students from over 400 cities worldwide.

Program Directors

Our experienced directors host sessions and provide personalized coaching.



Program Outcomes

What students work towards over the 10-month program.

Professional Portfolio

During the 10-month program, students develop a series of projects in various frontier industries of their choice. Along with the projects, students create videos and articles showcasing their project, explaining how they built it and how it works. These projects enable students to learn transferrable skills and knowledge that are relevant to the workforce, as well as demonstrate their potential to universities and fellowships.

University Admission

Top universities recognize portfolios as a signal of high potential. Our alumni are admitted to the world's best universities.



Scholarships, Internships, and Fellowships

Students leverage their portfolio to earn scholarships and unique opportunities.



Muhammad Hunain

Building a space shield 🛡️

I moved to the United States 4 years ago and started high school the very next day. Three years later, I became the student body president and District 25 student representative in New York. I graduated from high school with many leadership awards, and my team was named the best in a decade.

New York City, New York, United States



Projects

[Add New Project](#)

[Projects](#) [Posts](#)

2 collaborators • May 2024 – Present • 2 mos

Measuring Space Radiation Shielding Effectiveness

Space Radiation puts limitations on how long astronauts can be outside of their habitats on Mars. Ineffective shielding means less time to do science, leading to extended mission time, and eventually causing adverse health effects to astronauts. The potential of melanin-based materials is a good solution to the particle radiation problem.



[View all 4 updates →](#)

Holistic Development

We value each individual at a cognitive and social-emotional level.

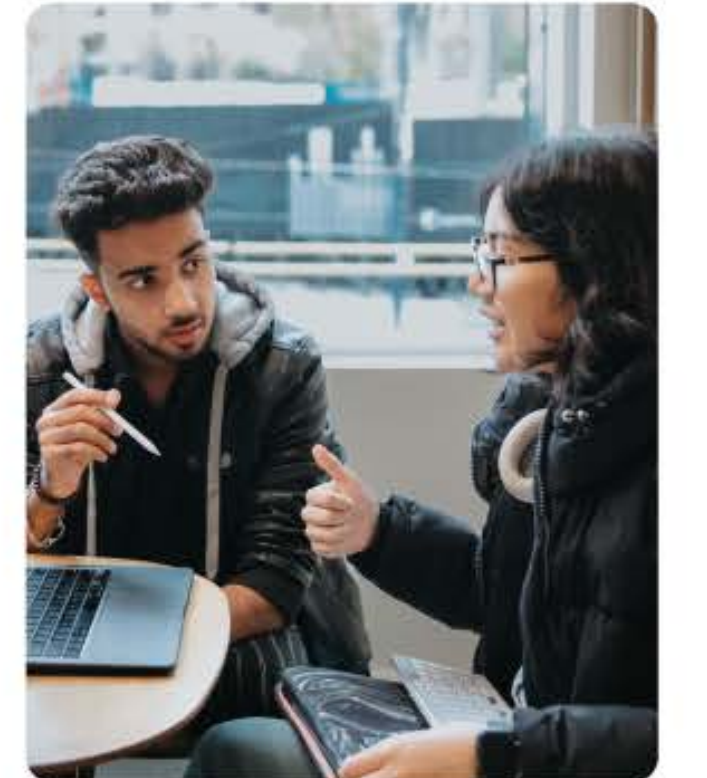
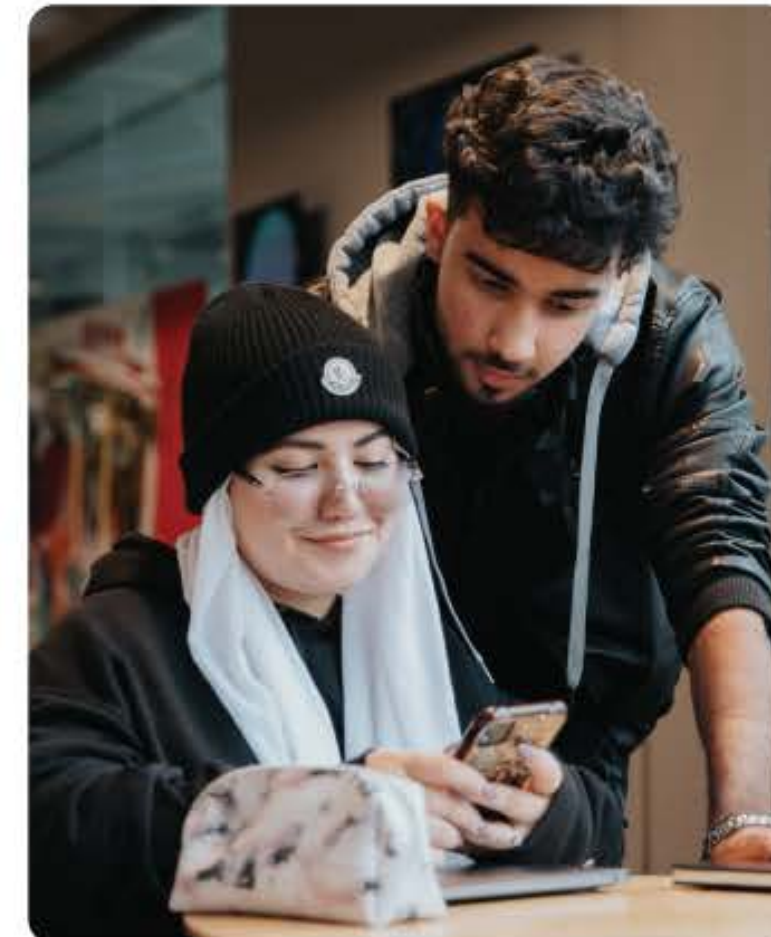
Character Development

