

ABOUT NFTE

Ignite Learning & Confidence
Through Entrepreneurship



nfte!
Network for Teaching
Entrepreneurship

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Inspire, Ignite!



Our Mission

NFTE ignites the entrepreneurial mindset with unique learning experiences that empower students to own their future.



Our Vision

Every person owns their future



Our Purpose

Lead the global movement for equitable access to entrepreneurship education.



Our Values

We value entrepreneurial thinking, hard work, equity, respect, creativity, collaboration, honesty, quality, transparency, and accountability.



Who We Are

Network for Teaching Entrepreneurship (NFTE) is a global nonprofit founded in 1987 that provides high-quality entrepreneurship education to middle school, high school, and postsecondary students to young people from underserved communities.

We bring the power of entrepreneurship to students, regardless of family income, community resources, special needs, gender identity, race, or ethnicity.

THE NFTE EXPERIENCE

Real-world learning that builds future-ready skills

Through a NFTE Partnership, **STUDENTS:**

- **Identify a need** in their own lives or communities
- **Ideate and generate innovative ideas** for products or services
- **Develop, launch, and operationalize business plans** for their startup ideas
- **Connect with national and global business leaders** for mentoring, coaching, and field trips
- **Pitch their ideas** and plans at local, regional, national, and worldwide competitions
- **Receive continuous support in pursuit of post-secondary studies and career success.**



THE RESULT

NFTE cultivates youth equipped with high-value skills, ready for lucrative opportunities in sought-after careers.

1.4+ million young people served

90% of employers say the workforce needs the entrepreneurship skills that NFTE teaches.



*Bruce & Glen Proctor, NFTE alumni
Business: BruceGlen*

10%
more

Alumni earn 10% more than non-NFTE peers (*despite coming from low-income communities*)

3
out of
4

3 out of 4 alumni are satisfied with their careers

25%

25% of NFTE graduates go on to start or run at least one small business

Activating the Entrepreneurial Mindset

NFTE empowers youth to approach the world with an **innovator's eye and a founder's grit**, not only during the NFTE course but for the rest of their lives. **An entrepreneurial mindset prepares young people for success throughout life.**



Initiative & Self-Reliance

The power to take ownership without input or guidance and to work through obstacles independently.



Flexibility & Adaptability

The ability and willingness to change actions and plans to overcome present and future challenges.



Communication & Collaboration

The ability to clearly express ideas to an intended audience, including persuading others to work towards a common goal.



Creativity & Innovation

The ability to think of ideas and create solutions to problems without clearly defined structures.



Future Orientation

An optimistic disposition with a focus on obtaining the skills and knowledge required to transition into a career.



Critical Thinking & Problem Solving

The process of applying higher-level, process-oriented thinking skills, and of transitioning that reasoning to decision making.



Opportunity Recognition

The practice of seeing and experiencing problems as opportunities to create solutions.



Comfort with Risk

The capacity to move forward with a decision despite inevitable uncertainty and challenges.

In partnership with the *Educational Testing Service (ETS)*, NFTE has developed the **Entrepreneurial Mindset Index** – a valid assessment to measure mindset growth. We thank **EY** for its signature support of this effort.

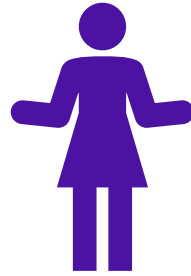
Impact & Outcomes

NFTE students apply the entrepreneurial mindset—succeeding in the workplace, starting businesses, and furthering their education.



96%

of NFTE seniors are on track to graduate high school on-time compared to less than 80% among their peers



Female NFTE students show larger gains from pre- to post-EMI than their male counterparts

