



GO BEYOND

# TECHNICA

2019 Annual Report

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Since its founding in 2015, Technica has now become the largest all-women and non-binary hackathon in the world. At Technica, we recognize gender equality is a multi-faceted goal and there isn't a single clear-cut way of how we're supposed to get there. If gender equality is the end target, at Technica we believe gender equity in technology is the means by which we get there. The future of technology means giving everybody an equal opportunity to pursue it.

We take pride in providing a welcoming and engaging environment to support women and minorities of all skill levels. It's here where beginners and experienced hackers alike are able to explore and develop their technical skills.

2019 was, in every measure, Technica's biggest year yet. This annual report serves as a point of reflection and will be looked upon when planning future iterations of Technica. We always look forward to improving and expanding upon the Technica experience.

Finally, as an event put together entirely by volunteer student organizers, Technica 2019 could not have been possible without the support and commitment from our 157 mentors, 130 weekend-of volunteers, and 40 corporate sponsors. No matter your contribution, we thank you for supporting our mission.

We look forward to empowering a new generation of thinkers, designers, and creators.

Until next year,

Shruti, Faatemah, and the Technica 2019 Team



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Co-Executive Director

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**Faatemah Mallick**

Co-Executive Director

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## Demographics

American Indian or Alaska Native	0.8%
Asian / Pacific Islander	48.6%
Black or African American	15.6%
Hispanic or Latino	7.4%
Middle Eastern or North African	3.6%
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	0.9%
White/Caucasian	19.5%
Prefer not to answer	3.6%

## Gender Identity

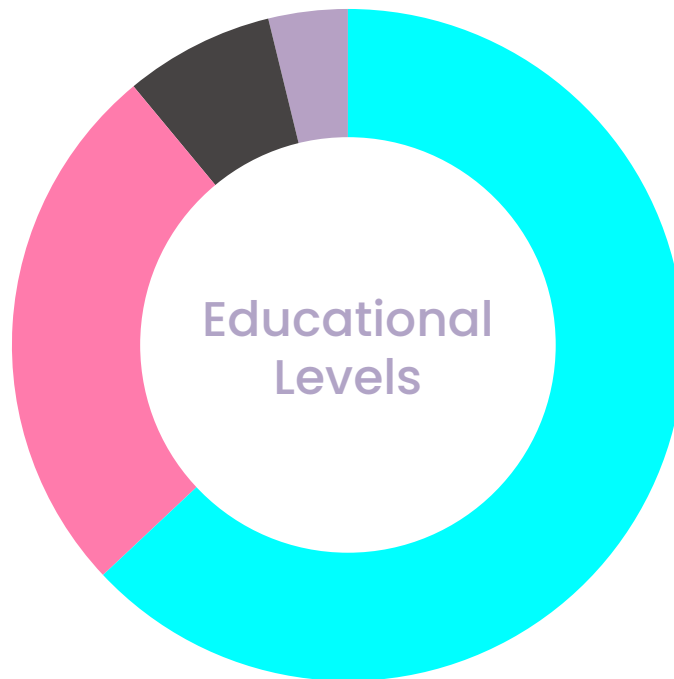
Female	98.2 %
Non-binary	1.8 %

## Minors

Minors	32.2 %
Non-Minors	67.8 %

**First time hackers** 79.7 %

**First time at Technica** 75 %



<span style="color: cyan;">●</span> Undergraduate College	63.0 %
<span style="color: pink;">●</span> High School	26 %
<span style="color: black;">●</span> Graduate College	7.2 %
<span style="color: purple;">●</span> Middle School	3.8 %

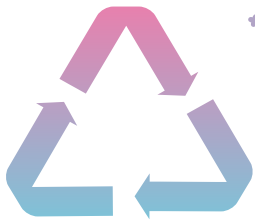


## Our Humble Beginnings

In 2015, Technica was founded at the University of Maryland by students who saw a gap that mainstream hackathons weren't addressing. Our goal has since remained the same: to introduce women and non-binary folks from diverse backgrounds to technology.

