

2024 ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT



Connecting
and Fueling
Minnesota's Tech
Community





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.

On behalf of the board and staff of the Minnesota Technology Association, it is with great pride that we share our 2024 Impact Report, highlighting many of the accomplishments and milestones achieved over the past year. In delivering our programming, MnTech is guided by our mission of fostering innovation, collaboration, and growth within Minnesota's technology community. A central pillar of this work was the successful orchestration of 29 events and conferences this year. Thousands of attendees were united to exchange insights, share expertise, and collectively help fuel the growth of Minnesota's innovation economy.

We remain committed to our work in supporting our technology workforce, championing diversity, investing in skill development, and nurturing talent pipelines. Our programs inspire youth, assist early career individuals, elevate managers, and connect our community with thought leaders to help chart our path forward as we build a robust and sustainable workforce.

We invite you to learn more about our 2024 achievements in the pages ahead. As we launch into 2025, MnTech is well-positioned to continue driving positive change and creating a future where technology enables businesses and individuals to thrive.

We are grateful for the support of our members, partners, and community stakeholders over the past year, and look forward to achieving 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

Sri Koneru (MnTech Board Chair)
Chief Information Officer
Winnebago Industries

The MnTech Team



Jeff Tollefson
President & CEO



Lonni Ranallo
VP, Finance and Administration



Ismail Ali
Director of Talent Initiatives



Amanda Hardy
Membership Director



Keegan Carda
Marketing & Communications Manager

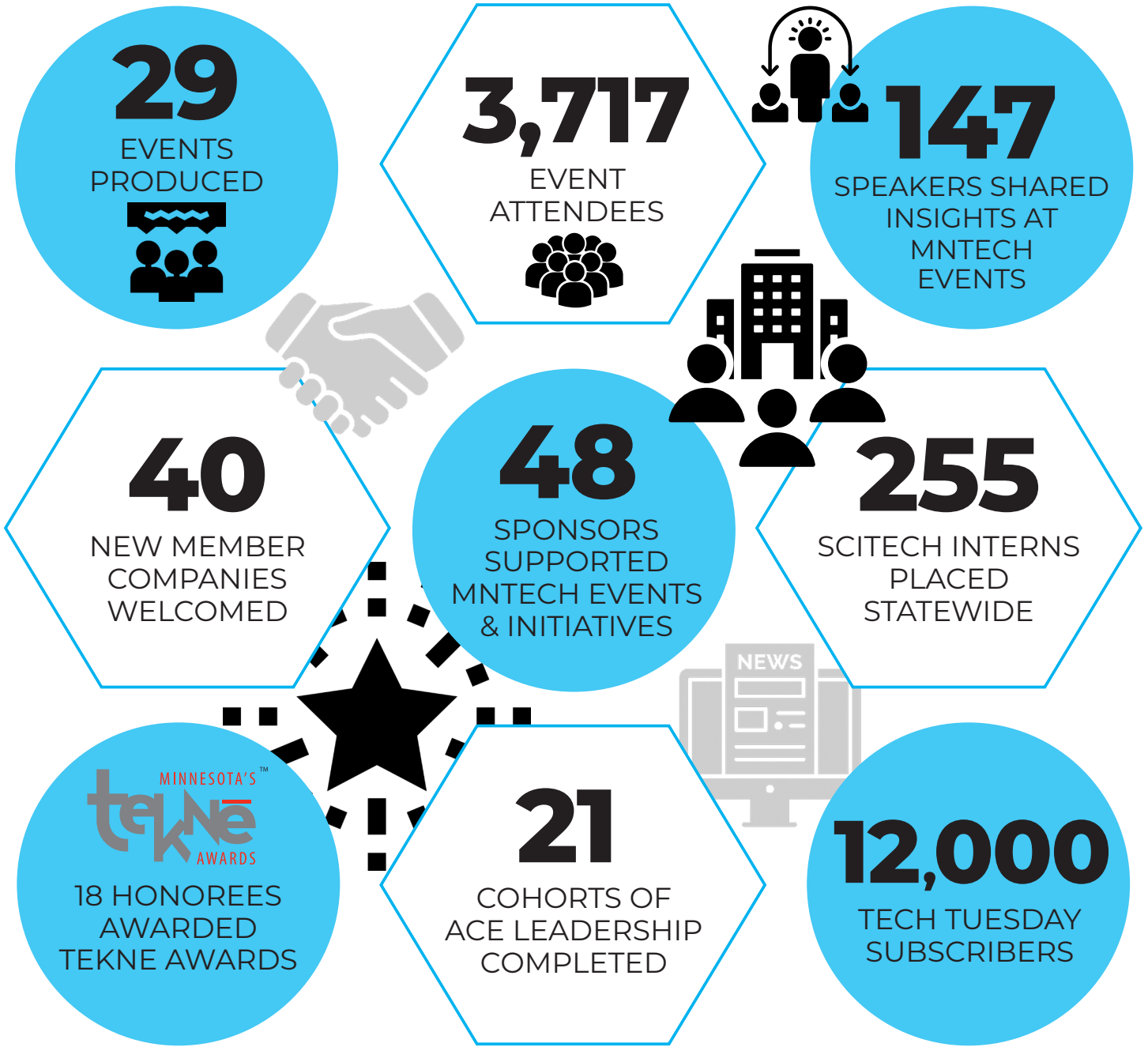


Piper Cleaveland
SciTech Program Director



Ama Asantewaa
SciTech Student Outreach Manager

2024 BY THE NUMBERS



COMMUNITY

Creating opportunities for connecting and learning

MnTech enables meaningful connections and learning opportunities for Minnesota's tech professionals across a wide range of programming and events. 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. In 2024, we welcomed 3,316 attendees to MnTech events