Training mindsets is a foundational part of the TKS program to prepare students to succeed in the future. We focus on developing a holistic individual.

Mindsets

Each week students train a different mindset. They study specific people throughout history who have demonstrated those mindsets effectively and learn from them. Below are examples of mindsets students will learn:

- Self-Awareness
- Antifragility
- Gratitude
- Confidence
- Curiosity
- Stoicism
- Growth Mindset
- Activator
- Seeking Perspective
- Kindness
- Figure It Out
- First Principles Thinking
- Moonshot Thinking
- Bias Towards Action
- Done > Perfect



Topics

TKS

Explore over 40 frontier industries that are shaping the future.



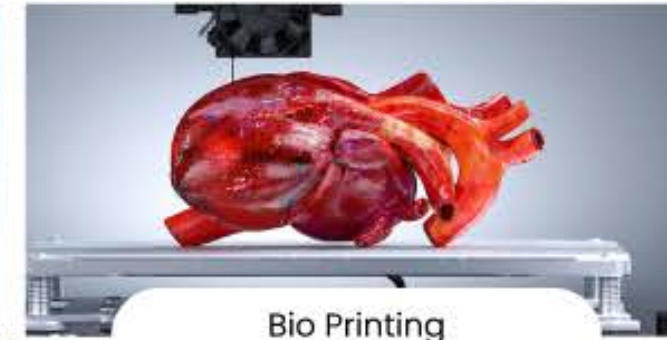
Advanced Transportation



Artificial Intelligence



Autonomous Vehicles



Bio Printing



Biological Computing



Biometrics



Blockchain



Brain-Computer Interface



Cancer Treatments



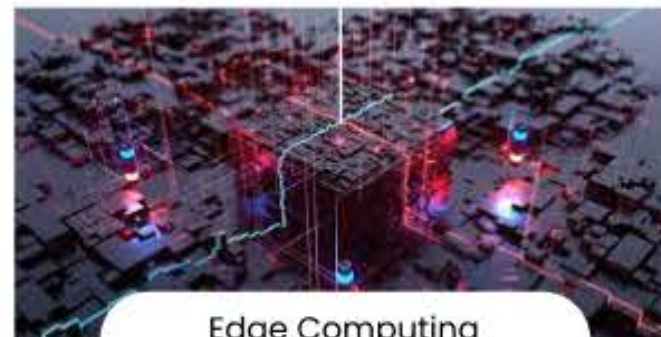
Cellular Agriculture



Clean Energy



Connectomics



Edge Computing



Energy Storage



Fem Tech



Gene Editing



Nanotechnology



Robotics



Personalized Medicine



Quantum Computing

... and more.

