



# 2023 ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT



On behalf of the board and staff of the Minnesota Technology Association, it is with great pride that we share our 2023 Impact Report, shining a light on many of the accomplishments and milestones we achieved over the past year.

Throughout 2023, MnTech has been steadfast in our mission to foster innovation, collaboration, and growth within Minnesota's technology community. Key to this work was the successful orchestration of 36 events and conferences. These convenings served as vibrant platforms uniting more than 3,000 technologists, innovators, and thought leaders to exchange insights, share expertise, and collectively help fuel Minnesota's innovation economy.

Moreover, our leadership in tech workforce initiatives has been instrumental in addressing the evolving needs for tech talent in our state. By championing diversity, investing in skill development, and nurturing talent pipelines, we've laid the groundwork for a more robust and inclusive tech workforce. The impact of these initiatives will serve as a cornerstone for future talent pipeline growth and sustainability.

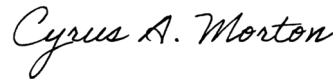
In the pages that follow, we invite you to learn more about many of our 2023 achievements and the people that power our work. Together, we stand poised to continue driving positive change, shaping a future where technology empowers business success and enriches lives.

We are grateful for the commitment and support of our members, partners, and community stakeholders over the past year, and eager to build upon the foundation we built in 2023 to achieve even higher levels of impact in the year ahead.

Thank you for your partnership as we shape and build Minnesota's tech future.




Jeff Tollefson  
President & CEO  
Minnesota Technology  
Association

Cy Morton  
Partner  
Robins Kaplan LLP

We believe Minnesota's technology-enabled companies achieve the greatest success when they have access to exceptional talent, dedicated public policy advocates, and are part of an innovative, inclusive technology community. The Minnesota Technology Association helps nurture each of these attributes within our state, enabling technology-driven businesses, professionals, and communities to thrive.



### Advocacy

Advocating for smart public policies and the people and companies fueling innovation in Minnesota.



### Talent

Developing the skilled workforce tech-driven companies need for continued business success.



### Community

Creating opportunities for business and technology professionals to engage in meaningful ways.



## The MnTech Team

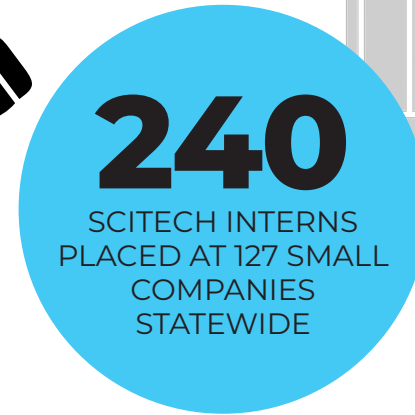
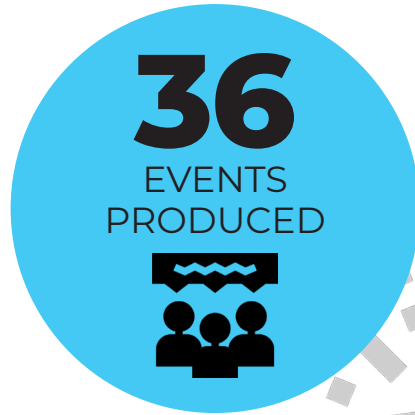
### FRONT ROW:

Ismail Ali Talent Program Manager  
Ama Asantewaa SciTech Student Outreach Manager  
Piper Cleaveland SciTech Program Director  
Lonni Ranallo VP, Finance and Administration  
Molly Doyle VP, Membership and Programming

### BACK ROW:

Aleah Vinick Director of Events and Marketing  
Jeff Tollefson President & CEO  
Keegan Carda Marketing & Communications Manager

# 2023 BY THE NUMBERS



# Strengthening Minnesota's tech-based economy through policy and advocacy



MnTech serves as a unifying voice for Minnesota's tech community at the state legislature as we shape policies that support innovation, foster a conducive business environment, and ensure Minnesota remains at the forefront of technological advancement.

The 2023 legislative session ended with the passage of a record \$72 billion state budget, a nearly 40% increase from the prior biennium. Key MnTech "wins" included increased funding for STEM education, work-based learning, broadband access, and intellectual property protection. Looking ahead to 2024, issues related to AI regulation, data privacy, data center taxation, and education/workforce development are emerging as primary areas of focus.

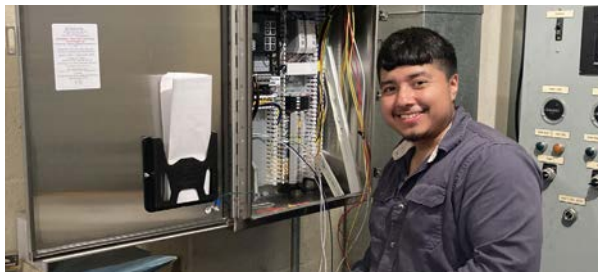


## MN COMPUTER SCIENCE EDUCATION ACT

MnTech helped write and pass legislation providing funding and resources for expanded access to CS education in Minnesota schools.

## SCITECH INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

\$2 million was secured to grow MnTech's SciTech Internship Program, allowing us to provide STEM internships to 650+ college students over the next two years.



## CODING AT THE CAPITOL

Dozens of students from across Minnesota gathered in the Capitol Rotunda to share the value of learning to code with legislative and business leaders.

