

We Create Tech

Building Future Technologists.

One year. Three programs. A community of students building careers that were never built for them.

1,100+

STUDENTS REACHED

19

U.S. STATES

U.S.

ONLY · FY2025

3

PROGRAMS

FISCAL YEAR 2025
AUGUST 1, 2024 TO JULY 31, 2025

— FROM THE FOUNDER

A Year of Showing Up

When I founded We Create Tech, it was a promise. A promise to the students I watched leave for college full of potential and come back home because the bridge was not there. A promise to the version of me that needed someone to show up and say: you belong in this space.

Fiscal Year 2025 was a year of showing up. We showed up at Atlanta Tech Week. We showed up at the Fulton County Library. We showed up in classrooms, on screens, and on stages. And our students showed up too, for certifications, for internships, for careers they were told were not for them.

This report is not just a document. It is proof. Proof that when you build the right infrastructure, meet students where they are, and refuse to accept that some communities are not meant for tech, things change.

We are far from finished. But this year, we moved the needle. For that, we are grateful to every partner, funder, advisor, and student who made it possible.

Shana Sanders

Founder & CEO, We Create Tech

— BY THE NUMBERS

FY2025 At a Glance

1,100+

STUDENTS
REACHED

Across all programs

92

STUDENTS AT
ATLANTA TECH
WEEK

Geek Squad Camp

6

NEXTGEN TECH
COLLECTIVE
SESSIONS

Every 2nd
Wednesday

200+

SUMMER READING
PARTICIPANTS

Fulton County
Library

160

TECHRISE
ENROLLED
STUDENTS

19 U.S. states in
FY2025

132

COURSERA COURSE
COMPLETIONS

Tech and business
pathways

30

DANCE CODE
CREATE
STUDENTS

With Georgia Tech
CEISMC

2

STUDENTS PLACED
AT DELTA

Career outcome ·
TechRise

OUR PROGRAMS

Three Programs. One Mission.

We Create Tech builds a comprehensive ecosystem of hands-on programs, industry advisors, and community-driven career pathways that meets students where they are and takes them where they are going.

PROGRAM 01

TechRise

Career certification and mentorship platform connecting students to industry credentials, professional advisors, and curated career opportunities. Delivered virtually, available on iOS, Android, and web, making it accessible to students regardless of location.

160

ENROLLED

132

COMPLETIONS

19

STATES

PROGRAM 02

Dance Code Create

Summer camp integrating dance, coding, and creative technology in partnership with Georgia Tech CEISMC, Georgia Aim, and Rainbow Dance Theatre. Where the arts and STEAM meet.

30+

STUDENTS

5

DAYS

July

2025

NextGen Tech Collective

Free monthly community tech experiences open to all. Every second Wednesday, students and community members gather in person and virtually for programming, connection, and career exposure, extending the reach of each session beyond the room.

6

SESSIONS

53

ATTENDEES

Monthly

FREQUENCY

— YEAR IN REVIEW

Key Milestones: FY2025

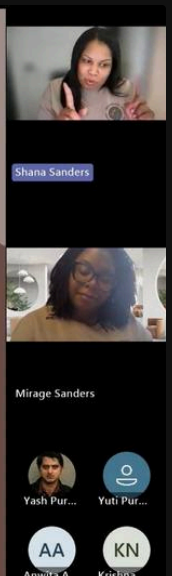
AUG
2024

Fiscal Year 2025 Begins OPERATIONS

WCT opens the fiscal year with TechRise enrollment growing and NextGen Tech Collective programming underway every second Wednesday at the Best Buy Teen Tech Center at Fulton County Central Library. Virtual sessions extend reach to students across the country.

Why Coding?

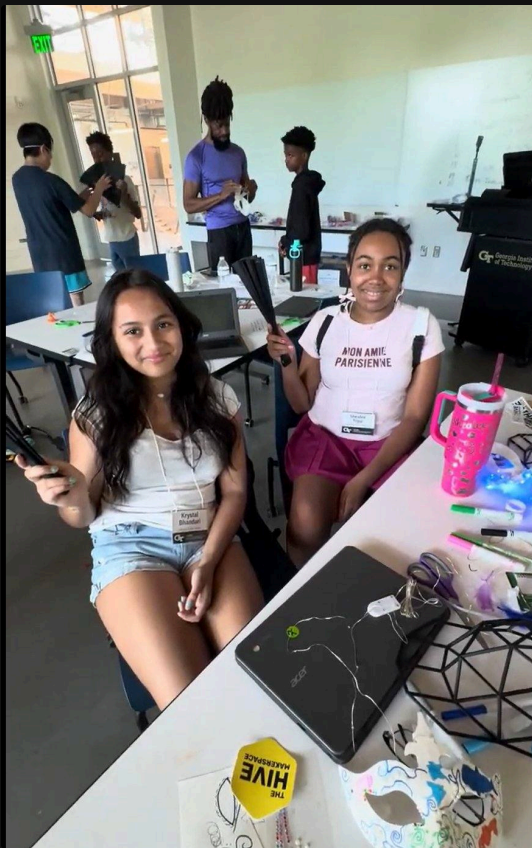
- Helps to create real solutions
- Learn a new skill
- One of the fastest growing occupations
- Supports Critical Thinking and Problem Solving Skills



