

Women in CyberSecurity (WiCyS) Global Nonprofit Organization

Lynn Dohm WiCyS Executive Director

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WiCyS Board Members

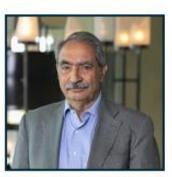
WiCyS Board Members



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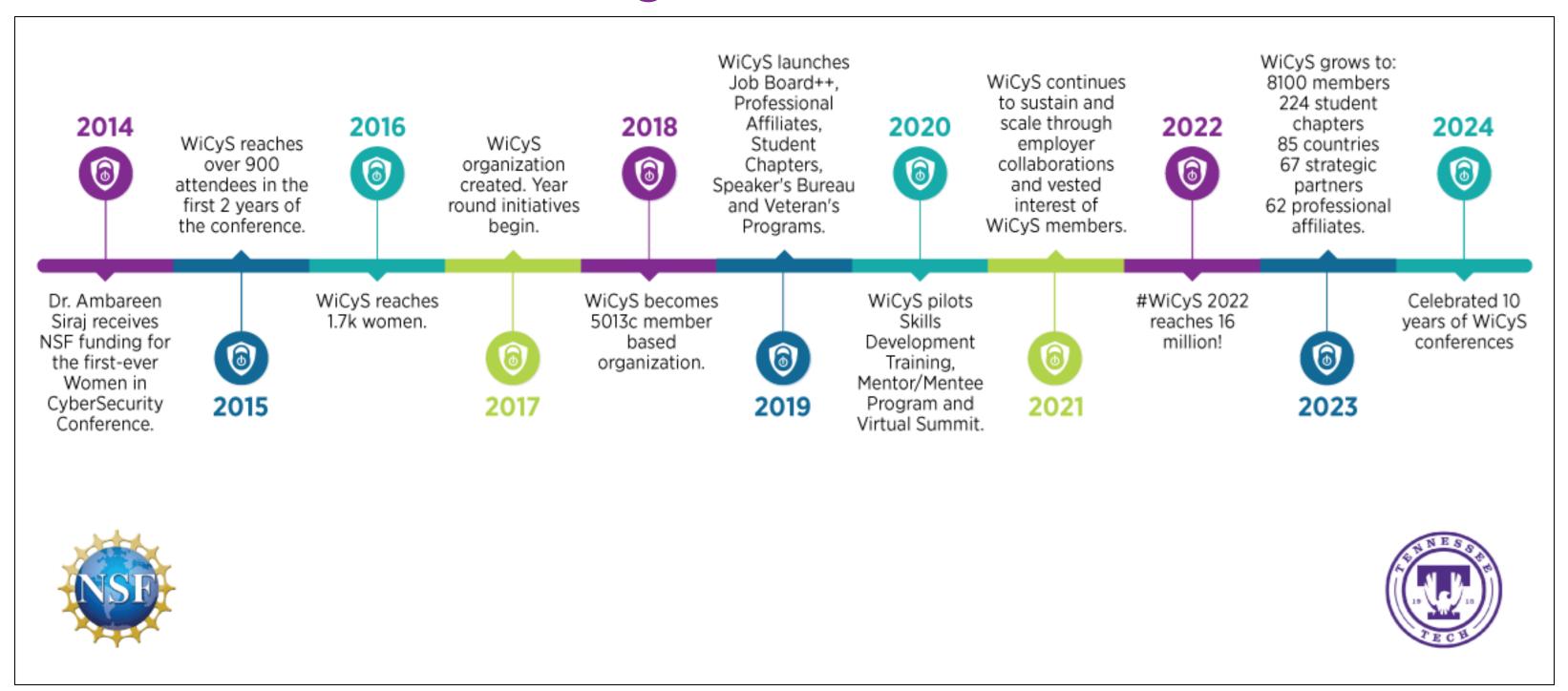
ROSALIE OLMSTED Strategic Partner Coordinator