and programming, including more than 530 business leaders at the 2024 Tekne Awards gala in November. Looking ahead to 2025, we will be producing more than twenty high-quality learning and networking events, and we 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 8 where nearly 600 tech leaders gathered to learn how Minnesota companies are leveraging technology to drive business success through a series of keynotes, break-out sessions, and panel discussions.



TEKNE AWARDS

The 26th annual Tekne Awards drew an audience of 536 people to honor 18 leaders and trailblazing organizations for their technological achievements and contributions to the advancement of Minnesota's innovation economy.



WOMEN LEADING IN TECHNOLOGY

This community promotes and empowers women in technology careers through a series of quarterly educational events that drew more than 700 attendees in 2024. Topics included embracing grit, AI, networking, and advancing in your career.



TECH OUTLOOK

Four technology executives from 3M, Arctic Wolf Networks, HealthPartners, and Thomson Reuters shared their perspectives on key technology trends for the coming year and how they are embracing tools such as GenAI to drive organizational impact.



TECH ON TAP

This monthly social hour drew nearly 600 technology professionals to local Twin Cities breweries where attendees made connections and built relationships with peers in the MnTech community.



TECH TALK

A quarterly educational event bringing some of the brightest minds to the stage to share stories on topics of interest, including AI's place in education, successfully leading transformation, and the value of a four-year degree.

TALENT/WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Developing leaders today, cultivating the tech workforce of tomorrow

An organization's most valuable resource is its people, and MnTech is committed to helping organizations inspire, hire, develop, and retain exceptional talent. Attracting and retaining diverse teams with the technology skills needed to innovate and grow a business is critically important. Through our talent initiatives, MnTech creates

opportunities to share best practices, build new talent pipelines, develop the talent we have, and create connection points for job seekers and employers as we cultivate the skilled, inclusive tech workforce Minnesota needs for continued economic success.



ACE LEADERSHIP

61 emerging leaders across two cohorts participated in this year's ACE program, equipping themselves with the skills, insights, and connections to become better "leaders of leaders" in their companies and in our broader tech community.