JUL
2025

Dance Code Create Summer Camp PROGRAM

WCT runs Dance Code Create in partnership with Georgia Tech CEISMC, Georgia Aim, and Rainbow Dance Theatre, July 14 through 18, 2025. 30+ students explore the intersection of dance, coding, AI, music production, digital media, and storytelling over 5 days.



JUN
2025

Color My World: Fulton County Central Library Summer Reading Program COMMUNITY

WCT participates in the Fulton County Library Summer Reading Program as a rotating community partner through Color My World, reaching 200+ teens and families with information on tech certification scholarships and career pathways. A follow-up hands-on STEAM session was delivered on June 18, 2025, where students learned to use Microsoft Copilot as a creative and productivity tool.

JUN
2025

Atlanta Tech Week: Geek Squad Camp EVENT

WCT hosts a Geek Squad camp during Atlanta Tech Week, June 11-12, 2025, engaging 92 students in hands-on technology experiences and career exploration with industry professionals. The associated Color My World event at the Best Buy Teen Tech Center on June 7 drew 159 attendees of all ages.



APR
2025

AI Remix: Best Buy Teen Tech Center with Cristo Rey Atlanta

SPECIAL EVENT

15 high school students from Cristo Rey Atlanta visit the Best Buy Teen Tech Center to create an AI music video set to Killer Mike's Scientists and Engineers. Students use AI tools and video production techniques to bring the project to life, one of the most creative sessions of the fiscal year.



APR
2025

3rd Annual STEAM Fair: Harper College, Illinois

NEXTGEN TECH COLLECTIVE

WCT's NextGen Tech Collective goes national with a virtual STEAM session hosted in partnership with Harper College and the Barrington Council for the Gifted and Talented. The event reaches 350+ in-person attendees in Illinois, with additional virtual reach through a 2,000 member distribution list and replay access shared with all registrants, WCT's single largest reach event of FY2025.

APR
2025

AI Day in the A: Microsoft Grant Recipient **FUNDING**

WCT is recognized as a grant recipient at AI Day in the A, presented by Microsoft in Atlanta. The event celebrates Black-led tech organizations and community builders driving innovation across the city. Shana Sanders joins community leaders and Microsoft staff on stage to receive the award.



APR
2025

TechRise Momentum: Microsoft Speaking Engagement **TECHRISE**

Founder Shana Sanders speaks at Microsoft Atlanta, catalyzing a significant surge in TechRise enrollment and advisor interest. The event marks a turning point in the platform's growth trajectory.

FY25

CompTIA Partnership Established **PARTNERSHIP**

WCT establishes a formal partnership with CompTIA, giving students access to industry certification exam preparation and exam support across technology pathways including A+, Tech+, and Security+.

SPR
2025

U.S. Department of State YALI Fellowship: Francis Ganya Selected **PARTNERSHIP**

WCT establishes a partnership with the U.S. Department of State through the Young African Leaders Initiative (YALI). Francis Ganya of Malawi is recruited and selected as WCT's first YALI fellow, joining the team as a software developer to support the TechRise platform and student programming.

FY25

Two Students Placed at Delta Air Lines **OUTCOME**

Jasmine and Miracle Emefiele, both TechRise students, secure positions at Delta Air Lines, representing two of the program's first documented employer placements. Career Circle and WCT's advisor network contributed to their readiness and connection to the opportunity.

FY25

132 Coursera Course Completions TECHRISE

TechRise students complete 132 courses during FY2025 across cybersecurity, IT support, data science, business, and workforce readiness pathways. Top completions include Foundations of Cybersecurity, Networks and Network Security, Play It Safe: Manage Security Risks, and Accelerate Your Job Search with AI, a direct workforce readiness outcome.