## Upholding the World Record

In 2016, Technica became the largest all-women & non-binary hackathon with over 850 participants. In 2019, we went on to beat our own record with a total of **928 participants** from schools across both coasts, Midwest, Florida, and even Canada!

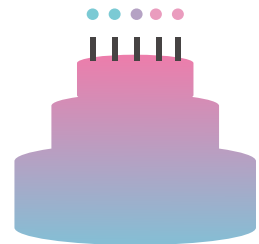


## Becoming More Sustainable

Large events, like hackathons, can be particularly wasteful. To minimize our impact on the global climate crisis, we pledged this year to commit to better sustainability practices at Technica.

## Celebrating Five Years

This year, we celebrated turning five with [a tribute](#) to our founding team. Since 2015, we're proud to have hosted over 4,000 women & non-binary people and counting and look forward to the future

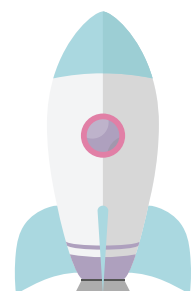


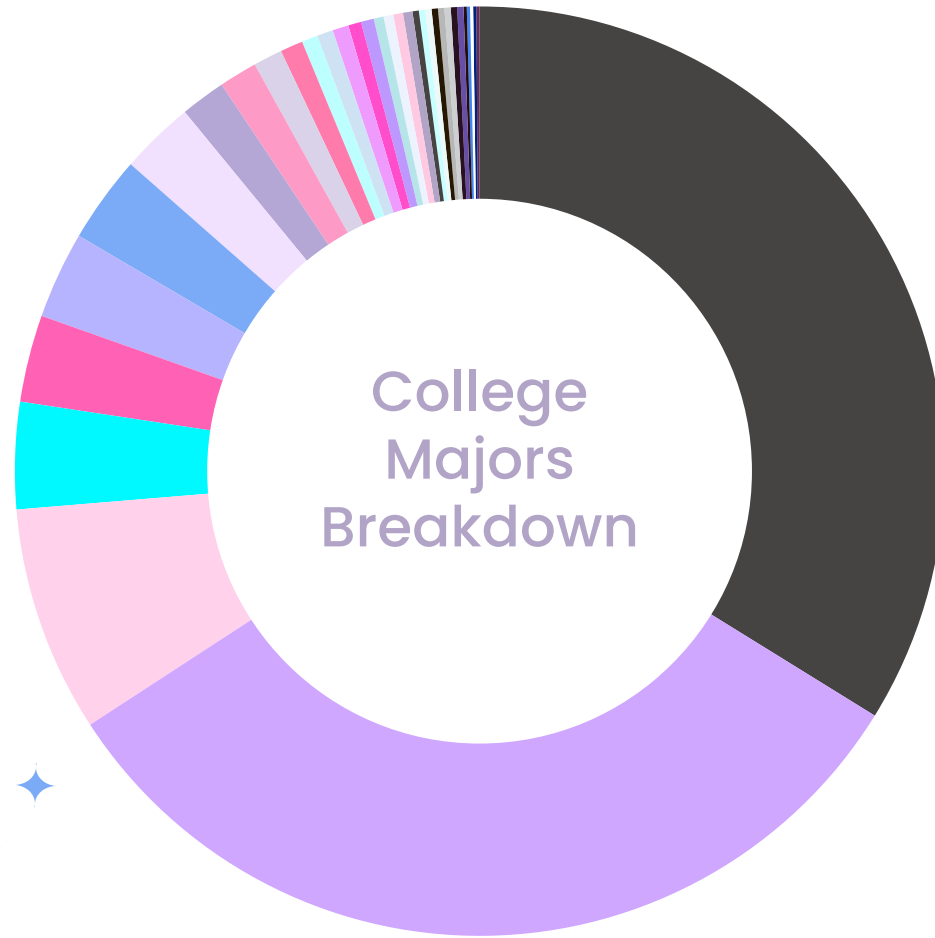
## Featuring Forbes 30 Under 30 Speakers

To go along with this year's theme, we welcomed two hardworking, powerful women who are changing the field of tech. Both Liz Wessel, co-founder and CEO of WayUp, and Karlie Kloss, founder of Kode with Klossy and American supermodel, inspired our hackers to [#GoBeyond](#).

