

Arab tech collective

Innovation Through Community

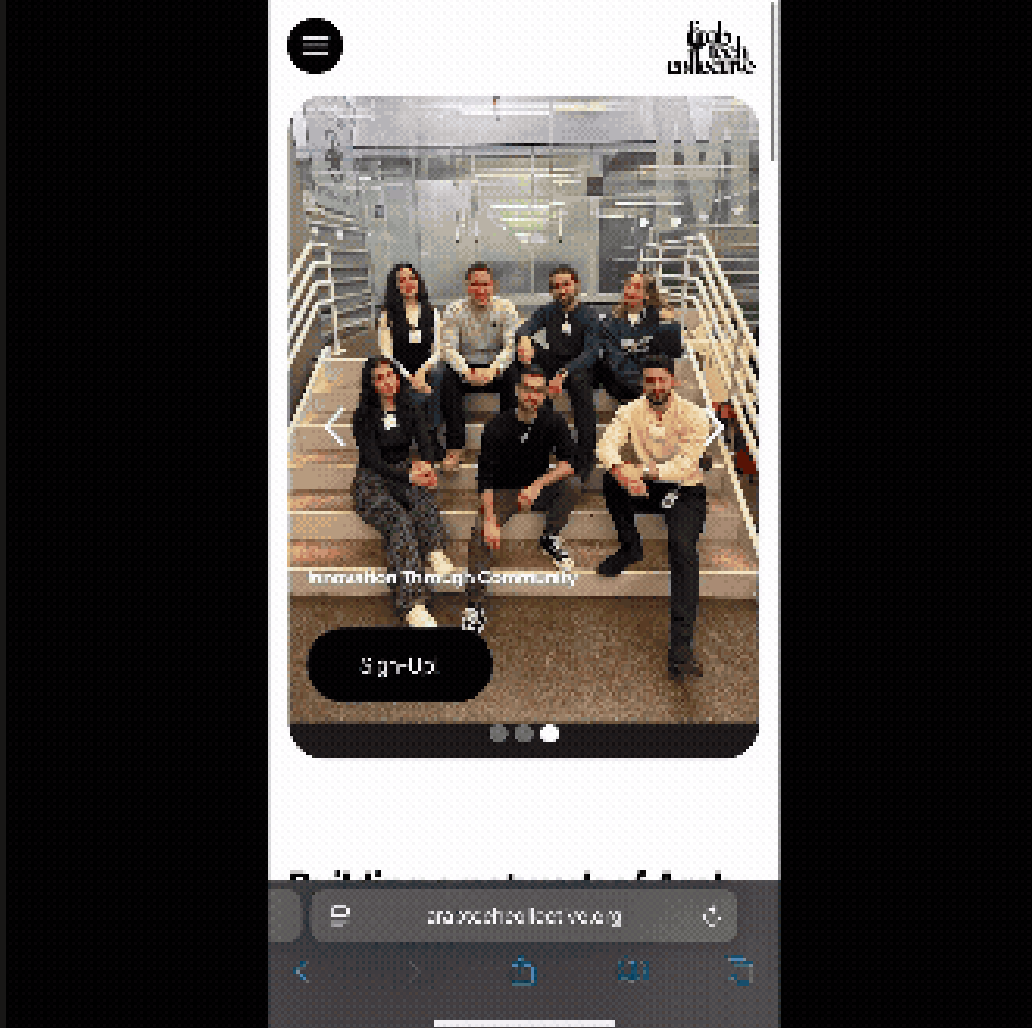
29/07/25

From The Arab Tech Collective Team

Welcome ! أهلا وسهلا

Whether you're a new member or long-time supporter, we're excited to welcome you to the Arab Tech Collective (ATC) and introduce you to our monthly newsletter. Our newsletter will be your guide to all things tech, community, and culture in the collective and beyond—highlighting upcoming events, exciting opportunities, and important news within our growing community.

Each month, we'll keep you updated on everything you need to know, from emerging tech trends, webinars, career resources, and more! If you haven't already, be sure to follow us on Instagram, LinkedIn, Discord, and Slack to stay connected.



NEW WEBSITE LAUNCH

It is finally here! After several delays, we have now launched our new [website](https://arabtechcollective.org). This new site will make it easier for us to add more changes quickly, provide more services, build complex functionality, and much more.

We're excited about the refresh and looking forward to sharing some future plans for additional improvements over the coming months.

The first thing we'll be focused on rolling out next is an improved student resources section. We want to create a central hub for useful information that is easy to navigate and contribute to. Specifically, we'll be starting with aggregating information on internships; there are many different opportunities out there but it can be difficult to find them and know when is the right time to apply. A bit further down the road, we'd like to make it easy for our student Chapters to contribute things like class or school advice/recommendations, grant information, conferences, hackathons, special programs, etc.

Early this Fall we'll be adding a page for Special Programs started by ATC. We can't go into details now, but we'll be highlighting a development program we have been working on starting and hope that it will serve as a strong example of what we can do once we connect as a community and utilize all the resources at our disposal. By the end of Fall, we hope to have an available member's portal for members to update their preferences and information.

As alluded to earlier, we also plan to create a page with information on all our Chapters including a how-to-guide for starting one!

