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I have a newfound appreciation for the people behind the technology and developments we have in today's society.

Lucas, Marianopolis College, 18, Youth2Tech attendee

Impact Report

Youth2Tech Conference

November 11 - 12, 2017

UPSTARTED 

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I am inspired to delve back into my creative hobbies and I feel up to date with the world we live in. I am just generally excited...now that I see all the opportunities to work in areas I'm genuinely interested in.

Shayle, Pensionnat du Saint-Nom-de-Marie, 15, Youth2Tech Attendee

I. About

The Youth2Tech Conference (Y2Tt) was designed to teach high-school students about the **impact of new generation technologies** on their futures and the skills they need to succeed in the 21st century.

Y2T took place between November 11 - 12, 2017 at Lower Canada College and welcomed **200 students from across 31 institutions** in Montreal. To date, it was the largest conference of its kind in Montreal for students aged 14 to 18.

Conference Goals:



Provide students with an understanding of how technology is transforming all industries.



Empower students to explore new technologies and skills by providing them with hands on knowledge and experience.



Encourage students to explore topics that resonate with them beyond the conference.

This report illustrates the success of UpstartED in achieving these three objectives.



Caption: 3D Printer display, Career Panel, VR technology display

II. Conference format & content

In order to achieve the aforementioned goals, we designed the conference with the following components:



Talks and Workshops: Inform & Equip

The talks and workshops were designed to inform students of the most relevant technologies and skills needed to succeed in a tech-infused future. The following were voted by conference participants as the most informative and impactful topics:

- ✓ Artificial Intelligence (AI) and its impact on different industries
- ✓ Coding and programming concepts
- ✓ Design Thinking in the context of problem solving
- ✓ Fabrication Labs: leveraging 3D printing and laser cutting for production
- ✓ Skills for a digital world (i.e. building an online brand, leading with purpose, combatting procrastination)

Education Fair (part I): Inspire

CEGEPs and Universities from across the country were invited to set up booths at the conference to present their respective academic programs. Students gained insights into everyday life at each institution; in addition, they networked with university representatives, and distinguished alumni.

"The EngInE and its students teams were very happy to talk about their programs and projects to the students attending the Education Fair as it was an excellent opportunity to meet with curious, smart, and energetic youth with much leadership and entrepreneurial potential."

Katya Marc, Manager, McGill Faculty of Engineering Innovation and Entrepreneurship hub (The EngInE)

Career Fair (part II): Inspire

Participants interacted with a career panel of six professionals from various industries and career backgrounds: law, technology, video gaming, engineering, medicine and finance. Students gained insights into facing adversity and failure, along with advice on how to best prepare for the radically transforming workplace.

Following that, delegates attended the Career Fair to speak with companies showcasing cutting-edge technology to discuss the skills required to succeed.

“I had the opportunity to be a speaker and part of an awesome career fair panel of the UpstartED Inc. Youth2Tech conference where we shared our life experiences, success stories and expressed the importance to live your dream, learn from failure, do what makes you happy, and get involved! It is such a rewarding experience to make a difference!”

Alice Ying, Manager, Audit and Advisory at Deloitte



Caption: McGill's Engineering Innovation & Entrepreneurship, University of Waterloo, Robots display

III. Outcomes and testimonials

Get an inside look at the most popular workshops at Y2T by reading the participant feedback.

Learning to Code

by Lighthouse Labs

Outcome: Set up and design a webpage with HTML and CSS

“This workshop taught me that setting up a page online is not that hard. I want to continue learning HTML so I can start my own blog.”

Building a Personal Online Brand

by Flora Bertin, Marketing Manager at UpstartED

Outcome: Understand what a personal brand is and how to build a digital legacy

“I did not know that my online interactions create my online brand. Now I will be more intentional when I post things on social media!”

Designing Your Future

by User Experience Lead Designer at IBM Canada

Outcome: Create a roadmap to the student’s future job

“Before this workshop, [...] I did not know what actions I needed to take to achieve my dream job, but now I do.”



Caption: Design Thinking, Learning to code with Lighthouse Labs, Laser cutter showcase

Artificial Intelligence and Automation

by Stuart Spence, teacher

Outcome: Learn a direct application of Artificial Intelligence

“Before this workshop, I did not know that AI could provide personalized treatment based on your genome.”