## Setting a Project Submission Record

This year, we witnessed the highest number of [project submissions](#) Technica has ever had with 144 group demonstrations (including ones from our Tech + Research track)





● Computer Science	33.82 %	● Art	0.34 %
● Undecided	32 %	○ English	0.34 %
● Other	7.87 %	● History	0.34 %
● Computer Engineering	3.71 %	● Environmental Science/Technology	0.33 %
● Information Studies	3.03 %	● Biochemistry	0.22 %
● Information Systems	3.03 %	● Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering	0.22 %
● Information Technology	3.03 %	○ Criminology and Criminal Justice	0.22 %
● Biological Sciences	2.58 %	● Government and Politics	0.22 %
● Mathematics	1.57 %	● Mechanical Engineering	0.22 %
● Business	1.33 %	● Physics	0.22 %
● Electrical Engineering	1.01 %	● Sociology	0.22 %
● Psychology	0.79 %	● Theatre	0.22 %
● Aerospace Engineering	0.56 %	● Architecture	0.11 %
● Economics	0.56 %	● Astronomy	0.11 %
● Public Health Science	0.56 %	○ Atmospheric and Oceanic Science	0.11 %
● Bioengineering	0.45 %	● Communication	0.11 %
● Civil & Environmental Engineering	0.45 %	● Kinesiology	0.11 %

Below is the weekend's schedule at a glance.

Throughout the day, sponsors and student volunteers also hosted specific workshops pertaining to Fundamentals of Design, Security, AR/VR, Cloud Computing, Git, Machine Learning, Geotracking, Binary Exploitation, Agile, and Web Development.

## Saturday, November 9

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8:00 am - 10:00 am	<b>Participant Check-In</b>
8:30 am - 10:00 am	<b>Breakfast</b>
9:00 am - 10:00 am	<b>Sponsorship Fair</b>
10:00 am - 11:00 am	<b>Opening Ceremony</b>
11:00 am - 11:30 am	<b>Hacking Begins</b>
11:00 am - 11:30 am	<b>Team Formation</b>
11:30 am - 12:00 pm	<b>Technica 101: Intro to Hackathons</b>
12:00 pm - 1:30 pm	<b>Lunch</b>
1:00 pm - 2:00 pm	<b>Intro to Hardware II</b>
6:00 pm - 8:00 pm	<b>Anniversary Cake Cutting</b>
9:00 pm - 9:30 pm	<b>Dinner</b>
10:00 pm - 11:00 pm	<b>Late Night Snack</b>

## Sunday, November 10

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12:30 am - 1:30 am	<b>Treats &amp; Meets</b>
1:00 am - 2:00 am	<b>Spicy Ramen Challenge</b>
8:30 am - 10:30 am	<b>Breakfast</b>
10:00 am - 10:30 am	<b>How to Submit Your Hack Tutorial</b>
11:00 am - 1:00 pm	<b>Lunch</b>
11:00 am - 1:00 pm	<b>Hacking Ends</b>
12:00 pm - 1:30 pm	<b>Demos</b>
1:30 pm - 2:30 pm	<b>Closing Ceremony</b>
4:00pm - 4:30 pm	<b>Buses Depart</b>



We gave away

# \$49,494

in prizes this year!

Total Projects Submitted

# 144

Total Prize Categories

# 37

# of participants that submitted a hack

# 383

42 % of our attendees

A few of our favorite winning projects . . .