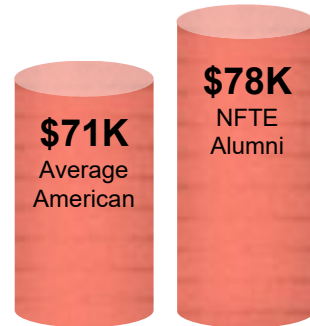


NFTE alumni have started at least one business

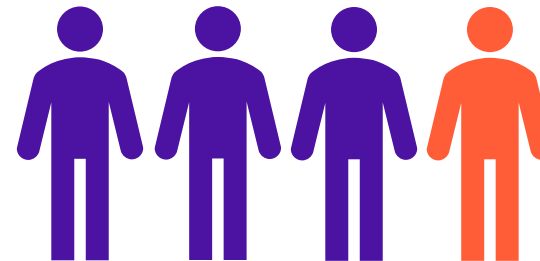


NFTE students significantly **increased their overall entrepreneurial mindset** compared to their non-NFTE peers

Alumni earn more and report high rates of satisfaction



Alumni earn 10% more despite coming from low-income communities (among respondents who are full-time salaried employees)




3 out of 4 are satisfied with their careers
33.1% of respondents are very satisfied, and 42.2% are satisfied, with their careers


NFTE Entrepreneurship Pathway

NFTE's Pathway programs activate the entrepreneurial mindset through **authentic experiential learning**. All programs are rooted in a **project-based** learning model that integrates **digital tools** and **lean startup** methodology. Students come up with their own original business idea, create a sustainable business model and plan, and pitch to a panel of expert judges.

Awareness	Introductory	Intermediate	Advanced
World Series of Innovation <i>(online experience)</i>	IN-SCHOOL PATHWAY		
	Startup Tech	Entrepreneurship 1	Entrepreneurship 2
	Exploring Careers Entrepreneurship Essentials		
	OUT OF SCHOOL		
Start It Up! ESB Prep!	BizCamp	Startup Summer Founders Forum	



NFTE students can also prepare to take Intuit and Adobe certification exams demonstrating mastery of Quickbooks, Design For Delight, Photoshop, InDesign, and more.



Students who complete Entrepreneurship 1 and 2 courses are prepared to take the Certiport Entrepreneurship and Small Business exam for certification. The NFTE curriculum is Certiport-recommended.



Entrepreneurial Teacher Corps

- **Train-the-Trainer Model:** educators are at the center of all NFTE programs
- **NFTE University Teacher Training:** 2-4 day intensive initial training
- **Professional Development:** Professional Learning Communities, webinars and workshops to share new entrepreneurship content and industry topics, and regular office hours with NFTE staff
- **Leadership Opportunities:** Lead Teachers take on leadership roles within the NFTE Teacher Corps to support on training, peer-to-peer support
- **Recognition:** top-performing NFTE educators receive recognition and incentives
- **Entrepreneurship Education Summit:** national conference for educators, policymakers, field practitioners

Volunteerism (in person and virtual)

Volunteering with NFTE students is a rewarding experience. **Volunteers increase learning and impact.**
Students who work with volunteers score 9% higher on the NFTE program knowledge assessment!



Guest Speaker

Share your professional development story, lead a career awareness session or teach a specific lesson as a subject matter expert to highlight business concepts and inspire innovative ideas

Sessions may be individual or panel discussions



Coach & Advisor

Help students strengthen various aspects of their business canvas and pitch deck, hone financials and marketing plans, practice presentation skills, and work through other individual challenges

Sessions may be individual or panel discussions.



Events & Field Trips

Host students at your company to connect the classroom to workforce pathways; participate in Innovation Days and Youth Entrepreneurship Summits

Typically includes guest speaking, workshops, coaching sessions



BizPlan Judge

Panels of business professionals evaluate business pitches (the final demonstration of learning), provide feedback on content and delivery and network with students

