Annual Report

Fiscal Year 2018

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Kids in Tech, Inc.

P.O. Box 9057

Lowell, MA 01853

Kids in Tech, Inc. is a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

At Kids in Tech, we call our annual report the Gratitude Report because we are grateful:

- **Grateful for the hundreds of donors and volunteers passionate about ensuring kids get access to high quality technology education in the after-school setting.**
- **Grateful for our community partners working to make a difference.**
- **Grateful for our team of experienced staff, volunteers, and donors who ensure all kids see a clear pathway to the tech industry earlier in their educational trajectory.**

A Note from Our Founder

Olu Ibrahim, M.Ed., Founder & CEO

I have always had an insatiable appetite for learning and commitment to helping my community. As the daughter of immigrants, I am deeply invested in education and the opportunities it can create. But throughout my career as an educator, I have observed many children who lacked the necessary tools and opportunities to pursue technology in their education and careers.

Founded in 2015, Kids in Tech has plans to grow with a strong plan for the future to expand and reach even more students in Greater Lowell and beyond. Beyond the benefit for the students, Kids in Tech also creates a pipeline of the technology sector talent necessary to attract innovative businesses and economic growth. This is very important for mid-sized cities like Lowell, with a long manufacturing history and its current day growing tech and biotech scene. I love my work. What I am particularly inspired by – beyond the curriculum – is the true mission and philosophy of this program. You can clearly see these values in Kids in Tech, with the same hands-on learning and foundation in education to create opportunities.

The future is bright for our students, and for the growth ahead!

Leadership

Staff

Olu Ibrahim, M.Ed., Founder & CEO

Board of Directors

Greg Franks, Senior Manager, Government and Regulatory Affairs, Comcast

Sam Schoelen, Senior Security Consultant, Diamond Accounts, Virtustream

Anthony Britt, Senior Program Manager, Economic Mobility Workforce Grants, Commonwealth Corporation

Prince Mauton, President & CEO, Maoka Agency

Olu Ibrahim, M.Ed., Founder & CEO

Advisory Board

Felicia Sullivan, Ph.D., Associate Research Director, Jobs for the Future

Alicia M. Bibbs, M.Ed., AHEC Project Coordinator, Georgetown University

Jan Hunter, President & CEO, Hunter + Co Communications

Corporate & Foundation Partners

Proskauer

DLA Piper

Saab Family Foundation

Eastern Bank Charitable Foundation

DCU for Kids

American Tower Foundation

Edson Parker Foundation

Lenny Zakim Fund

Benevity Fund

Western Digital Foundation

Silicon Valley Community Foundation

Theodore Edson Parker Foundation

Salem State University

United Way

Webb Investment Network

In-Kind Contributors

SAP America
iRobot
Kronos
UMass Lowell
Millipore Sigma

Individual Donors

Alison Frost
Amanda Lu
Anonymous
Anthony Britt
Bisi Ibrahim
Dahvy Pech Tran
Dai Kim
Dawn Grenier
Dayo Ibrahim
Elina Tserlin
Elizabeth Eckley
Eric Frost
Felicia Sullivan
Greg Franks
Jeremy Schneier
John Luce
Maureen Franks
Melanie Shea
Michael Ibrahim
Prince Akran
Priscilla Scannell
Raina Hall
Sapana Thomas
Sharyn Hardy
Shirronda Alemdia
Steven A. Franks
Vladimir Salanda
Yinka Bakare

Tech Club Program Partners

Coalition for a Better Acre
Lowell Housing Authority
Moody Elementary School

Latest News

In the Press

This past year, Kids in Tech has been featured in a number of media outlets, with Olu Ibrahim reaching broad audiences through a series of appearances.

Olu was featured on the WITTY (Women in Tech Talk to Yaz) Podcast, and spoke with Comcast Newsmakers' Jenny Johnson.

Olu was also featured in the STEMher Magazine as a woman leader in tech, and on Thrive Global for her expertise on the importance of STEM careers and how to get our youth to hold an interest and enter the field.

Announcements

APRIL 24, 2019 – KIDS IN TECH AFTER-SCHOOL TECH CLUB PROGRAM TAKES A FIELD TRIP TO UMASS LOWELL FABRIC DISCOVERY CENTER

> In recent weeks, Lowell-based nonprofit Kids in Tech has taken students from their three program sites in Lowell: Moody Elementary School, Lowell Housing Authority and Coalition for a Better Acre on a series of STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics) field trips. Most recently to the UMass Lowell Fabric Discovery Center (FDC) where students had the opportunity to explore the Center's Fashion Makerspace. Read more.

MARCH 20, 2019 – REGISTER OF DEEDS RICHARD P. HOWE, JR. VISITS STUDENTS AT THE MOODY SCHOOL WITH THE KIDS IN TECH AFTER-SCHOOL TECH CLUB PROGRAM

On Tuesday, March 19, Middlesex North Register of Deeds Richard P. Howe, Jr., joined Kids in Tech to teach students at the Moody School about the history of the City of Lowell, the role of the Register of Deeds, and the evolution of technology going back to the earliest days of the City's founding. Read more.

MARCH 11, 2019 – KIDS IN TECH STUDENTS CELEBRATE PI DAY

This Friday, in recognition of Pi Day (March 14), Kids in Tech will host a special Pizza "Pi" Party for students participating in the after-school tech program. As part of the lesson, students will measure the diameter and circumference of pizzas, and use this hands-on display as a lesson on fractions and ratios. Read more.

MARCH 4, 2019 – KIDS IN TECH STUDENTS BUILD ROBOTIC HANDS FOR ENGINEERING WEEK

In recognition of National Engineering Week, Kids in Tech students built their own robotic hands, created from everyday materials, as part of a lesson on future career opportunities in engineering and prosthesis. Read more.