SARAH PORTER Affiliate Manager



WiCyS Timeline







2014 vs 2024



11%

Women in Cybersecurity

1 million

Unfilled
Cybersecurity
Roles

4.8 million

Unfilled Cybersecurity Roles

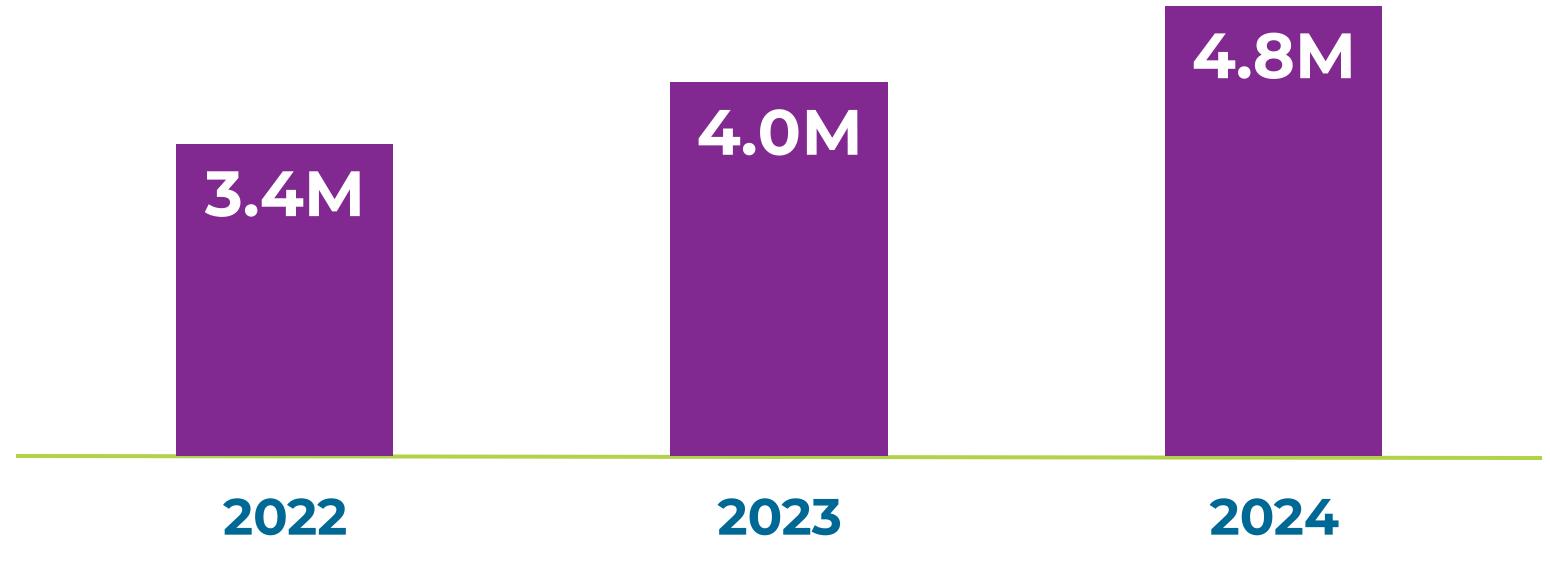
24%

Women in Cybersecurity

*ISC2 2024 CyberSecurity Workforce Study



The global cybersecurity workforce gap continues to increase



*ISC2 2024 CyberSecurity Workforce Study



How it started



How it's going



2025





#WiCyS2024: By the Numbers 115 1950+ **Conference Registrants Sponsors** 1,050 **Scholarships** 66 **Unique Sessions** 150+ 192 **Military Presenters/Speakers** 500+ Volunteers **Affiliates Represented** 59 133 180+ Student Chap. Represented Recruiters



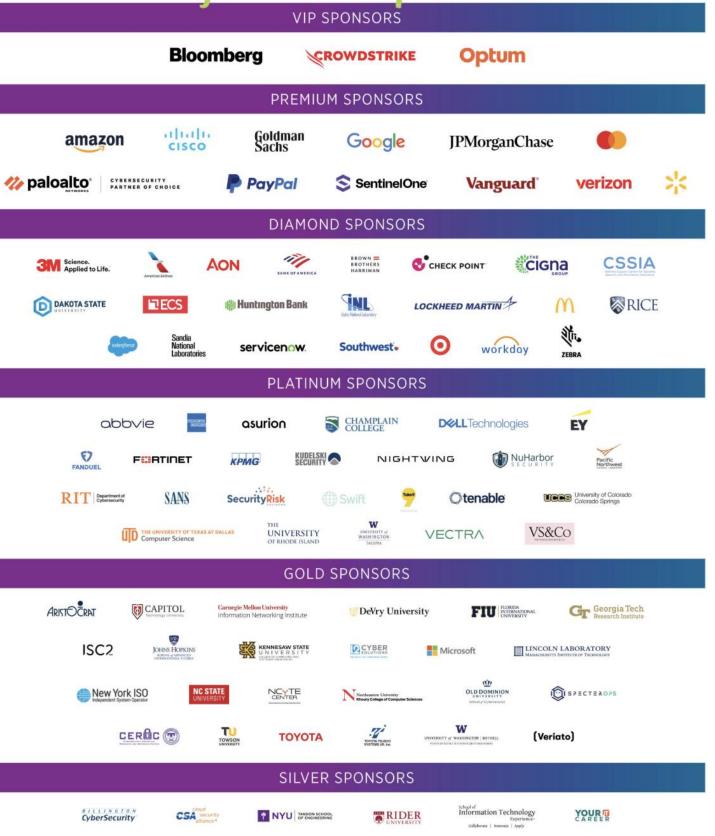
#WiCyS2024: By the Numbers

78	Unique Sessions	60	CPE/CEU Hours	28	Research Posters
19	Workshops	16	Technical Presentations	16	Lightning Talks
15	Featured Speakers	14	Meetups/Information Sessions	7	Socials
5	Birds of a Feather	5	Panels	5	Keynotes
3	Special Invite Meals	1	Allyship Symposium	1	CTF