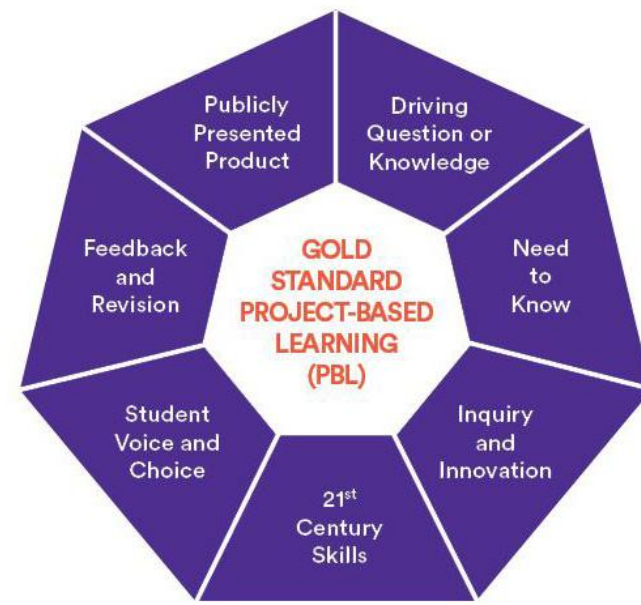
Classroom, regionals, nationals

53% of alumni who launched a business are still in touch with at least one volunteer from their NFTE experience

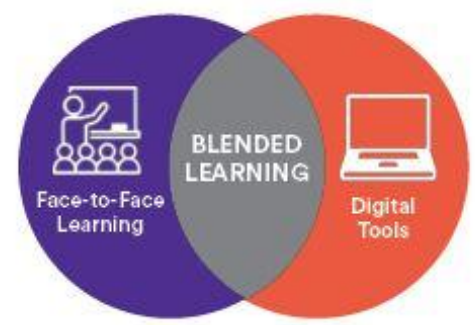
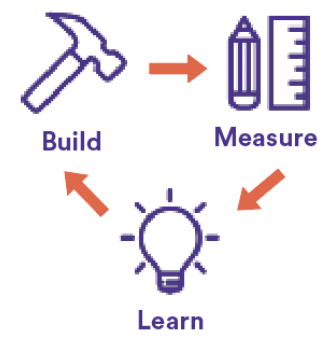
81% of alumni said volunteer experience was helpful to their lives outside of NFTE and entrepreneurship