JUL
2025

Fiscal Year 2025 Closes OPERATIONS

WCT closes FY2025 with 160 enrolled TechRise students across 19 U.S. states, a growing advisor network, three active programs, a new CompTIA partnership, and a U.S. Department of State YALI fellow ready to join the team.

STUDENT STORY

The Work Behind the Numbers

Every data point in this report represents a student who made a decision to show up, do the work, and believe that a career in tech was possible for them. One story stands out from FY2025.

“

"Through TechRise, I was not just handed a certificate. I was connected to advisors, to opportunities, and to a community that believed in what I was building toward. That connection led me to Delta."

JASMINE AND MIRACLE EMEFIELE ·
TECHRISE STUDENTS · BOTH PLACED
AT DELTA AIR LINES · FY2025



Building Credentials That Matter

TechRise students are not just enrolled. They are completing. Across technology, business, and STEAM pathways, students are earning credentials that employers recognize and that change the trajectory of a career conversation.

132

COURSERA COURSE
COMPLETIONS

160

ACTIVE ENROLLED
STUDENTS

TOP COMPLETION PATHWAYS, FY2025

Students most frequently completed courses in cybersecurity and IT support, with strong engagement in data science, business, and workforce readiness. Top completed courses included Foundations of Cybersecurity (11 completions), Networks and Network Security (11), Play It Safe: Manage Security Risks (10), Accelerate Your Job Search with AI (10), and Tools of the Trade: Linux and SQL (7).

Computer Science · Information Technology · Data Science · Business · Personal Development

CompTIA partnership established FY2025 · Exam funding and vouchers in development for FY2026

From Atlanta Across the Nation

WCT's virtual-first model made geography a non-factor from day one. In FY2025 TechRise students were enrolled across 19 U.S. states, spanning HBCUs, state universities, community colleges, and high schools from Georgia to California.

19 U.S. STATES: FY2025

INTERNATIONAL REACH

Alabama

Arizona

California

Delaware

FY2026 EXPANSION

Florida	Georgia	Illinois	Kentucky
Maryland	Massachusetts	Minnesota	Missouri
New Jersey	New York	North Carolina	Ohio
Tennessee	Texas	Virginia	

WCT's international reach launched in FY2026 with students enrolling from Canada, India, Ireland, Malawi, Nigeria, and the United Kingdom, bringing the total to 20 states and 6 countries.

WHAT CAME NEXT

In FY2026 WCT expanded internationally for the first time. Students from **Canada, India, Ireland, Malawi, Nigeria, and the United Kingdom** joined TechRise, bringing total reach to 20 U.S. states and 6 countries. What started as a national platform became a global one.

STUDENT WINS

What They Built While We Weren't Looking

These are five TechRise students whose wins were tracked through LinkedIn between April and July 2025. Their outcomes are not just personal. They are proof that the infrastructure WCT built is working.

HAD
ASSAH

Hadassah Nehikhuere HISTORY MAKER

Founded the **first Black Business Student Association in Vanderbilt University's 152-year history**, securing funding, tapping alumni networks, and organizing a career trek to Atlanta for 20+ students in under 3 months. Selected for the Johnson and Johnson Oncology Internship out of 5,700 applicants with only 60 chosen. Previously interned at IBM as a Brand Technical Specialist. Graduated from UGA with a BBA in Economics and Business Analytics. One of her LinkedIn posts reached 461 reactions and 963 comments.

FANTA

Fanta Amouzougan FIRST WIN

Landed her **first ever internship** as a Sales Recruitment and Training Intern at Popmenu in Atlanta. Attended RenderATL during Atlanta Tech Week in June 2025 on behalf of We Create Tech, meeting professionals from GitHub, Google, Cox, Figma, and more. A first-generation student making her mark in the Atlanta tech ecosystem.

MIR
ACLE

Miracle Emefiele **FELLOWSHIP**

WCT connected with Miracle at UniversalHer Day at Microsoft Atlanta in April 2025, an event she helped organize. She was selected for the **Sharing the Power Foundation Clean Energy and Environmental Justice Fellowship**, powered by Volt Energy Utility, bringing together students working at the intersection of climate, equity, and community. Also placed at Delta Air Lines through TechRise.

ROZ
ALYNN

Rozalynn Gholston **COMMUNITY BUILDER**

Building a LinkedIn presence that is turning into real influence for early career professionals. Her post on entry-level hiring standards reached **1,412 reactions and 96 comments**. Her job boards resource post reached 3,789 reactions. Served as a panelist at an Amazon and Fostr Juneteenth Tech event. Completed an AI-powered development workshop with GitLab at RenderATL. A community builder who amplifies opportunity for others at the same time she builds for herself.