Challenges

Work with companies to solve real-world problems that don't have solutions.



United Nations



Shell



Microsoft

Overview

TKS collaborates with global organizations on current problems they are trying to solve. Over 8 weeks, students work on these same problems in tandem and develop a recommendation deck with their findings.

Skills Developed

During the challenge, we train students to use real-world skills as they develop solutions and recommendations for the company.

- Financial Analysis
- Analytical Skills
- Communication
- Slide Decks
- Customer Discovery
- Design (UX/UI)
- Strategic Decision Making
- Real-World Understanding

"I received an email from a group of 15-16 year girls from TKS who sent me a slick, professional slide deck with concrete suggestions on scaling women entrepreneurship. Better than most top-tier consultants."



Jamshed Kazi UN Women, Indonesia

Our Partners

Over the last 8 years we've collaborated with incredible organizations on important problems they face.



Mentors

TKS students can book time with 350+ mentors from the world's leading companies and startups.



Microsoft



BenchSci



Google



SPACEX



McKinsey
& Company



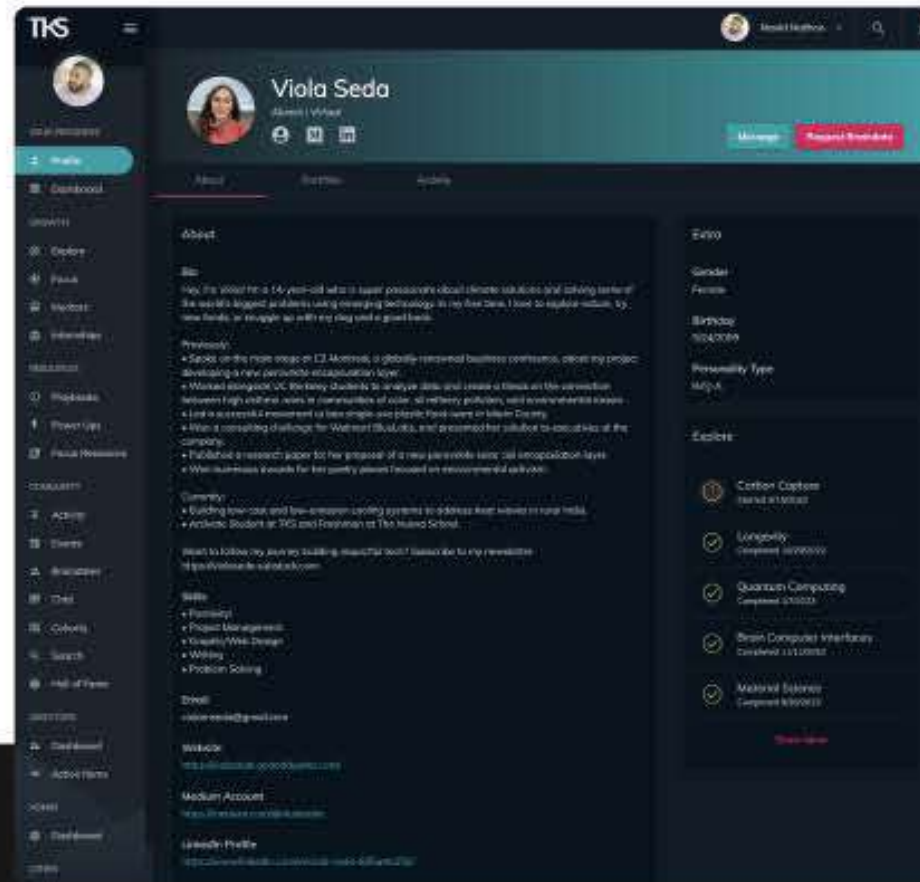
MindBridge



[Click here to see our mentors.](#)