NFTE Program Components



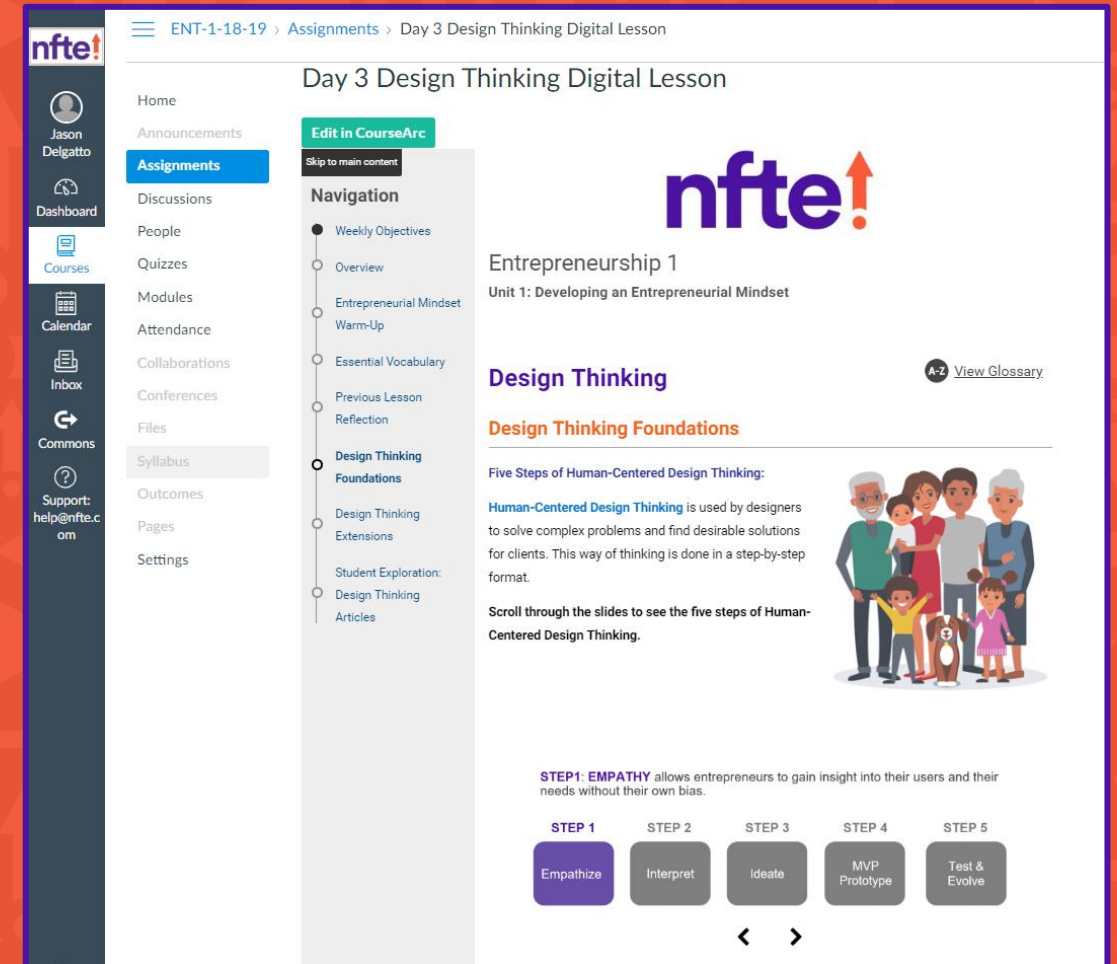
LEAN STARTUP PRACTICES



Learning Management System (LMS)

NFTE Pathway courses are delivered via the Canvas LMS:

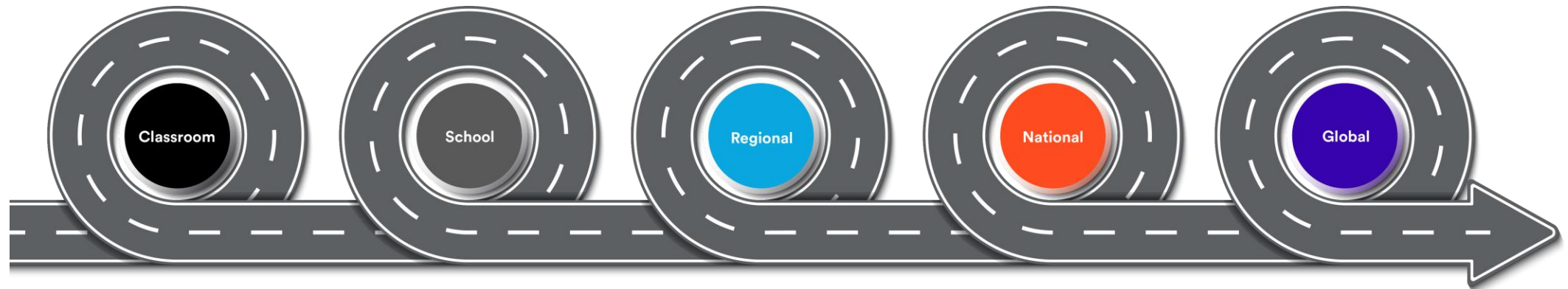
- All instructional materials can be accessed through multiple modalities:
 - Digital assignments and assessments for individual student computers
 - Printable assignments and assessments available for print or projection on-screen
- Individual student accounts in the LMS allow for real-time student data analysis
- Educator access to the NFTE Teacher Resource Hub
- Virtual support provided by NFTE staff



The screenshot displays the Canvas LMS interface for an NFTE course. The top navigation bar shows the course path: ENT-1-18-19 > Assignments > Day 3 Design Thinking Digital Lesson. The left sidebar contains navigation options: Home, Announcements, Assignments (highlighted), Discussions, People, Quizzes, Modules, Attendance, Collaborations, Conferences, Files, Syllabus, Outcomes, Pages, and Settings. The main content area is titled "Day 3 Design Thinking Digital Lesson" and features the NFTE logo. Below the logo, the course title "Entrepreneurship 1" and unit "Unit 1: Developing an Entrepreneurial Mindset" are displayed. The "Design Thinking" section is highlighted, with a sub-section for "Design Thinking Foundations". A navigation menu on the left lists various course elements, with "Design Thinking Foundations" selected. The main content area includes a section titled "Five Steps of Human-Centered Design Thinking:" followed by a paragraph explaining "Human-Centered Design Thinking" and a call to action to scroll through slides. An illustration of a diverse family is shown. Below the text, five steps are listed in a row: STEP 1 Empathize, STEP 2 Interpret, STEP 3 Ideate, STEP 4 MVP Prototype, and STEP 5 Test & Evolve. The first step, "Empathize", is highlighted in a darker color.

