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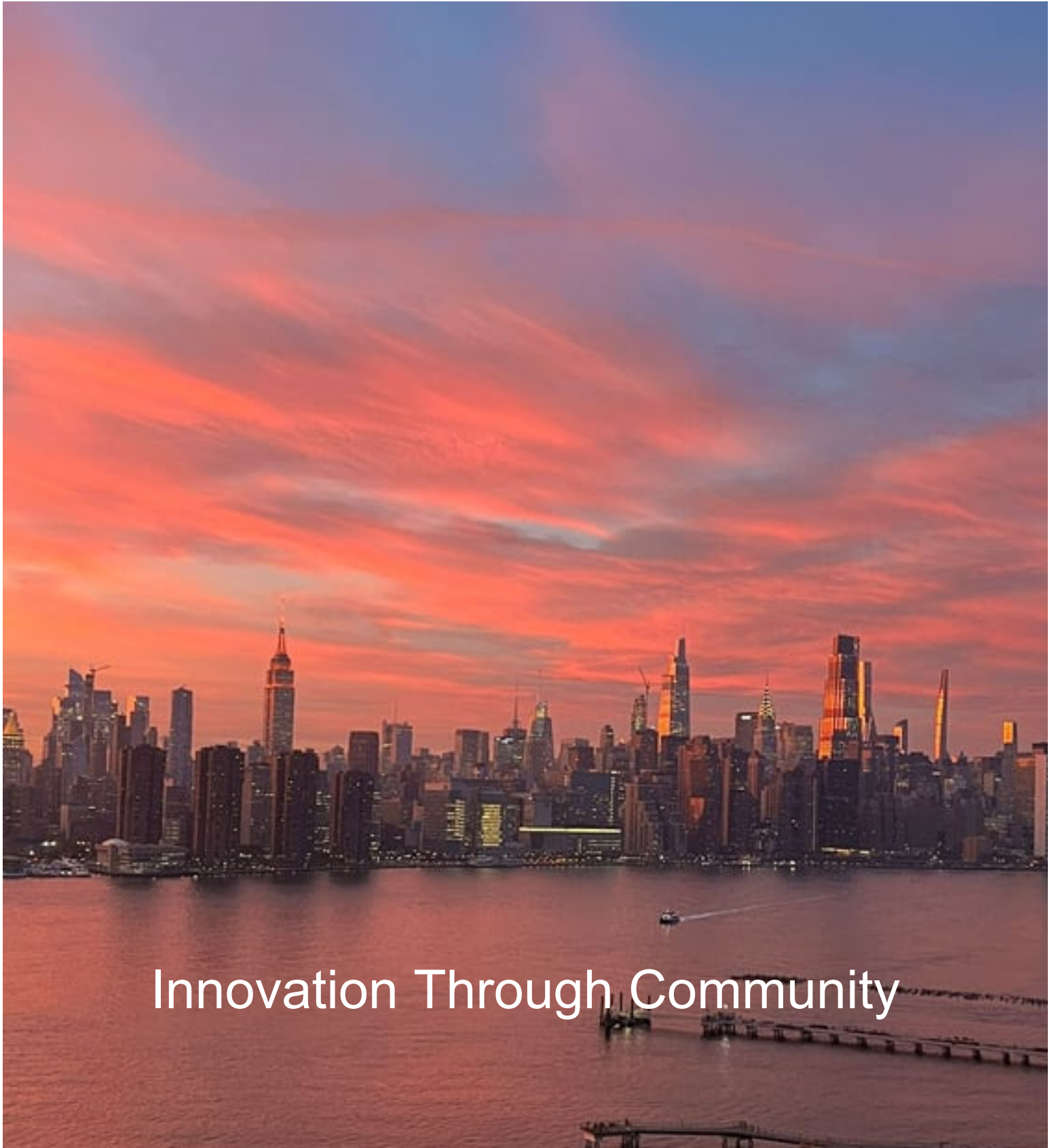
Innovation Through Community

From The Arab Tech Collective Team

Welcome
أهلا و سهلا

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.

Palestine XR Industry Development Launch!

We are excited to announce the official launch of a new initiative, the PXRID program! Below is a high level overview and a link to the newly launched site for this program. If you'd like to help us promote this program, we formatted this as a press release to share. In a few months, we'll be running a fundraising campaign and will ask for everyone's help to help this program succeed.

WHO

Arab Tech Collective, InterTech, Mental.ae, Still Frame 3D Studio, Zamakan (Memories from Palestine)

WHAT

Palestine XR Industry Development (PXRID) program. A project designed to boost the local economy and develop a specialized group of engineers and artists who can contribute to the tech sector while accelerating other sectors within Palestine and the Diaspora. We will start by training top talent in the West Bank to build a strong foundation in XR (augmented reality + virtual reality). From there graduates will further develop their skills through projects and paid internships.

