

The Tech Challenge Expands to Reno

Subtitle: Volunteers bring program to new state

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A Bay Area Tradition Finds a New Home

For nearly four decades, The Tech Challenge has inspired young people to think like engineers. This spring, that tradition reached a new community, with students in Reno, Nevada participating in the region's first-ever Tech Challenge Showcase.

Held on May 23, 2026, the event brought together approximately 30 students from across Reno to tackle this year's "Raise the Roof" engineering challenge. The inaugural event captured the same creativity that has defined The Tech Challenge.



Bringing The Tech Challenge to Reno

The effort was led by Reno volunteers and supporters of STEM education, working closely with The Tech Interactive to adapt the program for a new community. The Tech provided guidance, challenge materials, judging resources, and official testing rigs, making it possible for students in Reno to participate in an authentic Tech Challenge experience.



The response from families was overwhelmingly positive. Students embraced the opportunity to apply classroom concepts to a real-world design challenge. One student said, "I learned that I can achieve better things when I push myself hard enough." Another reflected: "I learned that encountering obstacles is doable with friends."

Several families who had previously participated in The Tech Challenge while living in the Bay Area were especially excited to see the program arrive in Reno, having experienced the fun firsthand.

Looking Ahead

The success of the first Tech Challenge in Reno shows that The Tech Challenge model can preserve the same spirit of curiosity, collaboration, and innovation that has made it a California staple for decades.

The Tech Interactive's willingness to share its expertise and support local organizers has opened the door for a new generation of students in Northern Nevada to experience the excitement of engineering.

We're excited to see where the Reno edition of the Tech Challenge goes next!

Links

- Reno Tech Challenge: <https://www.RenoTechChallenge.org>
- The Tech Challenge: <https://www.thetech.org/tech-challenge/>