## COMPUTER SCIENCE FOR ALL

MnTech was part of a coalition of education, business, and non-profit leaders celebrating Governor Walz's signing of the education bill and related funding for CS education.



## STATE OF TECH TALENT REPORT

MnTech released its latest report on the size, scale, and composition of Minnesota's tech workforce and the projected need for 92,537 new tech workers in MN by 2033.

## LEGISLATIVE RECEPTION

We kicked off the 2023 session with a gathering of elected officials and government affairs professionals to share MnTech's 2023 legislative agenda and priorities.



## Creating opportunities for connecting and learning



With the support of nearly 100 volunteers across a variety of planning committees, MnTech designs and delivers a wide range of programming and events intended to enable meaningful connections and learning experiences for Minnesota's tech professionals. A true sense of community is an essential component to a thriving technology ecosystem, and we pride ourselves in curating impactful opportunities to convene and connect.

Over the course of 2023, we welcomed 3,316 attendees to MnTech events and programming, including more than 500 business leaders at the 25th annual Tekne Awards gala in November. Looking ahead to 2024, we will be producing more than 40 high-quality learning and networking events and look forward to engaging more leaders and practitioners from MnTech member companies in these community-building opportunities.



### TECH CONNECT

Our annual spring conference was held on May 3rd where nearly 400 technologists gathered to learn how Minnesota companies are leveraging technology through a series of keynotes, breakout sessions, and panel discussions.

### TECH OUTLOOK

Technology executives from four leading Minnesota companies shared their insights and perspectives on key technology trends and opportunities for the coming year.



### CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF TEKNE

We celebrated the 25th anniversary of the Tekne Awards in style, with more than 500 business and technology leaders coming together to recognize the accomplishments of more than 50 finalists and 16 Tekne Award recipients.

### TECH ON TAP

Tech on Tap is a casual monthly gathering at Twin Cities breweries that draws more than 100 attendees per month for social networking and cold beer. It's not to be missed!



### WOMEN LEADING IN TECHNOLOGY

The WLIT community promotes, educates, and empowers women in technology careers through mentoring and quarterly events that drew 586 attendees in 2023.

### TECH TALKS

New in 2023, these quarterly events provide a platform for some of the brightest minds in our community to share inspiring stories of success and innovation. Please join us for our 2024 series.



## Developing leaders today, cultivating the tech workforce of tomorrow



The success of any business depends on the strength of its people. In today's highly competitive technology market, attracting and retaining diverse teams with the technology skills needed to innovate and grow a business is critically important.

MnTech is committed to helping Minnesota's technology-driven companies inspire, hire, develop, and retain exceptional talent. This means creating opportunities to share best practices, building new talent pipelines, developing the talent we have, and creating connection points for job seekers and employers as we cultivate the skilled, inclusive technology workforce Minnesota companies need for continued business success.



### ACE LEADERSHIP

58 emerging leaders across two cohorts participated in this year's ACE program, equipping themselves with the tools, insights, and connections to become stronger leaders in our tech community.

### JUMPSTART

More than 200 emerging technologists from tech training programs participated in quarterly events designed to facilitate connections with potential employers and provide valuable guidance to jumpstart a successful tech career.

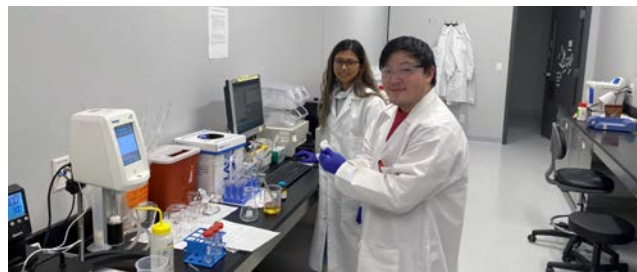


### TECH TALENT

October's conference brought together 254 attendees from business, education, and government to address workforce challenges and develop actionable solutions to better inspire, hire, develop, and retain tech talent.

### SCITECH INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

Since 2012, we've placed 2,980 students into subsidized internships at hundreds of small companies across Minnesota. Of the 240 students placed in 2023, 59% identified as BIPOC or women, contributing to needed diversity in STEM fields.



### TECH CAREERS 1.0

This community of early-career technology professionals (0-5 years of experience) drew 274 attendees at three high-energy events in 2023 where members unite to learn and collaboratively shape their careers.

### ASPIRATIONS IN COMPUTING

MnTech is the new home for Minnesota's Aspirations in Computing program. Last April, 31 high school students identifying as women/non-binary were honored with many connected to internships, mentors, and awarded scholarships.



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## OPPORTUNITIES TO ENGAGE

### JOIN

If you're not enjoying the many benefits of your company being a MnTech member, learn more about membership and why corporate support is critical using this QR code.



### SPONSOR

Create visibility for your organization and invest in our tech community by sponsoring events that align to your goals and interests. Learn more about these opportunities using this code.



### ENGAGE

Engage with MnTech programming and events to build your networks, expand your knowledge, develop your skills, share your expertise, and much more. Learn more at [mntech.org](https://mntech.org).



### CONNECT

Keep up to date on upcoming events, member news, and industry insights by subscribing to our TECHtuesday newsletter and following the Minnesota Technology Association on LinkedIn.



