

Ages
13-17

Global Innovation Race 2024

Kigali, Rwanda





Discover Kigali, Rwanda

Digital Media Academy and the Rwanda Ministry of ICT and Innovation partner to welcome global youth to Rwanda.



Join us in Kigali, the bustling capital of Rwanda and hub for technology and innovation across Africa, to explore innovation where social impact and continental transformation meet.

Explore themes of social impact, ethics, and emerging technology. Students will learn from industry experts while unlocking the power of cutting-edge technologies to design solutions that will shape the future.





Experience Rwanda, Land of a Thousand Hills

Global Innovation Race 2024 takes place in the vibrant city of Kigali, Rwanda, a leading tech hub nestled just south of the Equator, within Africa's beating heart.

GIR participants will dive into Rwanda's culture, including traditional Intore dancing, basketry, and Umuganda. You will explore local innovation centers, learn from technology and ethics pioneers, and delve into Rwanda's history. You'll see first-hand the nation's resilience and commitment to peace education, drawing essential lessons for the future from its impactful past.

Did you know? Rwanda...

- owes the nickname 'Le pays des Mille Collines', or the 'Land of a Thousand Hills', to its beautiful landscape.
- is one of Africa's most biodiverse regions and a sanctuary of unique rainforest species found nowhere else. It is also home to more than one-third of the world's remaining mountain gorillas.
- pioneered equal gender representation in politics, with over 60% of its parliamentary seats occupied by women,
- is one of the cleanest nations on Earth. Not only has the country employed a decade-long ban on plastic bags and packaging material, but locals take part in a monthly community clean-up called Umuganda.
- has four official languages: French, English, Kinyarwanda, and Kiswahili.

Innovate for Meaningful Impact:






Become a global innovator as you join forces with student peers from across the globe, united by a shared passion to tackle pressing world problems.

Your mission? A high-stakes race against time, armed with innovation challenges that will push your boundaries and drive you to craft ingenious solutions.

In a world hungry for innovative solutions, will you rise to the occasion and become a part of the global movement for a brighter future?



Here you will

-  Move out of your comfort zone, learning **social thinking** and networking skills as you learn to collaborate with diverse cultures and build trust and safety in groups.
-  Get real-world experience using **design thinking** to create a human-centered solution to a pressing world problem and bring your idea to life with the guidance of local mentors and industry experts.
-  Learn how to **think like an entrepreneur** to create compelling, sustainable value as an innovator and how to effectively communicate the value of your ideas through storytelling.
-  Work in groups of 4-5 to create a **Public Display of Learning** to be shared in our FutureTech Showcase and a Film Reel of your group's journey to be screened in the final GIR Film Festival.
-  Leave inspired, with an **international network** of lifelong friends and fellow innovators.

The Program

You'll learn through hands-on, immersive experiences that transcend the traditional classroom setting, allowing you to not only absorb knowledge but actively apply it in real-world scenarios.

This experiential learning approach empowers you to navigate the dynamic landscape of Kigali, fostering a deep understanding of innovation, collaboration, and the transformative power of emerging technologies.

It's not just about acquiring information; it's about gaining the skills and insights that will propel you to the forefront of global innovation.



Group Projects



Seminars



Workshops



Guest Speakers



Educational Trips

What's Included

We take care of everything from when you land in Rwanda until your departure.

- 🌐 Pre-program materials to prepare you for Global Innovation Race
- 🌐 Hands-on design challenge designed by Stanford Educators and taught by industry experts
- 🌐 Networking with students from all over the world
- 🌐 Accommodation, breakfast and dinner, activities, excursions, tech tours, and trips to local attractions
- 🌐 Maximum of 4-5 students per group
- 🌐 20+ hours tuition/week
- 🌐 Inspirational tech connections program, including workshops and excursions to local tech companies
- 🌐 Optional excursions to national parks, museums, gorilla trekking, and more
- 🌐 One year membership to Digital Media Academy's Global Youth Innovator Forum
- 🌐 Formal closing ceremony with Global Innovator Certificate

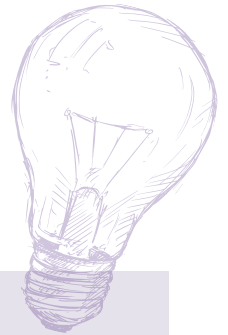


Digital Media Academy

Led by leading educators and industry experts, Digital Media Academy has been preparing the next generation of global leaders with world-class STEAM programs since 1999. Join our global youth innovator community for a summer experience that will shape your future.