Youth Entrepreneurship Challenge Series

- Cash prizes awarded annually to the top student entrepreneurs at the classroom, school/district, regional, national, and global levels.
- Students prepare business plans and pitches with support from teachers and volunteer business coaches. Judges from the business community provide feedback and encouragement.
- Winners at the classroom and school level earn opportunity to advance to regionals, nationals, and the World Youth Entrepreneurship Challenge.
- The 2022-23 series will offer virtual rounds (quarter- and semi-finals) and in-person (finals).
- Competition judges and speakers have included business leaders and entrepreneurs, such as Sarah Kauss, founder of S'well, Daymond John, FuBu founder and Shark Tank star, Jamie Siminoff, founder of Ring, and Saweetie, rapper and philanthropist.





20
years

NATIONAL YOUTH ENTREPRENEURSHIP CHALLENGE

Wednesday, October 8, 2025

Presented by



Supported by



[Register here!](#)

nfte!

WYEC

WORLD YOUTH ENTREPRENEURSHIP CHALLENGE

NOVEMBER 20, 2025

Delegates Dining Room at the U.N., NYC

Presented by



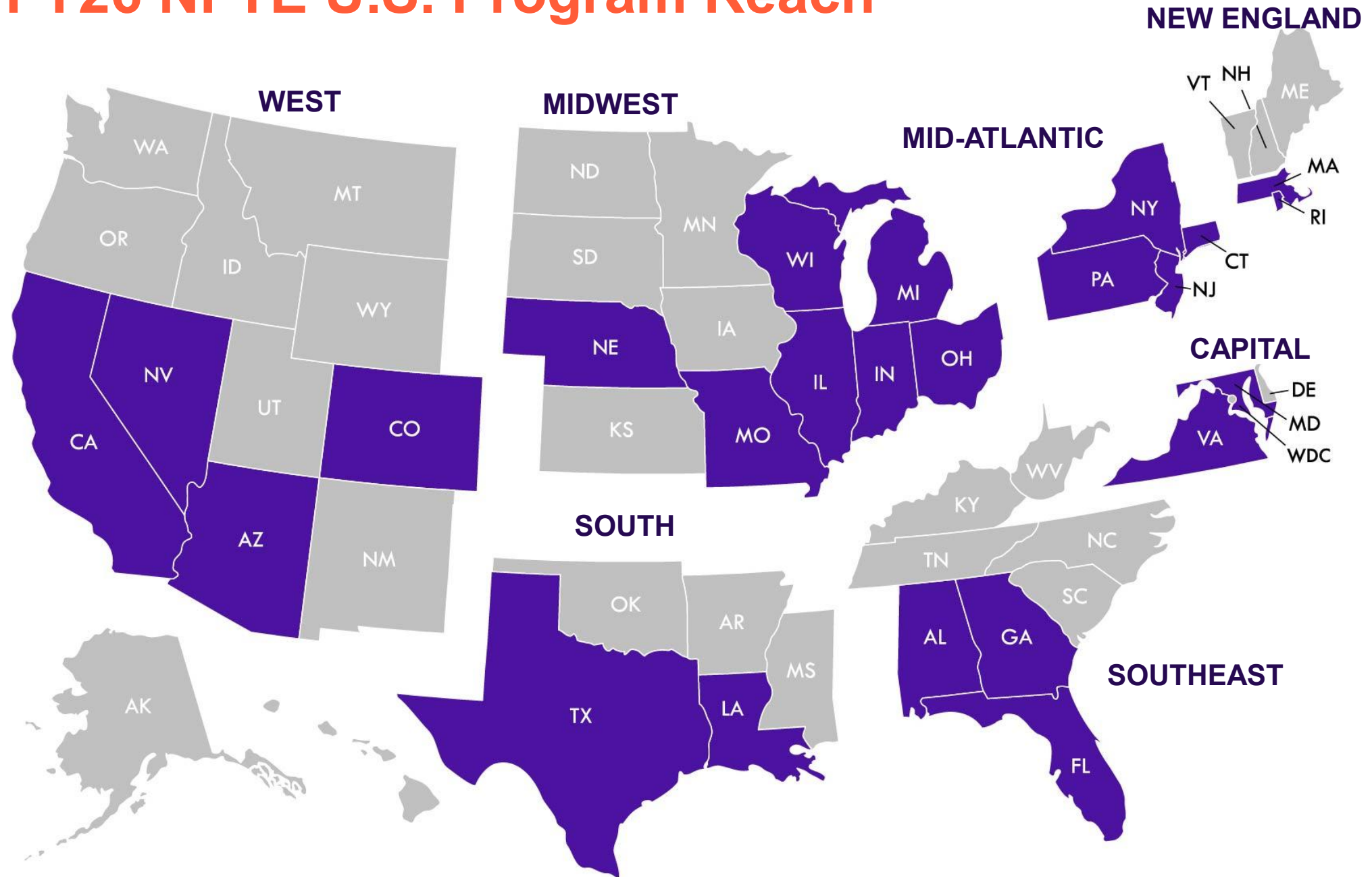
Shape the future
with confidence



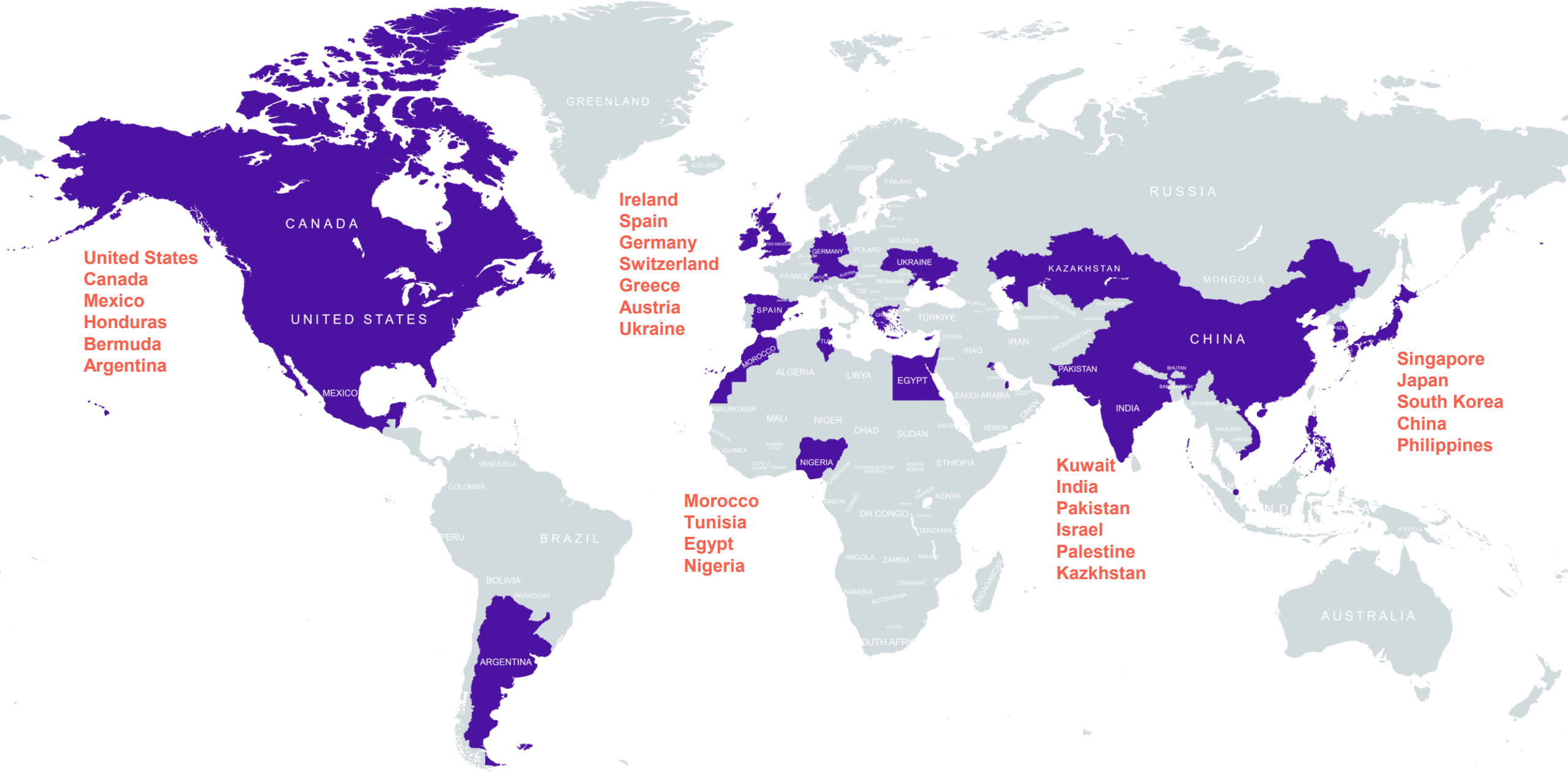
with support from



FY26 NFTE U.S. Program Reach



FY26 NFTE Global Reach



United States
Canada
Mexico
Honduras
Bermuda
Argentina

Ireland
Spain
Germany
Switzerland
Greece
Austria
Ukraine

Morocco
Tunisia
Egypt
Nigeria

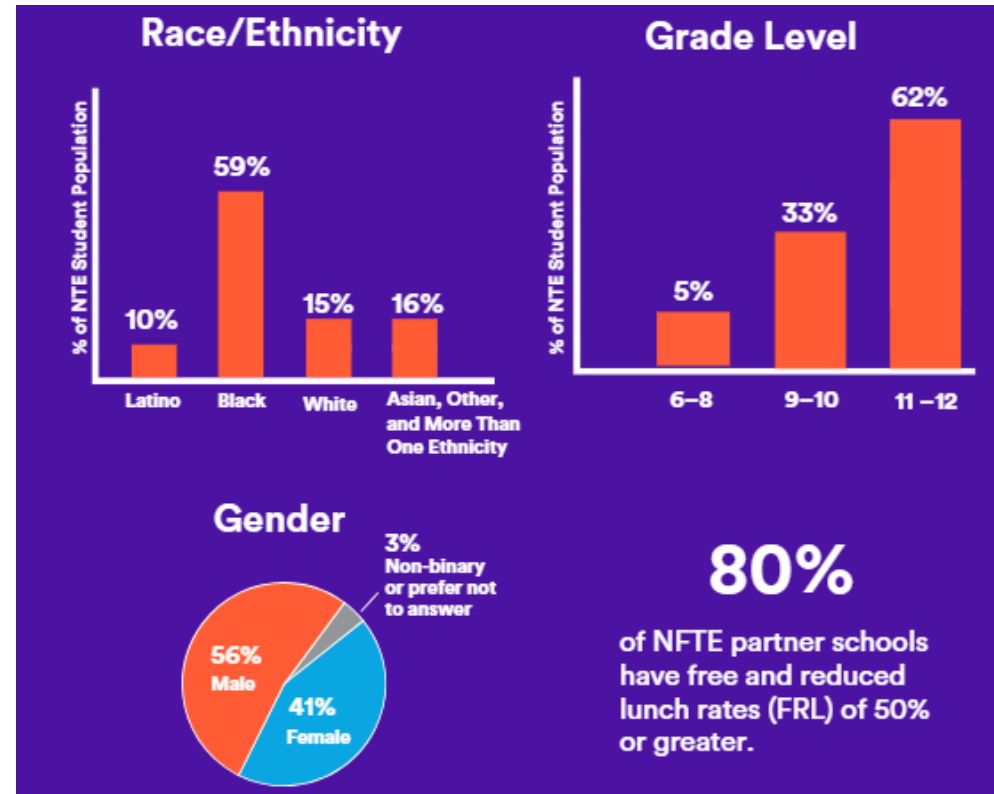
Kuwait
India
Pakistan
Israel
Palestine
Kazakhstan