## Student Debt Simulator

*FINRA'S Choice for Best Design for Financial Education  
T. Rowe Price's Choice for Best Use of Public Financial Data*

A realistic simulation indicating the time it takes for a student to pay off debt with real life elements such as sudden expenses, financial investment, budgeting, and personal well-being

## technicAnatomy

*Best #GoBeyond Hack - Technica*

A virtual reality and enhanced audio application aimed at helping any student who needs to learn human anatomy

## Hermes

*Facebook's Choice for Best Community Building Hack  
TripAdvisor's Choice for Best Improvement to Travel Industry*

An innovative application that provides tourists with information on the values, traditions, and etiquette of a particular country they are visiting

## CyberspaceX

*Cisco's Choice for Best Security Hack*

An interactive game that arms young kids with the skills of creating strong passwords, limit sharing their information, netiquette, to ensure that they can survive in the CyberSpace





### [The Subtle Sexism of Hackathons](#)

"To address the gender imbalance, many organizers have made efforts to reach out to women . . . where that's been happening, there's been great success."

— *Fast Company*



### [Technica-Ily, Another Success](#)

"More than 900 coders from around the country . . . attended workshops on topics such as design thinking, geotracking and mobile augmented-reality development."

— *Maryland Today*



### [Inside the Feminist Tech Jamboree](#) [Helping Girls Break Barriers in STEM](#)

"Technica encourages females to combat the gender imbalance and imposter syndrome associated with STEM fields."

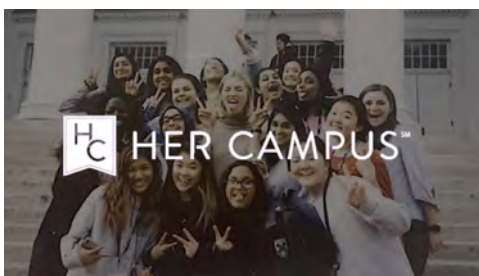
— *Ms. Magazine*



### [The World's Largest All-Women](#) [and Non-Binary Hackathon](#)

"... A multitude of workshops hosted by our wonderful sponsors and student alumni . . . where students [had] the chance to network with over 30 sponsors."

— *Irish Tech News*



### [Technica Understands Women in Tech](#)

"Promoting diversity and inclusion is a key part of the hackathon and it's shown in the details, such as having a prayer room, . . . giving out pronoun pins, . . . and [having] a gender-inclusive bathroom at the event."

— *Her Campus, Maryland*

At Technica we believe that knowledge is meant to be shared. That is why we started our new open source initiative this year to provide equal access for educators, developers, and other hackathon organizers to utilize some of the tools that we have created to accommodate thousands of hackers over the years. From our expo app used for demo logistics and judging to our react-native based mobile app everything is available on our official GitHub repository.

We've also included new features with some of our tools such as our theme customizer that allows anybody to fully integrate the expo app with their own color schemes and personalized themes. We have additional plans to expand upon the modularity of our tools and continue to provide resources for others to use in the future. If you have any questions please feel free to reach out to [tech@gotechnica.org](mailto:tech@gotechnica.org)!