THANK YOU TO OUR 2025

Conference Sponsors





WiCyS Mission:

Help build a robust cybersecurity workforce by facilitating...

RECRUITMENT
RETENTION
ADVANCEMENT for women in the field















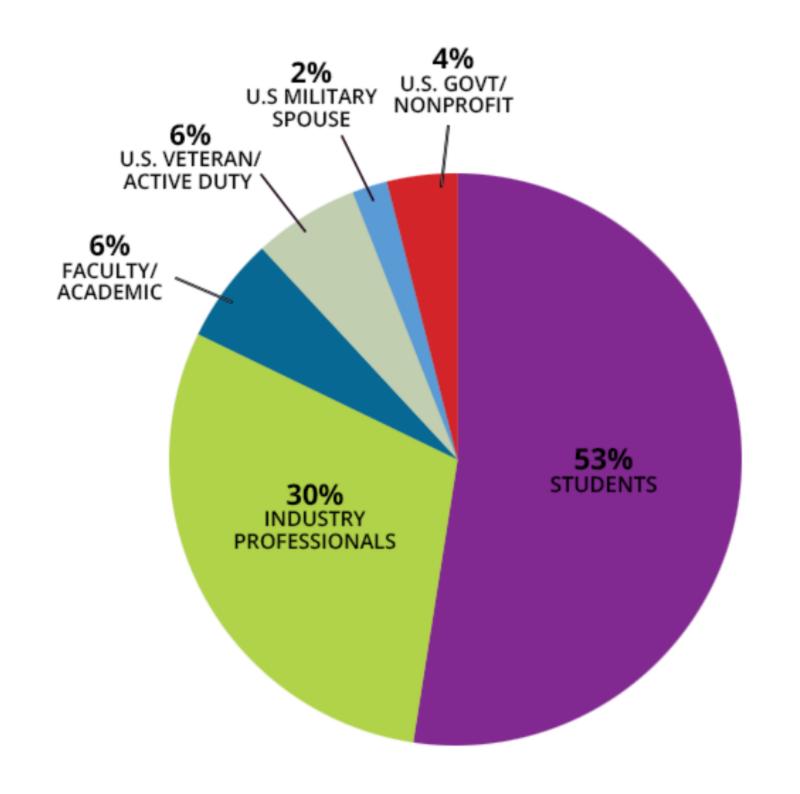








WiCyS Members: 11K (as of 5.1.2025)





WiCyS Membership Map



Albania, Algeria, American Samoa, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bhutan, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, eSwatini, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guadeloupe, Guatemala, Honduras, Hong Kong (China), Hungary, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Korea (South), Kyrgyzstan, Liechtenstein, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mauritius, Mexico, Moldova, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Puerto Rico, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Tanzania, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United States, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vietnam, Zambia, Zimbabwe



WiCyS WiCyS Professional Affiliates

United States: WiCyS Austin WiCyS Central Alabama WiCyS Chicago WiCyS Colorado WiCyS Dallas Fort Worth WiCyS Delaware Valley WiCyS Florida WiCyS Georgia WiCvS Houston WiCyS Idaho WiCvS Indianapolis WiCyS Kansas City WiCyS Los Angeles WiCyS Massachusetts WiCyS Metro NY WiCyS Mid-Atlantic WiCvS Minnesota WiCyS Missisippi

WiCyS Montana WiCyS NE Ohio WiCyS North Carolina WiCyS Northern Alabama WiCyS Northern Indiana WiCyS Silicon Valley WiCyS Oregon WiCyS South Carolina WiCyS Phoenix AZ WiCvS South Dakota WiCyS Pittsburgh WiCvS Sacramento WiCyS Tennesee WiCyS San Antonio WiCyS Utah WiCyS San Diego

WiCvS St. Louis Metro WiCyS Wisconsin

WiCyS Lockheed Martin WiCyS McKesson WICYS MITRE

WiCyS Corporate Affiliates: WiCvS Accenture WICVS JPMC

WiCyS Deaf WiCyS DevSecOps WiCyS Education and Training

WiCyS Specialty Affiliates:

WiCyS AI WiCvS Healthcare WiCvS BISO WICYS JPMC WiCyS Cloud Security WiCyS Latina WiCvS Colors of Inclusion WiCyS Military WiCyS Critical Infrastructure (CI) WiCyS Neurodiversity WiCyS Pride LGBTQ+

WiCyS Privacy Law and Policy WiCvS People With Disabilities and Caretakers

Africa: WiCyS East Africa WiCyS Ivory Coast | Burkina Faso WiCyS Nigeria WiCyS Southern Africa WiCvS West Africa

> Asia: WiCyS India WiCyS Israel WiCyS Pakistan

Australia: WiCyS Australia

Canada: WiCvS Ontario WiCyS Western Canada

> Europe: WiCvS Balkan WiCyS France WiCyS Germany WiCyS Norway WiCyS UKI

WiCyS Professional **Affiliates**

https://www.wicys.org/initiatives/affiliate-and-industry/



WiCyS Student Chapters

Alabama Arizona California Colorado Connecticut Delaware Florida Georgia Idaho

United States:

Illinois Indiana Iowa Kentucky

Louisiana

Maine Maryland

Massachusetts

Michigan

Minnesota

Mississippi

Missouri Nevada

New Mexico

19 Countries: Africa, Australia, Azerbaijan, Cameroon, Canada, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Finland, Ghana - West Africa, India, Korea, Nigeria, Pakistan, Rwanda, Scotland, South Korea, Tokyo, U.K., and U.S.

New Jersey New York North Carolina North Dakota Ohio Oklahoma Oregon Pennsylvania Puerto Rico Rhode Island South Carolina Tennessee Texas Utah Vermont Virginia Washington Washington D.C. West Virginia Wisconsin Wyoming



https://www.wicys.org/initiatives/student-chapters/



315

WiCyS

Student

Chapters

WOMEN IN CYBERSECURITY INITIATIVES





PROGRAMS

Early Career
Mid Career
Senior Career



MEDIA

Newsletters

Speakers Bureau

Speaking Engagements



EVENTS

Annual Conference

Regional Affiliate Events

Virtual Conference

Webinars



CAREER RESOURCES

Career Fairs

Career Growth Hub

Conference Scholarships & Grants

JobBoard++

Research & Resources

Resume Reviews



COMMUNITY

11K+ Members

Affiliates

Board of Directors

Committees

Mentorship

Mission Support Team

Online Member Platform

Senior Leaders Network

> Student Chapters

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE





WiCyS AI Learning Series

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Mid-to-senior Professionals

Program Runs: May 6 - July 15

In partnership with WiCyS AI Affiliate

https://www.wicys.org/benefits/ai-learning-series-program/





https://www.wicys.org/resources/wicys-book-club-corner/





https://www.wicys.org/benefits/create-your-leading-edge/





https://www.wicys.org/benefits/google-cybersecurity-certificate-program/





https://www.wicys.org/benefits/isc2-certified-in-cybersecurity-certification/





Leadership Series

Thursday, May 22nd at 1pm CT

Advocating for Yourself: Strategies for Success for Women in Tech & Cybersecurity

Guest speaker: Shawnequa Albert

THE EVENT WILL BE HELD VIA ZOOM. REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED.

https://www.wicys.org/benefits/leadership-series/





https://www.wicys.org/benefits/wicys-sans-executive-cybersecurity-exercise/







STAGE READY

Public Speaking Fellowship

FOR MID-TO-SENIOR LEVEL PROFESSIONALS

Deadline to Apply: April 11th

https://www.wicys.org/benefits/stage-ready-public-speaking-fellowship/



VULNERABILITYDISCLOSURE PROGRAM





Identify, Report, and Remediate Cybersecurity Vulnerabilities Open to All Experience Levels

Applications Open: May 5, 2025 | Program Runs: June 2, 2025 - June 1, 2026

https://www.wicys.org/benefits/vdp/





https://www.wicys.org/initiatives/mentor/mentor-mentee-program/





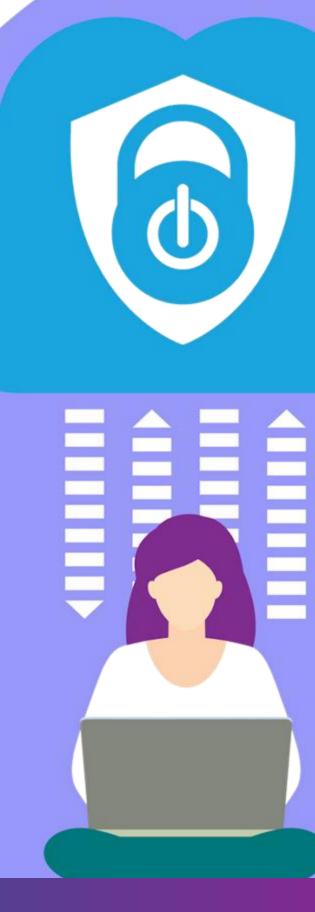
https://www.wicys.org/benefits/security-training-scholarship/