The Future of Healthcare

by CTO of Dialogue Technologies

Outcome: Design what the future of healthcare will look like in a world where AI is an integral part of our lives

“I learned how fast technology can evolve! It’s incredible to understand the different benefits it will deliver in the future”

Applications of a Fabrication Lab

by Director of Lower Canada College Fab Lab

Outcome: Learn the applications of 3D printers and laser cutters.

“I literally never knew 3D printers were a thing...I am fascinated. I discovered so many new technologies!”

Introduction to Programming

by Marianopolis College Programming Club

Outcome: Learn a set of functions for programming purposes

“Before this workshop, I had no idea how coding works nor was I interested in this field. Now, I know the basics of computing and coding. I actually think it’s really fun!”

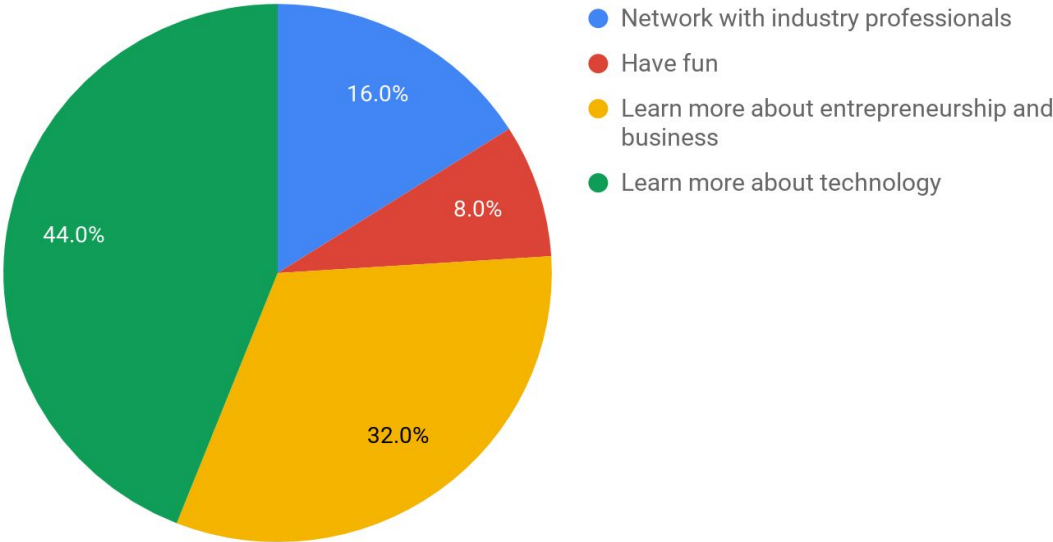


IV. Demographics



The 200 students who registered to attend Youth2Tech came from 31 schools (public and private schools in anglophone and francophone) across Montreal, including Lower Canada College, Miss Edgar's & Miss Cramp's School, The Study, Kuper Academy, St-George's School, Trafalgar School for Girls, Marymount Academy, Royal Vale, Westmount High School, College Prep International, Pensionnat du Saint-Nom-de-Marie, Collège Français, Collège Jean-de-Brébeuf, Marianopolis College, Dawson College, and more.

90% of post-conference survey respondents said they would attend Youth2Tech in the future. When asked about the main reasons for attending Youth2Tech in the post-conference survey, students indicated the following:



V. Partners

Montreal's first Youth2Tech conference was possible thanks to a large number of corporate, non-profit and education collaborators.

Education Collaborators



Community Partners



VI. How to get involved

Whether you are a teacher or school or you are representing a company or community organization, we want to work with you!

1. [Sponsor](#) the next event as our partner by visiting www.upstarted.org
2. Get your students to [attend one of our events](#)
3. Learn more about our curriculum by emailing diana@upstarted.org
4. Stay in touch and follow us on:
 - a. [Facebook](#)
 - b. [Linkedin](#)

To browse all pictures, visit our official Facebook page

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In today's society one must be comfortable with tech, as it is so used. I learned that I have to persist in pursuing my goals, and not give up on my ambitions.

Camilla, St-George's School, 16, Youth2Tech attendee