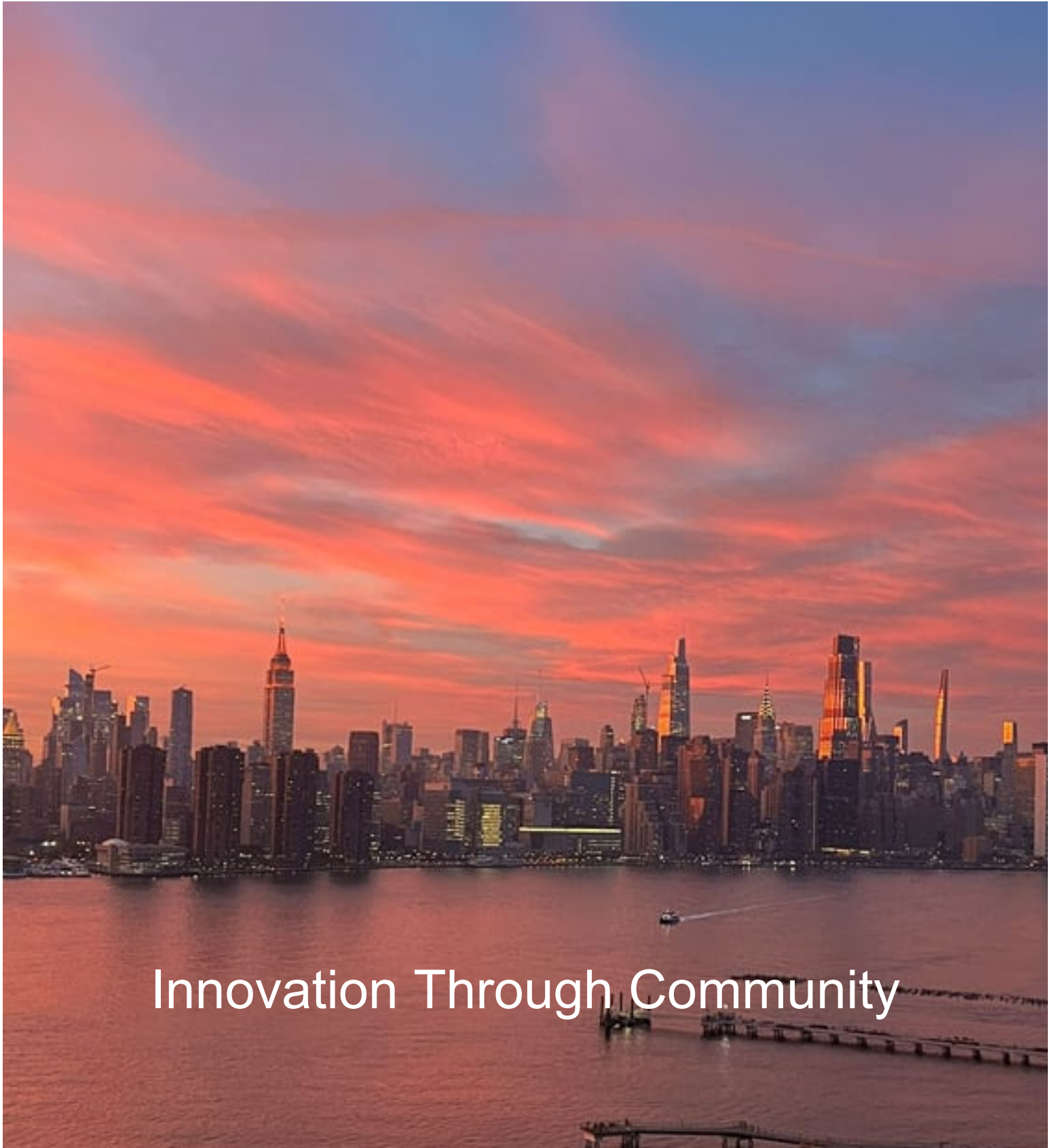


# Grab tech collective



Innovation Through Community

# 30/11/25

From The Arab Tech Collective Team

## Welcome

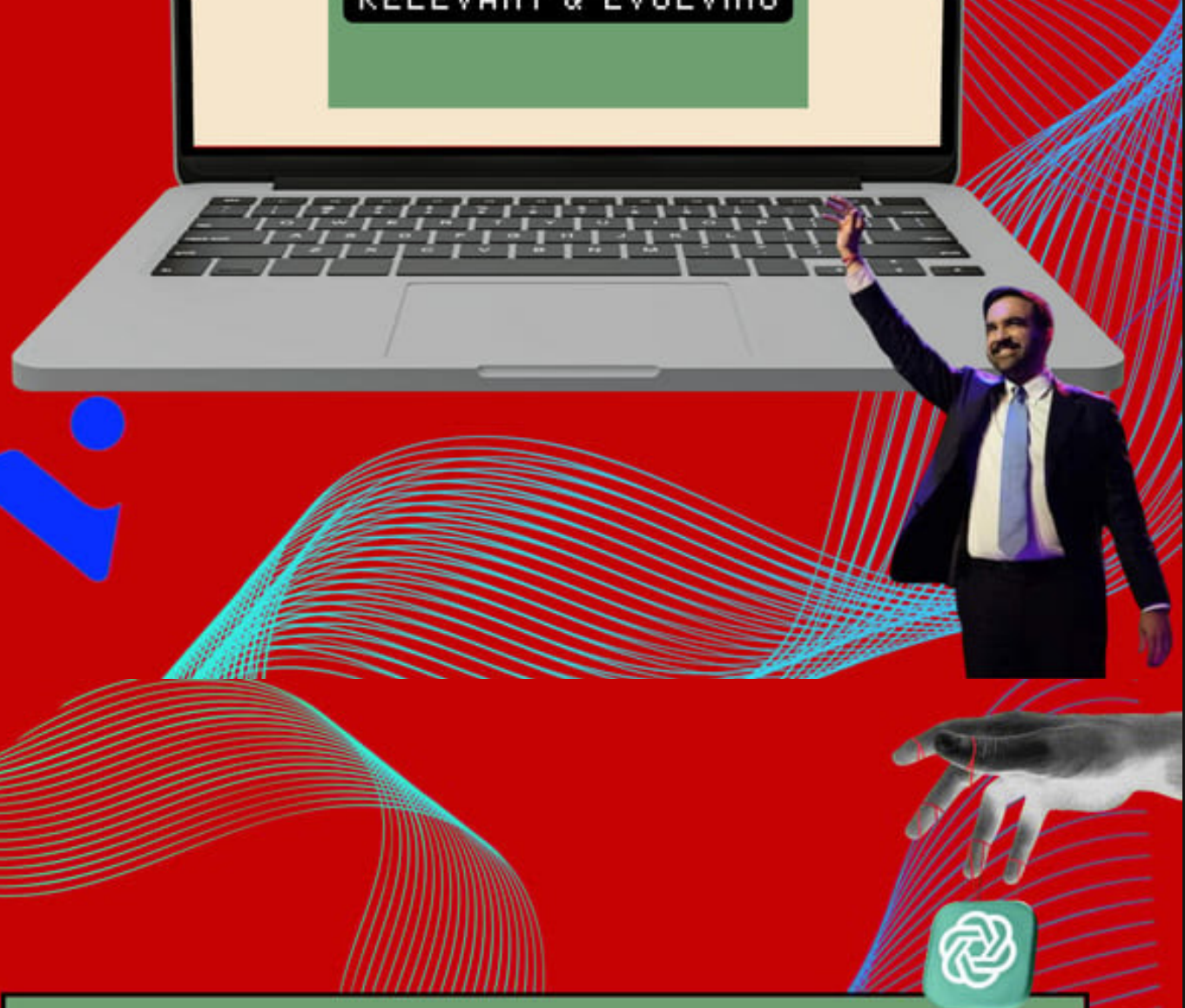
أهلا وسهلا

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.







## TRENDING TECHNOLOGIES

Recent investigations reveal how Israel is increasingly using AI not only in warfare, but in surveillance, narrative control, and information manipulation targeting Palestinians. Reports from The Guardian detail how Israel's intelligence unit, Unit 8200, is developing a ChatGPT-style model trained on intercepted Palestinian phone calls, messages, and data—enabling real-time monitoring and AI-generated “insights” on individuals under occupation. At the same time, AI-driven systems like **Lavender** and **The Gospel** have been used in strike targeting, raising global alarm over civilian harm and algorithmic decision-making in warfare.

Additional reporting shows Israel has engaged in coordinated disinformation and influence operations, including AI-generated content campaigns designed to shape global opinion and suppress pro-Palestinian narratives. CyberScoop recently exposed “Stoic,” a sprawling influence operation that used AI tools and fake accounts to amplify pro-Israel messaging and attack critics, part of a broader push to rewrite the digital narrative around the war and occupation.