Singapore
Japan
South Korea
China
Philippines

Midwest Program Reach Snapshot

SY25-26 Goals

Students	5,600
Districts	30
Schools & Partners	100
Teachers	60



Midwest Program Partners

Illinois (19)

- Aspira Antonia Pantoja High School
- Aspira Business & Finance High School
- CICS Longwood Middle School, CPS
- CICS Longwood High School, CPS
- Curie Metropolitan High School, CPS
- Holy Trinity High School
- Horizon Science Academy McKinley Park, Concept Schools
- Manley High School, Dreamchasers
- Marshall High School, Dreamchasers
- Nancy B. Jefferson, Dreamchasers
- Perspectives High School of Technology
- Perspectives Leadership Academy
- Perspectives Math and Science Academy
- South Shore International College Prep High School, CPS
- Taft High School, CPS
- Thornridge High School
- Thornwood High School, District 205
- **Community Based Organizations**
 - Big Green
 - Illinois Department of Corrections

Indiana (1)

- Force for Good/Venture Z Entrepreneurship Academy

Michigan (22)

- Accelerated Learning Academy
- Atherton Community School District
- Beecher Community School District
- Bendle HS
- Bentley High School

- Carman-Ainsworth High School
- Chamber of Commerce (Youth Quest)
- Clio Area Schools
- Fenton Schools
- Flex High
- Flint Southwestern Academy
- GISD/GCI
- GISD/GEC-MMC
- Goodrich High School
- Grand Blanc Community Schools
- Hamady High School
- International Academy of Flint
- Madison Academy
- Montrose, Hill McCloy High School
- Mt. Morris Consolidated Schools, E.A. Johnson
- Swartz Creek High School
- Westwood Heights, Academy West
- WestWood Heights, Hamady High School

Missouri (11)

- Brittany Woods, East St. Louis
- Every Child's Hope - Normandy
- Girls INC
- Jennings SD/Jennings Senior High School
- Mason Clark Middle School
- Normandy Schools Collaborative
- Normandy Middle School
- Saint Louis Science Center/YES Program
- SSD/North County Tech
- SSD/South County Tech
- U-City School District/University City High School

Nebraska (8)

- Benson Magnet High, Omaha
- Community Correctional Center, Lincoln
- Community Correctional Center, Omaha
- Lincoln Correctional Center, Lincoln
- Nebraska State Penitentiary, Lincoln
- Nebraska Correctional Center for Women, York
- Omaha Correctional Center, Omaha
- Tecumseh State Correctional Institution, Tecumseh

Ohio (8)

- Emmanuel Christian, Akron
- Horizon Columbus, Concept Schools
- John Marshall High School
- Pathway to Success Program
- Shaw High School, East Cleveland
- Valley-Stem High School
- West Central Learning Academy
- Youngstown City School District High School

Wisconsin (2)

- Beloit Memorial High School
- West/North Bend High School

NFTE Alumni Network

Alumni get connected with **exclusive opportunities** following their NFTE student experience which provide venues for alumni to **leverage their entrepreneurial mindset**. We offer a network of support to connect alumni to their peers, business and startup communities, and opportunities such as NFTE's **Founders Forum**, internships, and exclusive scholarships.



College – Scholarships & academic opportunities



Career – Internships & professional opportunities



Startup – Incubators, Advisors, & guidance on launching your business

Key Supporters



Midwest Regional Advisory Board

Pramit Mehta, Chair

Partner, Assurance Services

EY

Mike Carpenter

Staff Designer

ZenBusiness

Maxine Clark

Founder, Build-A-Bear Workshop

Chief Inspirator, The Delmar DivINe™

Siddique Hameed

VP of Software Engineering

Mastercard

Carla Jackson

Head of Middle School/Director of Entrepreneurship

Emmanuel Christian Academy

Mike Jortberg

Global Salesforce Practice Sales Director

Slalom

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Longview Asset Management

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Senior Manager, Audit

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Chief Human Resources Officer
Syniverse

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Charles Jacobson
Entrepreneur / Experienced CEO & CFO / Strategic Advisor & Consultant

Naveen Nallappa
Managing Director
Goldman Sachs

LaToya Rowell
VP, National Community Affairs Manager
Comerica Bank



Thank You

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