Our acclaimed programs, hosted at prestigious institutions like Stanford, NYU, Georgetown, UCLA, Oxford, and McGill University, have impacted over 500,000 students worldwide.

You could be next!



Experience Designers



Glenn Fajardo

DMA Chief Learning Officer • Lecturer at Stanford d.school • Former Director of Co-Design Practice @ TechSoup

Glenn Fajardo connects to create, exploring how we can be creative together when we are far apart and in different cultural contexts. He has been part of the Stanford d.school teaching community since 2014 and was the Stanford d.school's Distributed Learning Teaching Fellow in 2020.

For 14 years, Glenn has been a practitioner of virtual collaboration, working with people and organizations across six continents engaged in social impact work. Glenn is the co-author (with Kursat Ozenc) of *Rituals for Virtual Meetings: Creative Ways to Engage People and Strengthen Relationships*.

Glenn was formerly the Director of the Co-Design Practice of the TechSoup Global Network at TechSoup, a nonprofit social enterprise founded on the belief that technology can be a powerful enabler for greater social change. Formally trained in nuclear engineering sciences and public policy, Glenn also plays electric bass and likes to cook in other people's kitchens.



Chris Bennett

DMA Learning and Engagement Specialist • Affiliate, Stanford University Graduate School of Education • Game Designer

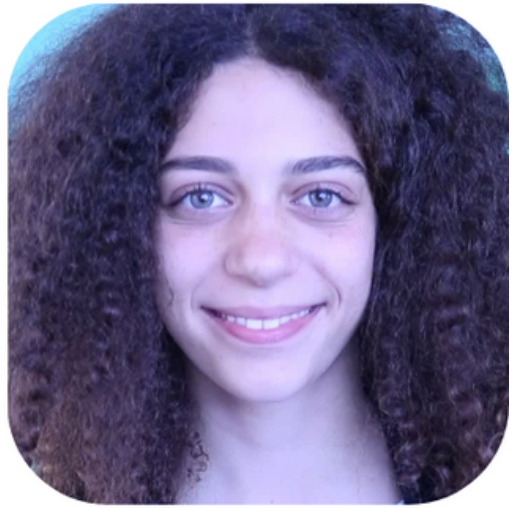
Chris is an award-winning Game Designer and Stanford-invited lecturer who has combined creative ideas with digital engagement to reach millions of players with his credited games. Chris teaches, studies, and practices ways to apply his science of Game Design Thinking to improve lives in the real world.

Chris has over 20 years of experience in the entertainment software industry, including three very successful franchises; *The Sims*, *Diner Dash*, and *Tiger Woods PGA Tour*.

Chris has talked about games and game design for major media outlets, including NBC TV, NPR, *Forbes.com*, and the *San Francisco Chronicle*. He is called on by organizations such as Stanford University, University of California Berkeley, and USAID for his game design expertise.



**Become A
Truly Global
Innovator**





Receive a Global Innovation certificate & micro-credential from Digital Media Academy and join a global community

Participants will receive a one-year membership to the **Global Youth Innovator Forum**, an online membership community that provides students with opportunities to continue learning, collaborating, and innovating.

- Monthly Live Webinars & Workshops
- Quarterly Challenges & Completions
- Peer-to-peer Network & Community





Applying for a Place

How to apply

The quickest way to enroll is to visit our website at digitalmediaacademy.org/gir/save-your-spot

Our online application form takes a few moments to complete and requires a short expression of Interest in Global Innovation Race. The application is FREE and non-binding.

Once approved you will receive an email with the next steps.

Registrations close March 31, 2024. Early booking is advised to ensure availability at the location of choice.

Our GIR Experience Manager Team is available for inquiries and questions via email at gir@digitalmediaacademy.org or you can schedule a call at digitalmediaacademy.org/gir/schedule-a-call



“It was absolutely wonderful academic program centered around humanity. The focus of the future is not on AI, but on humans. Specifically, how humans interact, care, and relate to each other and the world is what we ultimately focused on. It was not just about design, not just about technology, not just about efficiency, but about human ideals and virtues that connect us together. I like this program a lot.”

Jason Tong

Student from Beijing



“I participated in the Global Innovation Race 2023. The race was well-organized, and the project team took care of every detail, diligently following up on the activities performed by our students. They displayed a remarkable level of innovation and uniqueness in the way they engaged students with cutting-edge technology. GIR was about winning and failing together, as it encouraged our students to collaborate as a team in finding solutions to societal challenges.”