WiCyS Security Training Scholarship Program

Since 2020, the WiCyS Scholarship program impact is as follows:

- 4,600 WiCyS members participants in CTF
- 360 GIAC Certifications
- 258 Advanced Training Scholarships Awarded
- 100% career placement for graduates within
 12 months of program completion
- Website Views: 280.5K+







The WiCyS Security Training Scholarship experience has been unlike anything I have experienced in my life. I have gained an incredible support system, and access to hundreds of resources, and have the honor of taking classes with SANS, the most respected cyber training program in the world. This opportunity has given me a clear path forward to enter the field with confidence knowing that I will not be on this journey alone.

-Lauren Guitterez









SPEAKER

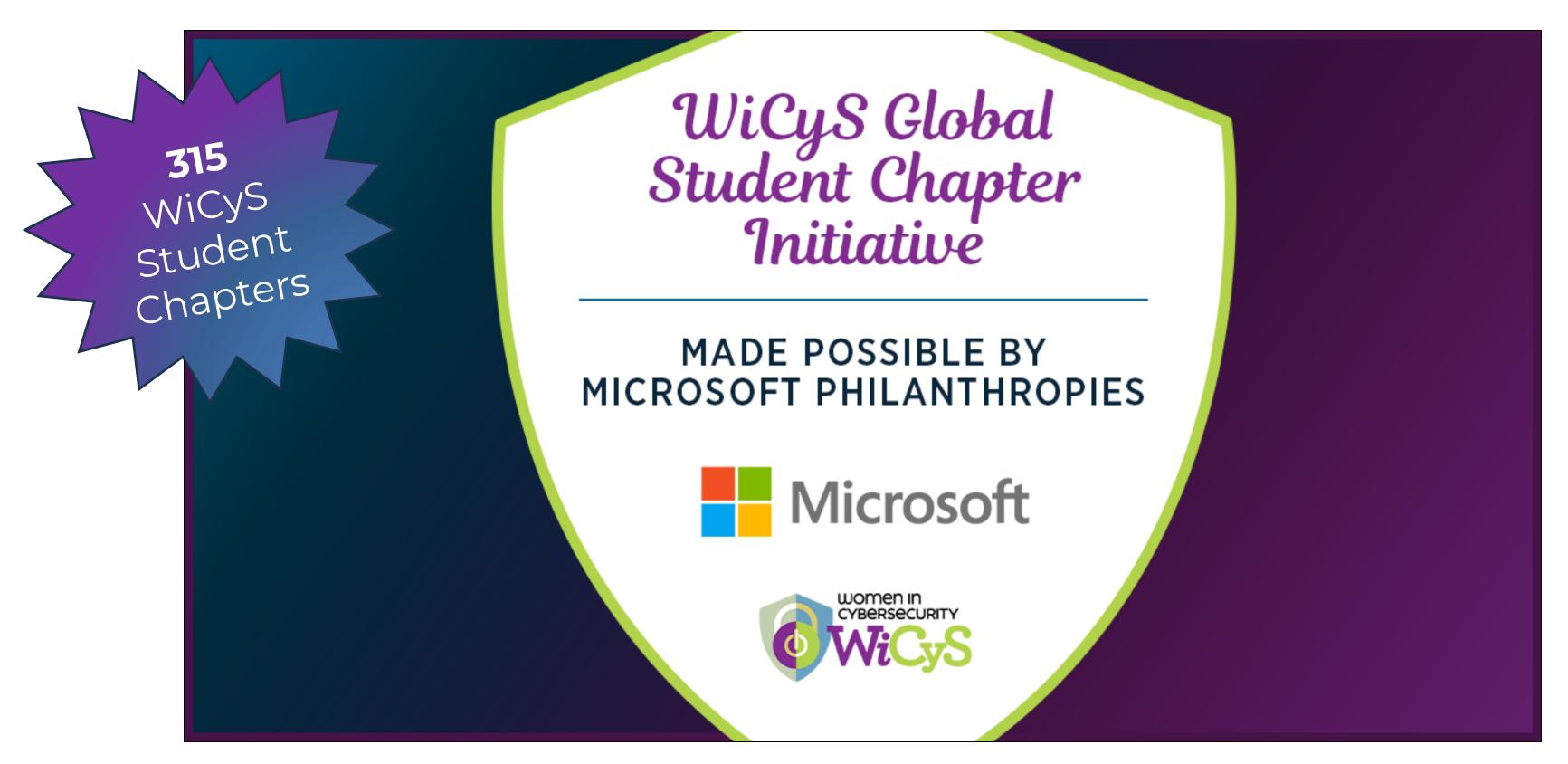
Spotlight Program

Program Runs from June 6, 2024-June 6, 2025



https://www.wicys.org/benefits/speaker-spotlight-program/





https://www.wicys.org/initiatives/wicys-global-student-chapter-initiative-made-possible-by-microsoft-philanthropies/