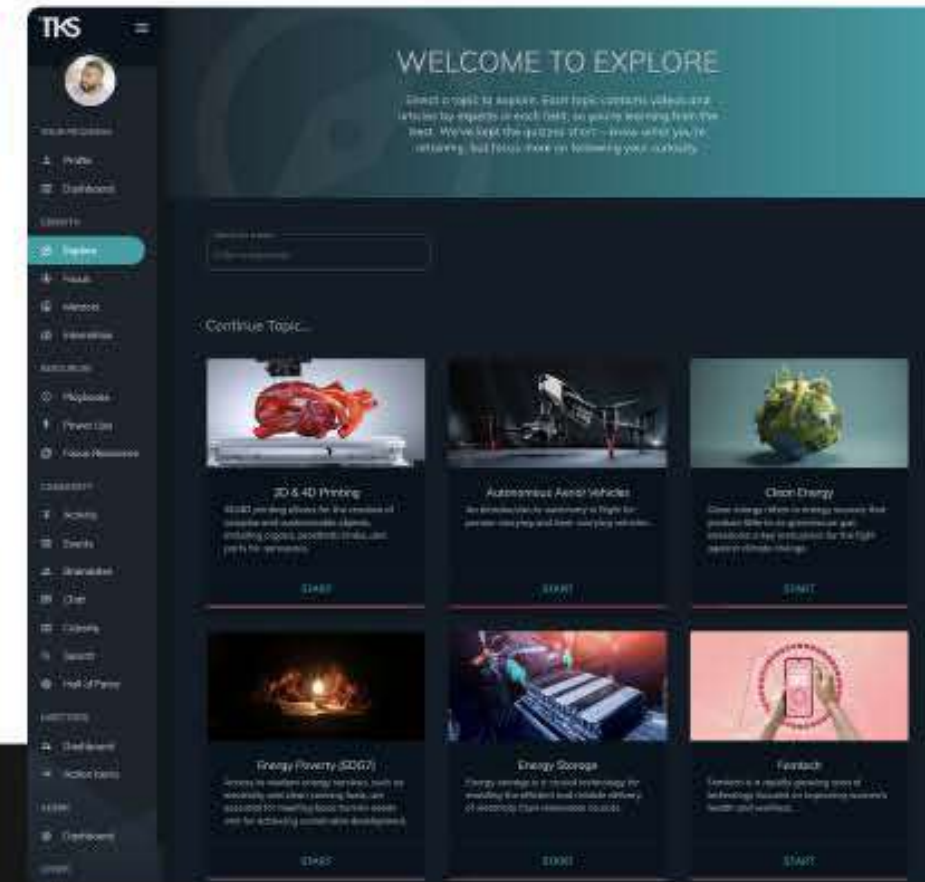
Digital Platform

We developed an in-house platform to accelerate student growth.