## TRENDING TECHNOLOGIES

**Why it matters:** AI is rapidly becoming a tool for erasing evidence, reshaping public perception, and automating oppression. Training AI models on the private communications of an occupied population sets a dangerous precedent: it normalizes mass surveillance at a scale that makes accountability nearly impossible. When the same tools can also generate targeted propaganda or manipulate online discourse, the line between truth and manufactured reality blurs.

For marginalized communities, including Palestinians and broader Arab and Muslim diasporas, these developments signal how easily AI can be weaponized against vulnerable populations. And globally, they raise urgent questions about the role of Big Tech, the lack of oversight, and what happens when some of the world's most powerful technologies are deployed without transparency or ethical guardrails. The stakes extend far beyond this conflict: the future of AI will be shaped by how we respond now.

## INDUSTRY MOVEMENTS

### Viaka

Viaka brands itself as “the global hub for MENA’s startup ecosystem,” bringing together founders, investors, and experts tied to the Middle East and North Africa but rooted in a global community. They provide more than



just networking: through their “Viaka Angel Network” and advisory offerings, they help early-stage MENA-rooted founders access capital, market insights, cross-border expertise, and tailored consulting to scale globally.

Source: <https://www.viaka.net/>

## INDUSTRY MOVEMENTS

### Friday (FridayHQ)

Friday is a community and support platform that helps Muslim-led businesses gain access to both capital and community support. By organizing founder-peer events, “chapter dinners,” investor pitch opportunities, and networks across cities worldwide, Friday creates a space for Muslim entrepreneurs to connect, learn, and grow—bridging the gap between ambitions and resources.

**FRIDAY**

Source: <https://fridayhq.co/>



## INDUSTRY MOVEMENTS

### Alif

Alif is a startup accelerator specifically for Muslim founders working in emerging tech, offering funding, mentorship, and community support to get their ideas off the ground. Their approach combines capital, access to a curated network, and startup-building infrastructure [credits, tools, community] aiming to lower barriers for founders who, historically, might have lacked access to traditional Venture Capital pathways.

alif

Source: <https://alif.build/>

## INDUSTRY MOVEMENTS

**Why it matters:** Industries around tech, startups, venture capital, where gatekeeping and homogeneity have long held sway, these organizations are actively pushing for inclusion and representation for Muslim and MENA-rooted founders. That directly supports greater diversity in who gets to build, fund, and shape technology and business. As more Muslim and Arab-led startups emerge, they challenge



more Muslim and Arab-led startups emerge, they challenge stereotypes and reshape narratives about who builds tech, who leads companies, who makes creative/business decisions. That shift cascades: influencing media representation, investor mindsets, and broader societal perceptions.



## CULTURAL RELEVANCE

### A Turning Point for Muslim & Arab Representation

This November marked a historic milestone: more than 40 Muslim and Arab Americans won seats across local and state elections, setting new records for representation nationwide. While Zohran Mamdani's election as the first Muslim mayor of New York City captured national attention, he wasn't the only one making history—and he wasn't the only one worth highlighting. Across city councils, school boards, mayoral races, and even statewide offices, Arab and Muslim candidates saw widespread wins that signaled a broader shift in how these communities are perceived: not as outsiders, but as essential contributors to civic life.



Source: [theguardian.com](https://www.theguardian.com), [newarab.com](https://www.newarab.com), [cair.com](https://www.cair.com)



## CULTURAL RELEVANCE

**Why it matters:** These victories arrive at a time when many Arab and Muslim Americans are navigating heavy uncertainty, from escalating crises “back home” to a documented rise in Islamophobia across the U.S. That context makes this moment even more meaningful. Increased representation serves as both a counter-narrative to prejudice and a symbol of belonging, demonstrating that our communities are not defined by the discrimination they face, but by their leadership, resilience, and commitment to public service.

For younger generations, these wins expand what feels possible, showing that civic engagement, policymaking, and public leadership are not only accessible but already being shaped by people who share their identities and lived experiences. For the broader public, this wave of representation acts as a cultural recalibration, challenging long-standing stereotypes and reframing Muslim and Arab Americans as trusted, capable voices in our political future.



## 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 December office hours, feel free to schedule time on our calendar here: <https://calendly.com/arabtechcollective/30min>

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

- December 2nd — Viaka Startup Panel, New York
- December 9th — [ATC] [AI Tech Talk](#), New York
- December 15th — [ATC] Career & Goal Planning, New York



# 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](#)