Special Thanks

WICYS STRATEGIC PARTNERS





INCLUSIVE LANGUAGE

Language is used every day without truly understanding the whole meaning of the phrases or the origins of our words. In recent years, there has been an increased awareness in the United States to understand better the phrases we use and how they have impacted marginalized communities today. Various industries are introducing inclusive language for their cybersecurity teams to transition to and incorporate in their roles.

This *inclusive language* resource is an ongoing document drafted by the WiCyS Racial Equity Committee for others to share with their cybersecurity teams. This collective effort will help shape the industry into one we can all be proud of as we move forward together.

COMMONLY USED:

Master Slave

Slave Blacklist Whitelist

White board

Whitebox testing Blackbox testing

Master Git branch Scrum Master

Crazy ex. "crazy outliers in the data"

Master Black Belt (Six Sigma)

(You) guys

Man Hours ex. "how many man hours..."

Man a booth, man a table, manpower

Chairman Grandfathered Blackhat hacker Whitehat hacker Native feature

Man-in-the-middle DMZ

Blackhole Blackout

Application whitelisting

Gray hat White-hat

Handicapped

TOGETHER, WE THRIVE!

This document provided through contributions of the WiCyS Racial Equity Committee

CHANGE TO:

Lead, Primary, Original Follow, Secondary, Replica Deny list, Blocklist Allow list, Approved list

Collaboration board, Ideation, Brainstorm

Open Testing Closed Testing

Main, Production, Release, Live branch

Scrum Lead/Manager

Check for completeness and clarity
Baffling ex. "baffling outliers in the data"

Six Sigma Expert

You all, team, folks

Hours ex. "how many hours..."
Staff a booth, staff a table, workforce

Chair of the board Exempt, rollover Unethical hacker Ethical hacker Built-in On-path

Perimeter network

Process vacuum or sinkhole Power failure or power loss Application control Semi-authorized

Authorized or legal or ethical

Impeded

www.wicys.org



INCLUSIVE MENTORING

Inclusive mentors are necessary to cultivate the space of respect and growth for women in cybersecurity to advance in their careers. Within the WiCyS Mentoring Cohort program, inclusive mentors selflessly commit their time, attention and focus on their mentee's success. WiCyS provides a curriculum that focuses on interpersonal and intrapersonal skills critical to gain influence in the workforce. The cohort and inclusive mentors provide the heart and soul.

SEVEN STEPS FOR INCLUSIVE MENTORING

- · Create a safe space
- · Don't impose your views
- Listen and facilitate
- Trust before everything else
- Engage everyone
- · Be authentic and vulnerable
- CELEBRATE!!!!
- Create a safe space: Inclusive Mentors enter the space of the cohort with an understanding that everyone is always working and growing personally and professionally (including themselves). They ensure that non-judgment, equity and allyship are exhibited throughout their sessions and lay the foundational groundwork of mutual respect.
- **Don't impose your views:** Inclusive Mentors take the time to relate to the mentee and find commonalities in interests and perspectives. They respect their mentees' points of view and celebrate the uniqueness of any differences.
- Listen and facilitate: Inclusive Mentors are facilitators of the mentor/mentee cohort conversation. They listen, pay attention and take notes while honoring everyone's unique experiences. Through genuine interest and curiosity, inclusive mentors are the conduit to the cohort and help establish long-term sustainable relationships amongst the cohort participants. The goal is not to advise but to facilitate productive conversations.
- Trust before everything else: Inclusive Mentors bring out the best in their mentees by establishing trust. Trust-building takes time but every step counts along the way. Inclusive mentors use preferred pronouns, pronounce names correctly and identify if someone would like to be addressed otherwise. They devote their time and attention to building trust and never deviating.
- Engage everyone: Inclusive Mentors pay attention and are equitable to all mentees within the cohort. They listen, allow equal speaking time, and minimize their own speaking time. Inclusive mentors never cut anyone off and encourage others to share their experiences in the conversation.
- Be authentic and vulnerable: Inclusive Mentors are authentic about their professional growth by sharing the grit and the glory (when appropriate). Inclusive mentors show up with their guard down; they leave judgment at the door and open up to vulnerability themselves. They acknowledge the power of navigating through the sometimes confusing cybersecurity career ecosystem and honor the journey along the way.
- CELEBRATE: Inclusive Mentors celebrate their mentee's personal and professional wins and recognize accomplishments along the way. They are their mentee's #1 champions and through these celebratory actions, encourage all mentees to champion one another throughout the program and in ongoing friendships.