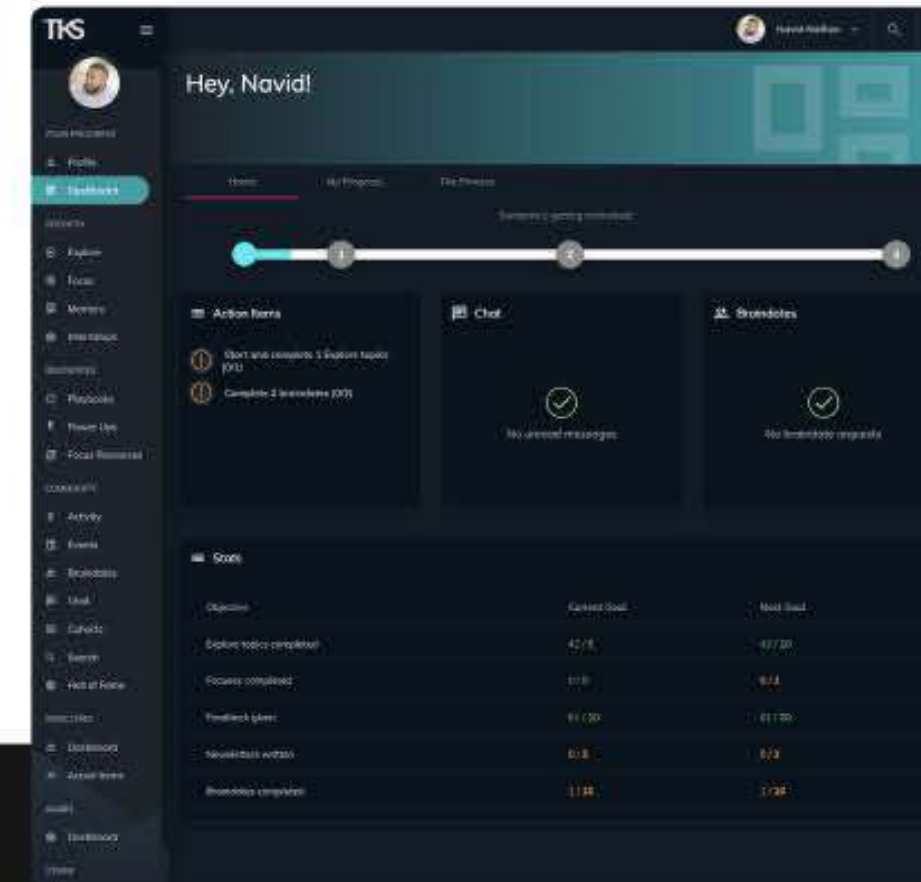
Portfolio

Each student has their own public portfolio where they can showcase their progress and projects.



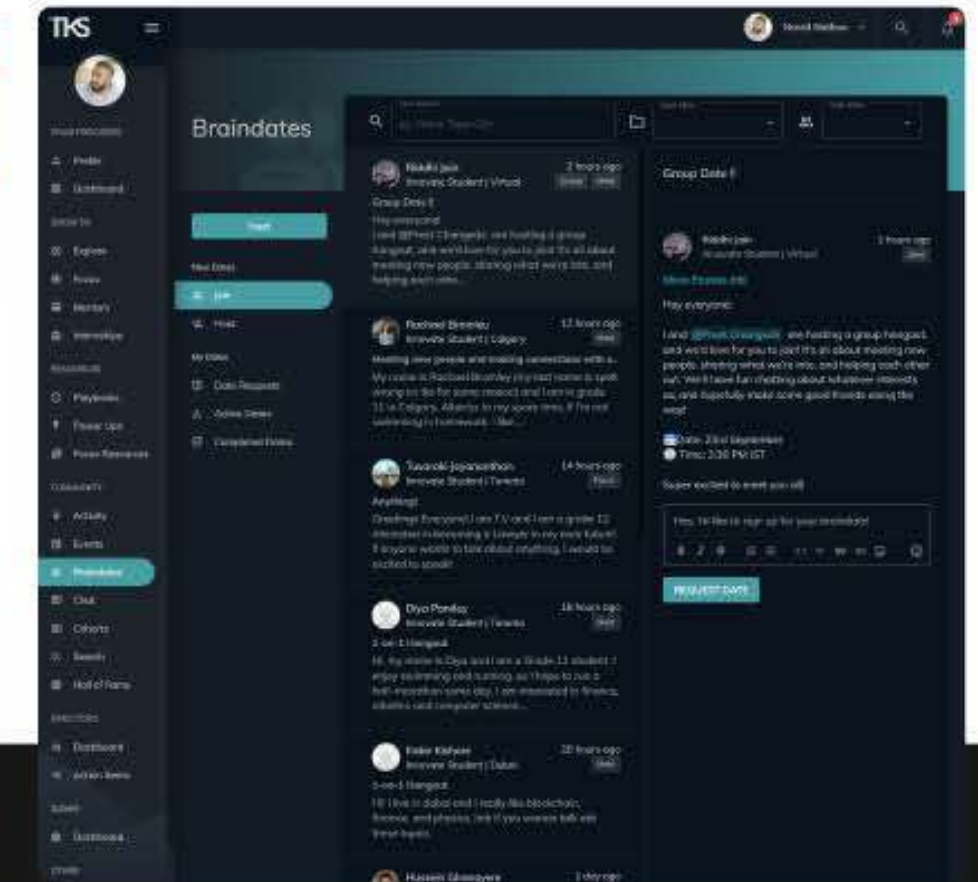
Explore Modules

Students can learn about over 40 frontier industries and global problems at their own pace.