There is far more we are planning to add in the future, but for now we'll leave it here. We'd love to hear any feedback on the new site and anything you think we should add. Let us know by commenting on our social media posts, DMing us, or emailing us at info@arabtechcollective.org

We want to hear from you!

Have a minute? We'd love your feedback through a quick member survey. This helps ensure we are concentrating on the things that matter to our community.

شكراً

MEMBER SURVEY

PILOT PROGRAM IN PALESTINE

Hi everyone, I'd like to share a preview of a program I've been working on starting in Palestine. For the safety of our students, sponsors, and partner orgs, I'll keep the details minimal and obscure the names for the time being.

Late last year, I sought out an opportunity to test a pilot program in Palestine to teach several students XR development (Augmented Reality, Virtual Reality, and everything in between). Through a contact at a Bootcamp, I was able to get support from the founder; he was incredibly gracious and excited for the chance to bring his Bootcamp to Palestine. I reached out in November, and after getting affirmative support from the Bootcamp, I immediately tried to find partner orgs in Palestine to help me promote for the upcoming Spring cohort—which would start in March 2025. After a few cold emails and reaching out to contacts of contacts, I was able to connect with a Local Org. From there I was connected with a Tech Sponsor, a leading XR company in Palestine. With all these contacts we were able to promote this pilot, accept applications, conduct filtering, find a mentor, and find the students who would join the program. Thanks to the help of the Bootcamp we were able to sponsor a total of 3 students (2 sponsored by the Bootcamp and 1 by myself). We now had our Spring cohort!

The Bootcamp is an intensive 16 week program where students learn everything from the basics to advanced prototype development. They learned to use Unity as the framework and develop on Oculus Quest devices; building projects that also utilize AI and AR in addition to VR. This program culminates into a prototyping phase where each student develops a different prototype every 2 weeks. Under normal circumstances, it could easily take someone upwards of 30 hours a week to complete the weekly course load. Our students do not live under normal circumstances. There are many roadblocks (metaphorical and literal) that this cohort had to deal with; everything from checkpoints to Settler violence, occupation imposed curfews, and much more. We learned some valuable lessons through this pilot that we will be able to use to not only scale the program, but help make the experience smoother for future students.

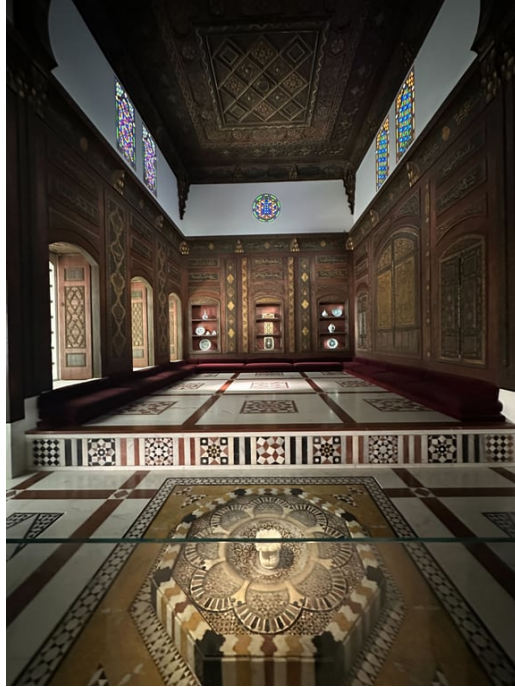
Fast forward to the end of July, after a very long 16 weeks, our cohort completed their requirements and graduated from the Bootcamp! And since their graduation they have been working on more complex projects at the Tech Sponsor company. I'm proud of all our students and thankful for all the support we had along the way. This is just the start and it is my hope that this story can help you all realize that there is no shortage of ways you can have a positive impact on those around you. You just need to reach out and make use of your network (and this network we are building together); if you drive forward a vision, there will always be people willing to help. I will be using the lessons learned to formalize a sustainable program that we can use as an example for future programs. I want to reduce the friction, overhead, and expertise needed to spin up valuable and impactful programs like this, so as our community grows so do opportunities like this. In a newsletter later this year, I will go over more details and hopefully share an official announcement.

If anyone is inspired to pilot their own programs, feel free to reach out and I'd be more than happy to brainstorm a plan with you: info@arabtechcollective.org

- Alestin Hasbun-Nosthas Sphere

Another Summer of Sahras (Recap)!





Special thanks to the New York Chapter Social Committee! And thank you to all who came out, it's very encouraging to see the community show up and engage in these events. We look forward to seeing you at the next one. Keep an eye out for updates.

UPCOMING EVENTS

If you'd like to stay informed about upcoming events, we post regularly on IG, LinkedIn, Discord, and Slack. If you'd like to host an event in your city or promote one, we recommend reaching out in our Discord or Slack, we have a growing number of local channels.

For September office hours, feel free to schedule time on our calendar here: _____

Below are our upcoming events or notable events we're highlighting or attending. We will post more details closer to each one:

- September 25th-28th — ArabCon, Dearborn, MI
- Sept OR Oct — ERG Sync, Virtual
- October 6th-19th — Tech Week, Los Angeles / San Francisco, CA

Call to Publish!

We accept requests from our members, subscribers, and allies who would like to publish content on our Newsletter, Socials, or Community spaces!

If you have any articles, news, events, announcements, or content that you'd like to broadcast, let us know. You can submit requests below.

SUBMIT
CONTENT



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