

Kushch Maria

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Education

VINNYTSIA LYCEUM №7

Economics-focused Track. GPA: 3.7

Relevant Coursework: Microeconomics & Macroeconomics, Financial Literacy, Economic Geography, Advanced Mathematics.

Vinnytsia, Ukraine
Graduation Date: 2026

Experience

KIBUDDY—PERSONAL STARTUP PROJECT

Founder & Team Leader

December 2024-May 2025 (ongoing)

- Created KiBuddy from scratch — a progressive web app aimed at improving financial literacy among teenagers.
- Designed the prototype and developed the full application, including all core functionality: budget tracking, spending limit with notifications, savings goals with progress bar, and educational tips.
- Wrote the full business plan, defined the monetization strategy, and handled all technical and creative development.
- Led the team and submitted the complete project, including pitch and technical videos, to the 2025 Technovation Challenge.

LAUNCHX & SHELEADS SUMMER PROGRAMS (ongoing/upcoming)

June 9-27, 2025 (LaunchX)

May-July, 2025 (SheLeads)

- Participating in two international programs focused on entrepreneurship, product development, and business strategy.
- Working on solving real-world challenges for a partner company (LaunchX), and developing a personal business idea with mentorship support (SheLeads).
- Gaining experience in market research, prototyping, branding, finance, and presenting to professionals.

ONLINE COURSES

Ongoing

- Completed courses in entrepreneurship, marketing, leadership, and critical thinking.
- Studied with University of Pennsylvania, Nobel Academy, and Junior Academy of Sciences of Ukraine.
- Applied key concepts directly to real-world projects like KiBuddy and other.

PARTICIPATION IN VARIOUS BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURIAL COMPETITIONS

- Actively participated in Harvard Crimson Global Case Competition, DK Business Hackathon, UBiz Case Competition, and Foundation Kreda Business Idea Competition, gaining hands-on experience in pitching ideas, problem-solving, and team collaboration.

Honors & Awards

- 3rd Place at the regional stage of the Economics Olympiad.
- 14th Place out of 117 participants at the regional stage of the Economics Olympiad (Bendukidze Center)
- Finalist of the Foundation Kreda Business Idea Competition (Project: KiCareer)
- Ranked in the Top 10 solutions at the UBiz Business Case Competition (Ukraine-wide)

Skills

Language: English (B2); Italian (A2); Korean (A1)

Hard Skills: Content Creation; Project Management; Graphic Design (Canva); Prototype Creation (Figma)

Soft Skills: Leadership; Communication; Critical Thinking; Teamwork