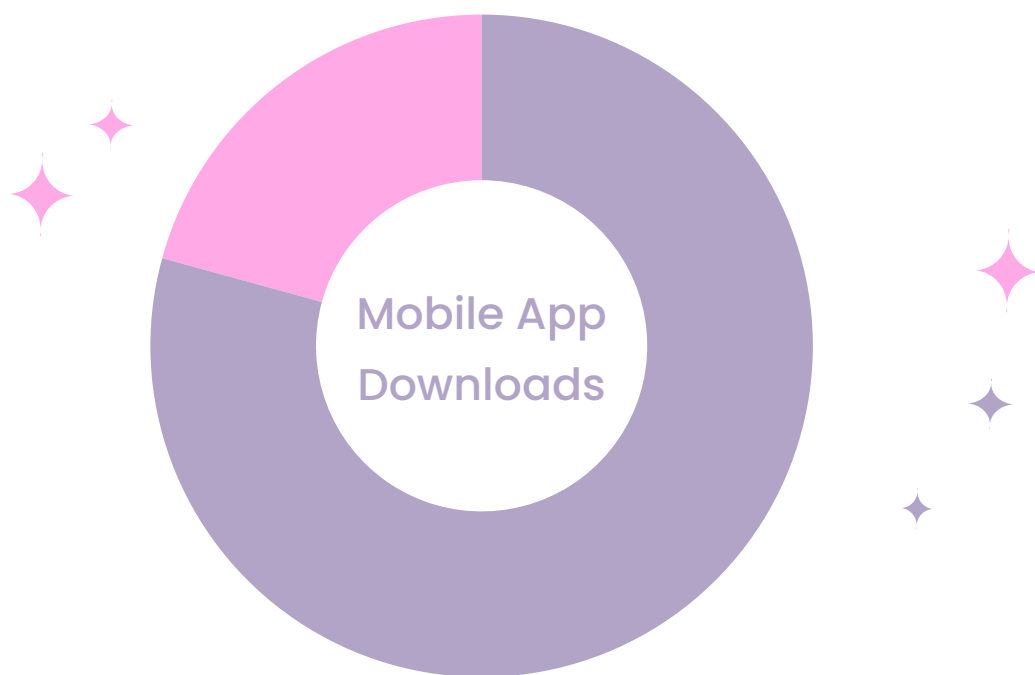
[gotechnica.org/expo-app](https://gotechnica.org/expo-app)



[gotechnica.org/github](https://gotechnica.org/github)



[gotechnica.org/mobile-app](https://gotechnica.org/mobile-app)



● iOS	665
● Android	174
Total	839



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## Every Donation Counts

Individual contributions also make a huge impact – we appreciate all levels of support!

**\$20**

The cost to provide electricity and internet to a hacker, so they can stay charged up and logged in all weekend

**\$10**

The cost of each meal we provide to hackers at Technica, keeping them fueled and properly fed

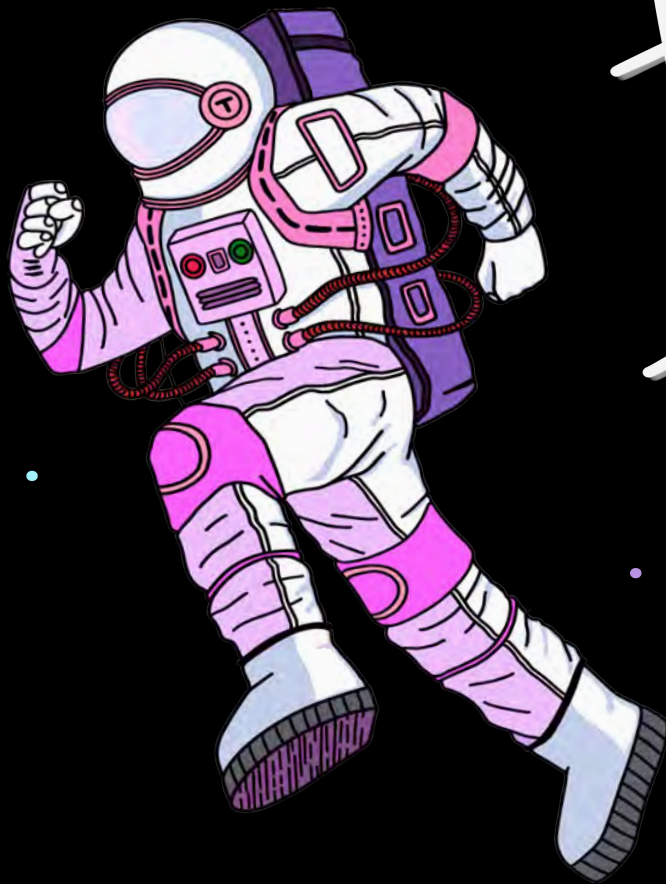
**\$5**

The cost per hacker to keep Emergency Medical Services and Security Personnel on hand throughout Technica weekend, just in case

**DONATE**

GO BEYOND

# TECHNICA



THE  
future  
IS  
female



Stay Connected with us until Technica 2020