Objectives

Progress through objectives in TKS. We designed a gamified objective-based system to personalize learning.



Braindates

Build relationships with students and alumni worldwide through our Braindate platform.

FAQs

Frequently asked questions.

How are students selected?

During the application and interview process, students are evaluated on four areas: curiosity, drive, desire to make impact, and openness to build relationships with like-minded people. TKS doesn't look at school grades; instead focuses on future potential.

What topics can I study at TKS?

Students choose to focus on whatever interests them – we prioritize curiosity. The first phase of TKS is called “Explore”, where students learn about various topics. Once they've found a topic they're interested in, they enter the second phase called “Focus”.

How long does the program run for?

The program is 10 months and runs from September–June. During that time, students attend weekly sessions, receive personalized coaching, and participate in events including guest speakers, workshops, and more.

Do I need technical knowledge to join?

No, students don't need previous technical knowledge or coding skills to join. There are no prerequisites for the program as everything is learned during the 10 months. All that's required is a strong willingness to grow and a deep curiosity.

What's the time commitment?

The weekly sessions are 3 hours. Outside of sessions, students work on a variety of projects. There are no set time requirements, however students who grow the most during TKS typically allocate 5–10 hours weekly to their projects.



➤ www.tks.world

➤ applications@tkс.world

➤ 1 (855) 244-7866

Closing Remarks

A final note from our founders on why they created TKS.

“The limit of human progress is the ambition of the most ambitious.”

– Navid Nathoo, TKS Co-Founder

The world is exponentially changing, but the systems we have to develop human potential are stagnant.

We have the tools to solve the world’s biggest problems, but our greatest resource—human potential—remains untapped and underdeveloped. Human development is about cultivating curiosity, resilience, and a mindset that thrives on solving complex problems.

We need to empower the next generation to ask the right questions, to challenge the status quo, and to see themselves not just as students or workers, but as leaders and creators. Because the future belongs to those who are willing to see beyond what is and envision what could be.

We designed TKS to create environments where young people can experience the forefront of technology and innovation, where they can work on real-world problems, and where they can learn to create the future. This isn’t just about preparing for a career—this is about preparing to shape the future of humanity.

We have a responsibility to build systems that unleash the boundless potential within each of us. We need to challenge ourselves to be more, to do more, and to create more. Because the world doesn’t just need more technology—it needs more people who are equipped and inspired to use it for good. The greatest breakthroughs won’t come from machines; they will come from minds that are trained to dream, to create, and to impact.

– Navid & Nadeem Nathoo

Appendix

Content to showcase successful outcomes of TKS alumni, and the guiding principles behind our program.

Success Stories

Student Journeys

TKS Talks

Partner Videos

Success Stories

Outcomes from our alumni.



Utopia Labs raises \$23M led by Paradigm Capital.

"Through the mentors and friends I met during TKS, I learned mental models that deeply impacted me and shaped who I am today. TKS helped me be unafraid of tackling ambitious problems and pursue a more unconventional path."

Alexander Wu | TKS 2017



Brain-Computer Interfaces at Neuralink.

"TKS pushed me to build, learn, and invent, alongside the most supportive group of friends I've ever met. During the program I built my first Brain-Computer Interface (BCI) project, and projects in artificial intelligence, blockchain, and gene editing. TKS changed my trajectory."

Ananya Chadha | TKS 2016



SpaceX engineer and founder of Ember Bazaar.

"TKS has helped me realize that I'm meant to build and that I will continue to build and help others in spaces like climate tech and space tech! It helped me build an engineering portfolio and get amazing internships and opportunities."

Valkyrie Holmes | TKS 2019



Early cancer detection using genomics at Stanford.

"TKS propelled me into an environment of like-minded individuals where I built projects in cancer research, formed life-long connections, and built mindsets towards innovative success. The people I met in TKS remain my closest friends."