Our hope is that this skill set can be used to reduce educational costs across the board and eventually further scale this program to a broader group. We have some exciting projects planned to demonstrate the ability of our graduates as well as the impact that they can have.

Our sponsors are key to making this all possible. InterTech will run workshops in collaboration with local Universities, from there we'll identify the top applicants who will be enrolled in the bootcamp, which will be conducted by XR Bootcamp. Finally, after graduation, participants will complete a project and based on availability, will be placed at a sponsor company for a paid internship.

WHERE

The program is open to all Palestinian nationals in the WB and '48. Though we are partnering with Techno Park to make space available in Ramallah for participants to have access to equipment and the support of other engineers. Depending on availability, we may also extend a limited number of spots to the Diaspora (as the program grows we hope to have more of these spots broadly accessible).

WHEN

Now! We have already completed a Pilot program in Spring '25. We've begun to engage local students with workshops run by InterTech. And we continue to add sponsors and Steering Committee members! The start date for the 2026 bootcamps are still to be determined.

WHY

We believe that XR is an impactful technology that will allow Palestinians and the Diaspora to connect, innovate, and contribute to the tech ecosystem. Additionally, we think this framework is complementary to the future of schooling and will prepare graduates for a workforce with increasing levels of selection and demand on experience.

CALL TO ACTION

We ask that you:

1. Share this announcement
2. Apply to the program as a participant or sponsor: https://pxrid.arabtechcollective.org

   3. Help us raise funds for the first cohort when we announce our fundraiser in a few months

PXRID Website Launch!

For more details on the PXRID program, you can visit the new website. If you are interested in applying, sponsoring, supporting, or just curious about the program, you can find all the information there. The main page has all the forms to reach out and stay up to date on the application process.

PXRID Homepage

Looking Forward

As we look toward the year ahead, there's a lot of potential for our community to really begin to forge our own path and philosophy in technology; building towards a future that creates, supports, and elevates. With the pace things are going at, and the uncertainty around AI and how it will change things, there is an understandable amount of anxiety. This new technology will affect every aspect of our lives, even more so than past technologies have. But it is up to us to ensure that the future of this technology follows a different path; that it drives towards a better future.

Building this vision will take a lot of effort and require a much bigger organization and network than we currently have. And as a community we still have many issues we need to address.

There are still companies that refuse to acknowledge our community and disallow Arab employee resource groups, there are still forums we do not have

any representation in, there are still a dearth of senior Arab leaders at many big tech companies, there are ongoing campaigns to demonize our community, erase our history, and remove our voice. We don't have large scale training programs to boost the digital literacy or AI literacy of our community, and we don't have large scale initiatives to unify and counter negative perceptions.

We can tackle all these problems if we organize ourselves and engage with existing institutions to help guide the most effective strategies.

A preview of things we hope to put in motion next year

We need more close collaboration between the various Arab employee resource groups. Next year we hope to formalize some of these connections and make it a priority to help connect these groups in an impactful way.

We need to connect with more organizations and build an ecosystem of groups focused on a variety of areas around technology. From incubators, to accelerators, from VCs, to founders' networks, next year we will be more involved in bringing together all these communities.

We need greater unity. In a time when we are seeing attempts, in real-time, to further subdivide our region and our community, we as the Diaspora have a special role to counter that effort. We will continue to champion Pan-Arab unity and find ways to use technology as a community builder.

We need more engagement with civil society and existing Arab institutions. These organizations are essential to our community, our strategy, and building positive impactful initiatives.

We need to support our students, they are the future and times are tough. They need our support and they need us to think outside the box on how we can do that. We hope programs like PXRID can be a framework for how to start.

We need to support the careers of our members and leaders. When one of us succeeds we all succeed. It is imperative that we find new and innovative ways to continue pushing our community to the forefront of our respective industries and help develop our future leaders.

A formative year

I am really hopeful that next year will bring a lot of positive changes and set things in motion. I am confident that our community can come together and meet the moment. I believe next year will be a big year for ATC and that we will begin to see some major movement and development.

Thank you to everyone who helped support us this year, thank you to all the new members, and thank you to all our allies. We appreciate the help and look forward to a big year. See you all in 2026.

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 January 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:

- January 8th — Friday Accelerator Mentor Session, Virtual
- January 22nd — [ATC] Tech Career Panel, Virtual
- January TBD — [ATC] ERG Workshop (invite only), Virtual
- February 4th — [ATC] Tech Talk, New York + Virtual
- February 8th — Muslims in Business Conference, Boston
- April 17th-19th — Arab Conference at Harvard, Boston