Celestin NZEYIMANA

2023 Chaperone, Rwanda Coding Academy



I want to remember everything. This was a really good experience, and I had a lot of fun during it, and I learned a lot.

Lara

Student from Saudi Arabia

Global Innovation Race

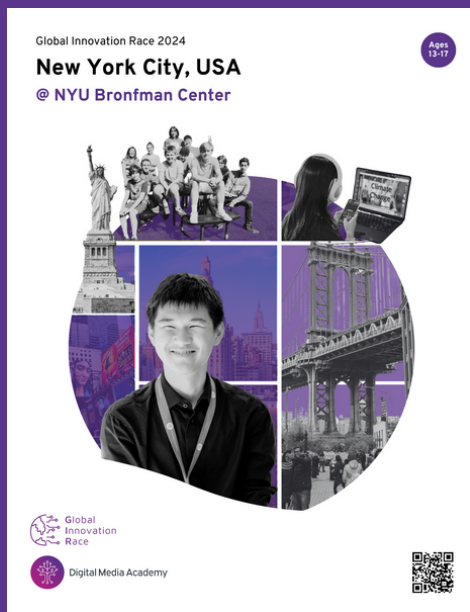
Location: Kigali, Rwanda



Student Class and Extra Curricular Timetable (SAMPLE)

	DAY 1	DAY 2	DAY 3	DAY 4	DAY 5	DAY 6	DAY 7	DAY 8	DAY 9	DAY 10	DAY 11
8:00			Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast
9:00		Networking Breakfast & GIR Kickoff/ Orientation	Travel	Travel to FabLab	Travel to Zipline	Eco Park Excursion Day Choice of: Team Activities, hikes and more!	Travel to GIZ	Episode 10: Professional Connection in an AI World	Episode 11: AI Research in Action (Humanizing AI for Collaborative Learning)	Travel	Departure Day Check out and Goodbyes
10:00			Visit the Genocide Memorial	Episode 5: Learning the Entrepreneurial Way	Episode 8: Everyone Everywhere Innovation		Episode 9: Innovation Realities			Episode 10: Professional Connection in an AI World	
11:00		Episode 1: Creative Beginnings		Break				Final Project Intro & Focus Time	Final Project Focus Time		
12:00		Travel	Episode 6: Prototyping Basics	Travel	Lunch		Lunch			Lunch	
13:00	Group Arrival and Check in	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch				Lunch	Lunch		Lunch
14:00	Episode 2: The Art of Noticing & Intro to Video Storytelling	Episode 3: Becoming a Networked Innovator	Tech Industry Connections: FabLab	Innovation Challenge #1 Intro & Focus Time	Eco Park Excursion Day Choice of: Team Activities, hikes and more!		Innovation Challenge #2 Intro & Focus Time	Tech Industry Connections: Volkswagen, Ampersand, Babyl and Hence at Norrsken	Final Project Focus Time	Student Prep Time	Global Innovation Race Film Fest & Red Carpet
15:00										Break	
16:00	Welcome Refreshments & Chaperone Meeting	Kigali Video Scavenger Hunt	Episode 4: Design for Trust Facilitation	Episode 7: Build to Think Prototyping	Eco Park Excursion Day Choice of: Team Activities, hikes and more!		Innovation Challenge #1 Focus Time	Innovation Challenge #2 Showcase & Peer Feedback	Episode 12: Three Future Lives	Industry Panel: Finding Your Way in Tech	Global Innovation Race Film Fest & Red Carpet
17:00											
18:00	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Eco Park Excursion Day Choice of: Team Activities, hikes and more!		Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Formal Dinner	Global Innovation Race Film Fest & Red Carpet
19:00											
20:00	Group Icebreakers & Team Building	Group Icebreakers & Team Building	Choice of: Sports in the Parks, Board Games, Improv Games	Choice of: Soccer Tournament, Movie, Sketching Workshop	Eco Park Excursion Day Choice of: Team Activities, hikes and more!	Capture the Flag in University Parks	Choice of: Sports in the Parks, Board Games, Improv Games	Cultural Dance Lessons	Carnegie Mellon University Africa Admissions	Closing Ceremony Gala & Reflections	
21:00									Trivia Night		
22:00	Lights Out	Lights Out	Lights Out	Lights Out	Lights Out	Lights Out	Lights Out	Lights Out	Lights Out	Lights Out	

Other Global Innovation Race Locations



New York City, USA



Silicon Valley, USA



Digital Media Academy

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