Kevin Zhu | TKS 2019



Managing Director at Nucleate, global biotech leader.

"I got my first exposure to CRISPR-Cas9 and the scientific method during TKS, and I find myself relying on those lessons to this day as I help develop and deploy the next generation of genetic engineering tools here at MIT."

Michael Trinh | TKS 2018



Material science and machine learning at Tesla.

"I met people at TKS who really get me and enable me to be my most authentic self while pushing for my growth. TKS helped me unlock opportunities, internships, and network connections that were life-changing."

Shagun Maheshwari | TKS 2017



Founding engineer at Thirdweb valued at \$160M.

"TKS was the catalyst for me to rapidly progress toward my goals. It showed me that I didn't need to wait to start building valuable technical skills, start companies, and carve my own path. Without it, my life would look very different."

Adam Majmudar | TKS 2019



Success Stories

Outcomes from our alumni.



Axiome raises \$8M for next-gen molecular diagnostics.

"Through TKS, I was strongly encouraged to pursue my curiosities in areas that normally require a deep technical background, and was exposed to frameworks that have been immensely valuable as I've been building my company."

Samarth Athreya | TKS 2017

AXIOME



Atomic Semi valued at \$100M for semiconductor fabs.

"I started TKS in 2016 and it was the place where I learned about artificial intelligence and data. I met my mentor Mike during TKS, who later hired me to work at Tecton as an early product manager building advanced AI tools."

Jay Parthasarthy | TKS 2016



Co-founder of human longevity startup, Biotein.

"TKS gave me a new frame of reference for what I could accomplish. I trained tangible mental models like breaking down major issues into their root causes. I wouldn't have been able to cofound a biotech startup without this experience."

Nina Kera | TKS 2017

Biotein.



Blockchain powered hedge fund at Numerai.

"TKS gave me a community of inspiring peers, helped me create projects that got me internships at AI research labs and startups while in high school, and made me feel ready to work full-time at a startup in Silicon Valley without university."

Liam Hinzman | TKS 2018



Full-ride Morehead-Cain scholarship to UNC pursuing biotech.

"TKS sparked my interest in building real-world change. I've worked with scientists in the cultured meat industry, and designed a public health program in Nigeria that focused on reducing maternal mortality."

Isabella Grandic | TKS 2018



Synex Medical: Non-invasive glucose detection technology.

"During TKS I was encouraged to follow my curiosities and taught that I could shape the future. I went deep into magnetic resonance imaging, fascinated by what it could do, but also the stagnancy in the industry. I built Synex to innovate in this area."

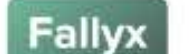
Ben Nashman | TKS 2016



Founded Fallyx to predict and detect senior fall detection.

"I was inspired to build Fallyx during TKS when my grandma fell and broke her hip. I thought that there must be a solution to predict and detect falls, which is the leading cause of preventable death and injuries in seniors."

Ayaan Esmail | TKS 2017



Student Journey: Ada

Interning at Shell to build projects in AI & supply chain management.



"In October 2023, I was selected among the TKS students sponsored to attend Shell's annual conference in Bangalore. I got to interview the CTO of Shell as well as network with high-level executives at Shell that were leveraging emerging technologies to help in decarbonization.

I wanted to make the best of this opportunity and after the conference, I discussed with my TKS Directors on structuring my focus in AI to help solve a problem Shell was facing. Through one-on-ones with them and reaching out to executives at Shell, I found that minimizing supply chain risks in oil and gas companies could save 15% of costs which amounts to almost \$10 billion for Shell. Through working on my project I was offered a paid internship with one of Shell's partners. Not only do I get to work on making my project real, they are sponsoring me to work from their offices in the UK and Netherlands later this year."

In Innovate

- Wrote a detailed review paper on Optogenetic CRISPR-Cas9 tools.
- Designed a wristband to control the most common side effects of CAR-T cell therapy.
- Summer Intern at Equintel, an AI startup for ESG assessments.