TOGETHER, WE THRIVE!

This document provided through contributions of the WiCyS Racial Equity Committee and WiCyS Mentor/Mentee Committee www.wicys.org





HOW TO BE AN ALLY FOR WOMEN IN CYBERSECURITY

Allyship is empathy in action.

As allies, we learn about people's unique experiences, show empathy for them, and take action in support.

The following are essential actions for WiCyS allies to practice at our events, in your workplace, and in your communities.

HOW TO BE AN ALLY IN 5 STEPS

- · Learn, unlearn, relearn
- · Do no harm
- · Advocate for people
- . Stand up for what's right
- Lead the change
- Learn, unlearn, relearn. As allies, we build understanding and show empathy for women in cybersecurity. We pay attention to women's ideas. We seek to learn more about their unique identities and experiences. We also practice humility and recognize where we might have more to learn. We are open to unlearning what we thought we knew and relearning with a new perspective.
- **Do no harm.** As allies, we work to ensure we are not harming people through acts of exclusion like biases and microaggressions. We pause and check our assumptions before we speak or act. We avoid centering our own experiences as the norm. We also move past any fears we might have to take action as allies.
- Advocate for people. As allies, we are mentors, sponsors, and champions for the women around us. We open our networks, lend our power and influence, and give women new opportunities. We counter exclusion by actively showing we trust women, growing their confidence, and amplifying their voices and ideas.
- Stand up for what's right. As allies, we intervene when we witness biases, microaggressions, or other harm toward a woman. We interrupt interruptions, make space for women in conversations, and pause to acknowledge harmful words and actions. Rather than shaming, we call people in to learn, creating a safe space for everyone to grow.
- Lead the change. As allies, we model allyship and encourage other people to become allies. We investigate our day-to-day work and take action to become more equitable, inclusive, and accessible. When we notice systemic inequities, we work to change them. We share our learning journey and normalize allyship in the workplace.

WiCyS is taking the lead on building allies in cybersecurity, and we're excited for you to join us.

Thank you for leading the change to transform our WiCyS community and our industry.

TOGETHER, WE THRIVE!

These allyship definitions and actions were created by our partner, Melinda Briana Epler, Founder & CEO of Change Catalyst and author of How to Be an Ally.

www.wicys.org



WICYS INCLUSIVE LEADERSHIP

Inclusive leaders pave the way to create inclusive and equitable workplaces for women in cybersecurity.

The WiCyS State of Inclusion study, done in collaboration with Aleria, shows that women feel their leaders and managers are not doing enough to respect their skills and expertise, provide career and growth opportunities, develop access and participation, and recognize their ideas and achievements.

Let's change this together!

The following are 6 inclusive leadership actions you can take to lead the change at our events, in your workplace, and in your communities.

6 INCLUSIVE LEADERSHIP ACTIONS

- 1. Lead with empathy
- 2. Create safe team environments
- 3. Recognize ideas and achievements
- 4. Provide valuable feedback
- 5. Support professional development goals
- 6. Improve systems, processes and cultures
- Lead with empathy. Use curiosity to understand each woman's unique experiences, show empathy and respect for their experiences, and support them. Build team empathy through informal gatherings, DEI learning sessions and conversations where they genuinely get to know each other and don't talk about work.
- Create safe team environments. If women don't feel safe or respected by team members, they're less likely to take risks and contribute. Stand up for what's right and intervene when you observe or learn about exclusion. Interrupt interruptions, ensure full inclusion in conversations and build trust between team members.
- Recognize ideas and achievements. Actively listen to women's ideas and ensure they receive credit. Publicly acknowledge contributions to projects and career accomplishments. Show you trust women's expertise by seeking their advice, contributions and leadership.
- **Provide valuable feedback.** Women, especially women of color, tend to receive lower-quality feedback. This limits their ability to develop skills as leaders. Provide career-improving feedback on presentations and projects, as well as one-on-ones and annual reviews.
- Support professional development goals. Be transparent about the specific actions needed for promotions and raises. Check progress together in one-on-ones and reviews. Provide stretch assignments, speaking roles and leadership opportunities. Be their champion and recommend them for new opportunities.
- Improve systems, processes and cultures. Pursue opportunities to improve systems, processes and cultures to be more inclusive and equitable for women. Collaborate with diverse women and other leaders to assess and make improvements together.

WiCyS is taking the lead on building allies in cybersecurity, and we're excited for you to join us. Thank you for leading the change to transform our WiCyS community and our industry.