FEBRUARY 15, 2019 – KIDS IN TECH HOSTS TECH CAREER DAY WITH ENGINEERS FROM IROBOT

In recent weeks, Kids in Tech has hosted Tech Career Day at two program sites in Lowell: Moody Elementary School and Lowell Housing Authority. Featured speakers included Sam Devadoss and Eva Mascot, both software engineers from iRobot. The presentations came on the heels of a recent visit by Kids in Tech students to the 'Cool Stuff' museum at the iRobot headquarters in Bedford. Read more.

About Us

Our Mission

Kids in Tech strives to excite, educate, and empower children to acquire skills and confidence in technology through interactive after-school programs.

Our programs focus on helping kids develop the necessary tech skills and aptitudes to participate in and be future leaders of the 21st Century innovation economy.

Our Core Values

Inclusion & Innovation: We recognize the importance and value of bringing together individuals and their different perspectives. Real innovation comes when all voices and backgrounds are included.

Communication & Collaboration: We are curious, listen well, and ask good questions to fill the gaps in computer science education. We strive to ensure our future tech leaders come from everywhere.

Impactful Results: We make a difference. We can measure this by the leaders we shape and we focus on results that matter to kids, the communities we serve, and broader society.

Our Vision

Kids in Tech hopes to reach even more kids through tech clubs and other programming across the country. With computer science driving many industries, the need for kids to be well-prepared for these career paths is stronger than ever. Schools, unfortunately, provide limited opportunities; only two out of five schools across the country offer instruction in programming and coding, for example. Kids in Tech wants to help fill in the gap with fun learning opportunities for kids to get excited about technology and be tomorrow's innovators.

Our Programs

After-School Tech Club

At the core of our programs is the After-School Tech Club. Skilled volunteers and qualified educators guide kids ages 8-14 in fun, hands-on learning activities in technology, including computer programming, coding, audiovisual production, and more.

Educators and Volunteers

Club instructors are the cornerstone of Kids in Tech programming. Our educators and volunteers spend once or twice a week for a semester in a community venue teaching Kids in Tech programming. They inspire students to continue the pursuit of technology and computer science skills.

Career Day

Both Tech and community leaders have joined our after-school career day to share their direct experience, recognizing that it is crucial to begin a STEM education path early in a child's education.

Curriculum

Kids in Tech uses specifically-designed curriculum to excite and educate kids about technology. Our programs offer hands-on instruction, career day with current tech professionals, and field trips to tech companies.

Examples

Blogging: Students learn how to make their own blogs while exploring different writing genres.

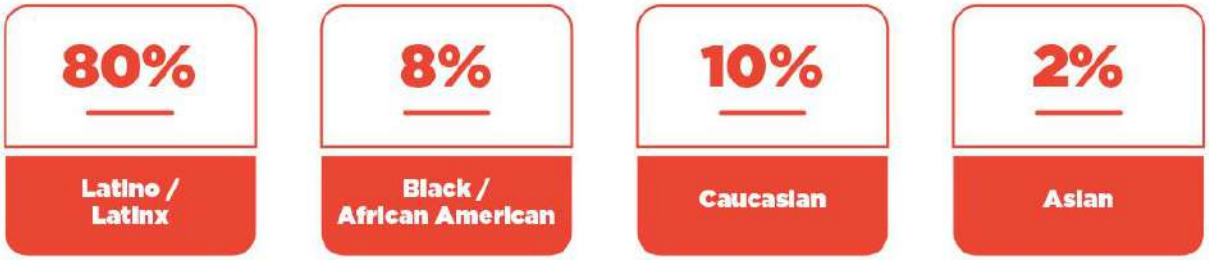
Robotics: Students trace the history, development, and influence of automation and robotics. They learn about mechanical systems, energy transfer, machine automation, and computer control systems.

Fashion Tech: Students learn about the world of wearable tech, coding, and fashion. Working in teams, they design, build and present their own wearable innovations.

Our Students

Race & Ethnicity

Students identify race as:



Household Income

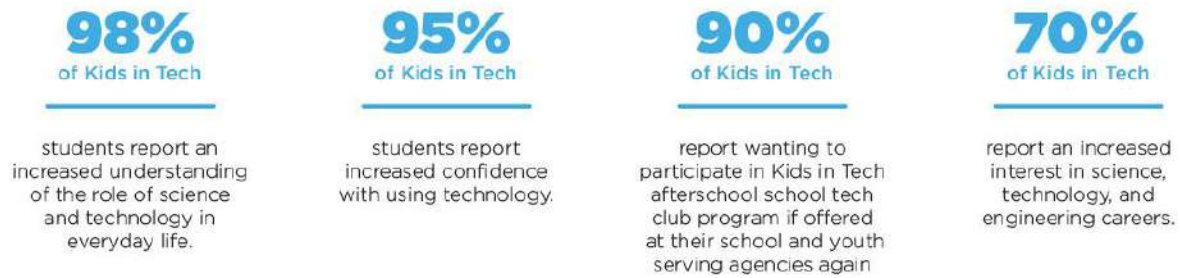
100% of program participants come from low-income families

Gender

Students identify gender as:

Results

Students report:



Testimonials

"I did not think I was going to like Tech Club at first, but it is really fun and interesting. I like that we get to build things, tear them apart, and build again. We also get to go on field trips and see real tech people at their jobs. I get to learn things that I do not learn in school."
Naomi, age 14

"It is fun and interesting! The self-driving car activity was really fun and also the field trip to IBM. I learned about engineering and what coders do and go to meet someone who works at IBM. That was really cool."
Sue Hailey, age 11