TECH TALENT

This annual conference gathered 278 attendees to address workforce challenges and gain insights from industry leaders. Harvard professor Joe Fuller delivered a compelling keynote address on how generative AI is reshaping our workforce.



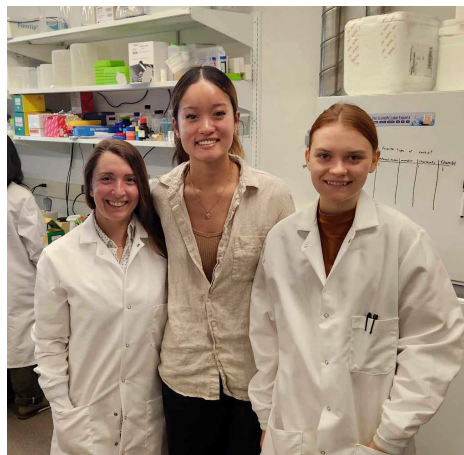
TECH CAREERS 1.0

This community of early-career technology professionals (0-5 years of experience) gathered at two high-energy events in 2024 to collaboratively learn how to shape and advance their careers through relevant panel discussions and social networking.



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.



SCITECH INTERNSHIPS

Since its founding in 2012, the SciTech Internship Program has successfully placed 3,261 students into subsidized STEM internships at hundreds of small companies across Minnesota. Of the 255 interns placed in 2024, 64% identified as either BIPOC, women, or nonbinary, an 8% increase from the previous year.



ASPIRATIONS IN COMPUTING

This program is designed to inspire high school girls in tech and provide them with opportunities to explore careers in STEM fields. In 2024, we honored over 70 exceptional students for their achievements in computing and facilitated internships, mentorships, and job shadow opportunities.

ADVOCACY

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

MnTech proudly serves as the collective voice of Minnesota's tech community, driving policies that fuel innovation, empower businesses to succeed, and secure our state's leadership in technological advancement.

The 2024 legislative session was shaped by intense partisan dynamics, which stalled progress on the session's key agenda

item—a bonding bill. Despite these challenges, several significant bills impacting tech-enabled businesses, including the MN Data Privacy Act, were enacted. However, some of our most impactful work came from successfully advocating against proposed legislation that could have hindered innovation and growth in Minnesota's tech sector.



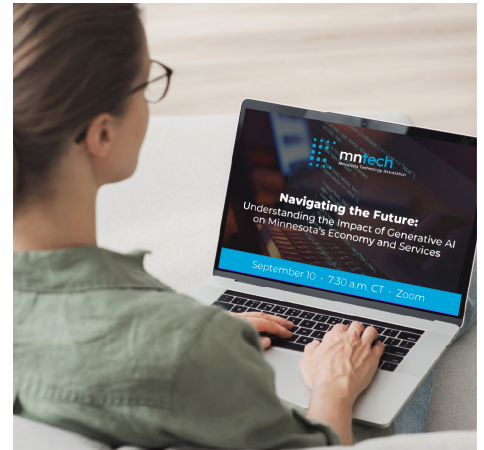
AT THE CAPITOL

MnTech testified in support of (and against) a variety of proposed bills impacting MnTech member companies and our broader innovation economy, providing necessary context to elected officials on the consequences of ill-informed legislation.



STEM EDUCATION

With funding secured in the 2023 legislative session, the first statewide plan for computer science education was completed last March, leading to a computer science teacher professional development conference in August and setting the stage for a \$5M CS education funding request in 2025.



LEGISLATIVE BRIEFINGS

In an ongoing effort to educate policymakers on key tech-related issues, MnTech convened an educational forum on GenAI for legislative leaders in August to help them better understand the rapidly evolving AI landscape as they consider potential AI regulations.

OPPORTUNITIES TO ENGAGE

JOIN



There's plenty of benefits to joining the MnTech community: 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.

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.

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