TOGETHER, WE THRIVE!

The WiCyS State of Inclusion Benchmark is being developed in collaboration with Aleria. The inclusive leadership actions were created in partnership with Melinda Briana Epler, Founder & CEO of Empovia and author of How to Be an Ally.









The Growth of the WiCyS Thriving Community

(as of 5.1.2025)

• Student Chapters: 315

• Professional Affiliates: 72

• Webinar Subscribers: 44.2K+

• Newsletter Subscribers: 38.1K+

• Members: 11K+

• Facebook: 7.3K+

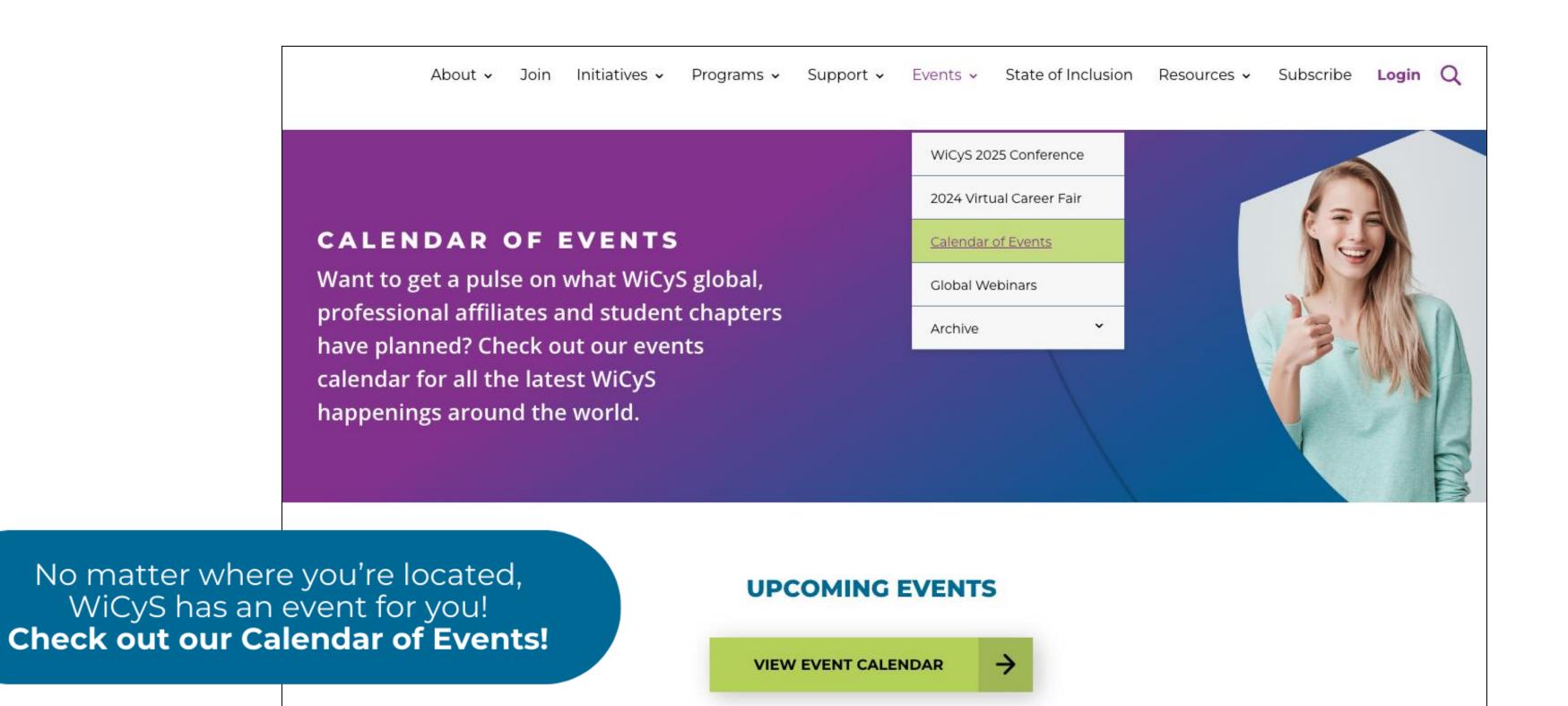
• Facebook Group: 14.3K+

• **Twitter:** 25.1K+

• Instagram: 12.3K+

• LinkedIn: 108.6K+





https://www.wicys.org/events/calendar/





Subscribe to the WiCyS Newsletter:

https://www.wicys.org/subscribe/



Let's climb this mountain together...



and as one woman rises, let's give the grace and space for others to rise as well.



Stay Connected!









Find us on YouTube

@WomeninCyberSecurityWiCySorg