LINDA

Linda Hernandez-Chavez **SCHOLAR**

Named a **Hispanic Scholarship Fund Scholar** as a first-generation Latina entering her senior year at Georgia State University. Selected as a Design Engineer for Develop for Good, combining her passion for social impact, technology, and design to work on Encyclopedia Politica with Spread The Vote. A student who proves that identity and purpose belong in the same sentence as technical skill.

Natasha Narine **CONTRIBUTOR**

Active TechRise participant and Georgia State University student Natasha Narine is already contributing at a professional level, designing WCT's branded merchandise and lending her UI expertise to the TechRise student and advisor app experience. Natasha is proof that the WCT ecosystem doesn't wait for graduation.

BY THE NUMBERS

6 students tracked · 21 LinkedIn posts · 8,620+ total reactions · Internships at Popmenu, IBM, J&J, Develop for Good · Fellowships in Clean Energy and Environmental Justice · \$20K+ in scholarships · Historic firsts at 152-year-old institutions · Two Delta Air Lines placements · One viral community builder reaching thousands of early career professionals weekly · One active contributor designing the brand and the product in real time.

— PARTNERS AND SUPPORTERS

We Do Not Do This Alone

WCT's impact is made possible by a network of corporate, institutional, and community partners who believe that closing the opportunity divide in STEAM is shared work.

Grow with Google Career Certificates · Professional Development	Microsoft Best Buy Teen Tech Center · Events	Best Buy Teen Tech Center · Program Host
Georgia Tech CEISMC Dance Code Create · STEAM Education	Coursera Certification Pathways · 25,000+ Courses	CompTIA Industry Certification Exams
U.S. Department of State YALI Fellowship Program	CompTIA Industry Certification Exams	Career Circle Job Search · Employer Connections
CitiCares Foundation Black History Makers Grant · FY2025	Fulton County Library Summer Reading · Community Programming	UGA Terry School of Business Professional Development

— LOOKING AHEAD

What FY2026 Is Already Building

The momentum from FY2025 carried directly into FY2026. The TechRise app launched at Microsoft Atlanta. Students built ATLift, a mobile resource hub for people experiencing homelessness. The Best Buy Foundation grant is actively underway with ongoing workshops and student programming. WCT expanded to a fifth program with the formal launch of CreativX Sport in partnership with Atlanta Adaptive Soccer Foundation. And Inspiher returned in December 2025, bringing 300+ girls from all Newton County middle and high schools together for a day of STEAM programming.

WCT is not slowing down. We are scaling what works, building what is missing, and continuing to show up for the students who need us most.

FY2026 HIGHLIGHTS SO FAR	
• Francis Ganya (Malawi) arrives: YALI fellow begins work with WCT	• Coursera partnership established: 25,000+ certificate pathways

- Professional development with Grow with Google: Shana, Essence, and Francis
- Professional development with UGA Terry School of Business
- TechRise app launched at Microsoft Atlanta
- Students build ATLift, a mobile resource hub for people experiencing homelessness
- Best Buy Foundation grant: ongoing workshops and student programming
- Hackathon with NSBE and Hack Club teens, October 2025
- TechRise IRL at Microsoft, October 2025
- Inspiher: 300+ girls from all Newton County middle and high schools, December 2025
- CreativX Sport launches as WCT's 5th program with the Atlanta Adaptive Soccer Foundation
- Georgia Tech ILSI partnership: students gain opportunity to work with WCT, Fall 2025
- Certification cohort launching for Nigerian and Malawian students under Francis
- Founder named Woman of the Year, WIT Awards, October 2025
- MLK 5K Community Fundraiser: WCT earns revenue per registration, January 2026
- Google Docuseries filmed with Watson Institute with Shana Sanders, Utaukwa Allen, and Mike Miles, February 2026
- Founder panelist, Women's History Month, Fulton County IT BuildHER event, March 2026
- WCT becomes a formal Google partner, March 2026

We Create Tech

501(C)(3) · EIN 87-4506890

520 W. PONCE DE LEON, UNIT 2932 · DECATUR, GA 30031

HELLO@WECREATETECH.ORG · WECREATETECH.ORG

ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT

FISCAL YEAR 2025

AUGUST 1, 2024 TO JULY 31, 2025

WE EXIST TO CLOSE THE OPPORTUNITY DIVIDE IN STEAM.