During Activate

- Presented an algal bioink moonshot project at Shell's annual conference in Bangalore.
- Accepted into Minerva University, the world's most innovative university.
- Got Emergent Ventures Career Development grant.
- Designed an AI-powered Supplier Risk Management Platform that can save up to \$10 billion dollars in procurement costs at Shell.
- Received 3-month internship at Streamba, an AI Logistics startup in the UK.
- Worked as an Operations Manager at a Health startup for a month, managing sales outbound.



Student Journey: Krishiv

Launched a revenue generating AI x Education product.

During Activate

- Invited to Explore and 2E Fellowships
- Received funding from Emergent Ventures for AI x Education startup, Aceflow.
- Received internship at BenchSci.
- Won TKS Interac Challenge.
- Spoke at GITEX Global.
- Invited to speak at Encode Justice's Conference in New York.
- Accepted into Stanford ASES Summit.
- Received funding for trip to San Francisco by Inflection Grants.
- Received funding from 1517 to build out a startup in the fusion industry.
- Invited to speak at TEDxVail Youth.
- Received internship offer from Z Fellows.

In Innovate

- Built an AI-powered chrome extension.
- Built 3 AI web apps.
- Spoke at World Summit AI.
- Invited to the Villars Symposium as a fellow.
- Keynote speaker at Microsoft Canada's HQ.
- Founded Aceflow.org – EdTech Startup.

"Activate doesn't change your life, it changes your life + the billions of other lives you'll have the potential of changing after the program's training."



Innovate ignited the flame in my heart determined to solve big problems, but Activate's given my mind the mental models, frameworks, and tools to turn my ambition into actualization. It's like Neuralink for making dreams real. I wake up every morning filled with joyful fulfilment and an enchanted sense of luckiness getting to apply what I'm learning through Activate into projects I'm obsessed with. Activate is not just educational; it's helped me design a life I love, doing work I love."



Student Journey: Elanu

RISE Global Winner and incoming freshman at Stanford.

In Innovate

- Built projects in solar energy, materials informatics, and AI.
- Got access to a scanning electron lab to characterize and observe quantum dots.
- Started exploring atmospheric water harvesting and received \$3.5k to execute experiments.

During Activate

- Achieved Rise Global Winner status, securing funding for projects and higher education; utilized resources to advance research, development, and educational pursuits, driving tangible global impact.
- Accepted into Stanford University engineering.
- Built a proof-of-concept for a water harvesting material within a lab to address water scarcity and sustainability challenges
- Featured on UNDP's Chats with STEMInists. Podcast discussing insights on the Metaverse & the future of education for girls in STEM.
- Panelist at This Week in Voice S9E7 round-table discussion on AI.

"The skills we covered in Activate sessions showed me how to tell a story in my Stanford application. TKS taught me how to find interesting ideas and create my own opportunities, and now I feel more confident in myself to utilize the resources of Stanford to make a real change in the world. I also am very thankful to the TKS community for answering my questions, assisting me, and celebrating me during college applications, and beyond."



Stanford
University



TKS Talks



Speaker Highlight Reel

TKS alumni and students have been invited to share their ideas at conferences around the world.




 Watch the speaker highlight reel

Speaking at Web Summit

Watch TKS students present at [Web Summit](#), the largest technology conference in the world.




 Watch the Web Summit talk

The future of proactive healthcare

Ayaan and Samarth share their vision for the future of personalized and proactive healthcare.



 Watch the talk on proactive healthcare

TED Talks



Navid, TKS Co-Founder

Watch Navid talk about his views on unlocking human potential.



[Click here to watch Navid's talk](#)

Jennah, TKS Director

Watch Jennah share her perspective on honesty and transparency.



[Click here to watch Jennah's talk](#)

Riya, TKS Alumni

Watch Riya share her story and predictions for the next 100 years.



[Click here to watch Riya's talk](#)

Partner Videos

TKS



Hear about Microsoft's experience working with TKS students



[Click here to learn about Microsoft's experience](#)



Hear about CIBC's experience working with TKS students



[Click here to learn about CIBC's experience](#)



Create the future.

TKS