



iNdigital Youth Collective

A helpful booklet

→ about the iNdigital Youth Collective ←

Formed through collaboration between imagineNATIVE and [ENAGB Indigenous Youth Agency](#), the iNdigital Youth Collective is a group of emerging digital and interactive artists, aged 12-24 and based around Ontario.

This collective operates with a collaborative spirit to engage Indigenous youth in a community-focused approach, fostering creativity, technical skill, and confidence. It is the mission of the iNdigital Youth Collective to empower Indigenous youth, growing the next generation of Indigenous voices in digital media.

During the first series of virtual programming in September 2020, artists were introduced to *Skins* workshops developed and produced by AbTeC as part of [The Initiative For Indigenous Futures](#) (IIF). These workshops were centred on the skills development in avatar and game design, character concepts, and interactive storytelling.

In 2021, the iYC iNdigital Youth Collective developed a series of characters reflecting their visions of possible Indigenous futures. These life-size vinyl characters were hosted in libraries across Tkaronto, on AbTeC Island in Second Life, and on the iNdigital Space.



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In 2022, the iYC Cohort learned Game Design skills through a series of workshops alongside Indigenous Mentors and Artists. The games and experiences they created was featured as part of an online exhibition and special showcase at the 2022 imagineNATIVE Film + Media Arts Festival.

For 2023, The iYC Cohort is about to dive headfirst into the captivating world of Game Design by building an interactive experience using the Bitsy Game Engine. Brace yourself for an exhilarating series of workshops with Indigenous mentors and talented artists, Pōhaikēaloha Panoke, Director and Producer, and Steve Diabo, Creative Technologist and Game Developer, all geared up for you to unlock your gaming developer potential.

It's time to level up and make your mark in the exciting realm of game design where the interactive experiences you create will be featured as part of an online exhibition as well as a special showcase at the imagineNATIVE Film + Media Arts Festival in October!

→ iNdigital staff members ←

The imagineNATIVE Programming Team is always available to you if you have any questions about the program, or just general inquiries about how we run our organization.

Kaitlynn Tomaselli

Programming Manager

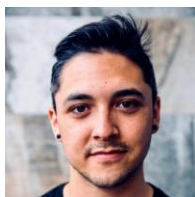
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Raquel Keshane-Watetch

Digital + Interactive Coordinator

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→ about the Game Developer Uncle ←



Maize Longboat is a digital media educator, producer, and videogame developer living in Tiohtià:ke/Montréal, QC. He is a Senior Partner Relations Manager at Unity Technologies. His debut video game [*Terra Nova*](#), a two-player cooperative narrative platformer inspired by Indigenous Futurisms, won the "Best Emerging Digital or Interactive Work" Award at the 2019 imagineNATIVE Film and Media Festival.



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→ about the Mentors ←



Steve Diabo is an interactive artist, creative technologist and maker from Kahnawà:ke. His works involve experimentations with immersion using vintage technology, installation art, creative interactive experiences, spray paint art, as well as VR and game development. Many of his works are focused on Indigenous culture, activism and awareness, and urban Indigenous life..



Pōhaikealoha is a Kanaka Maoli multimedia producer from Oahu, Hawaii, who strives to bring Native stories to life through passion for not only our stories but for their longevity far into the future. Working with various creative and interactive media, including games, animation, and recently film, Pōhai creates works that support the teachings and perpetuation of indigenous excellence.

→ scheduling ←

Date	Time	Activity
Mon June 12, 2023	4PM -5PM EST	Workshop 1 - Introduction to program & mentors
Mon June 19, 2023	4PM -7PM EST	Workshop 2 - Guest Artist Talk - Game Play Narrative
Mon June 26, 2023	4PM - 7PM EST	Workshop 3 - Introduction to Bitsy
Mon July 3, 2023	4PM -6PM EST	Workshop 4 - Bitsy Buildout
Mon July 10, 2023	4PM -7PM EST	Workshop 5 - Guest Artist Talk - Studio Session
Mon July 17, 2023	4PM -5PM EST	Celebration & Graduation!!

→the exhibition ←

This exhibition will be presented live at the TIFF Bell Lightbox in Tkaronto during the imagineNATIVE Festival in October, as well as online at the [iNdigital Space](https://www.imagineNATIVE.org/ndigital-space). We'll also



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be featuring you and your work in an iYC video showcase, expanding on your creative process and experiences in the cohort.

→ materials ←

Please be sure to fill out the consent form below. Check back here regularly - we will be attaching upcoming materials!

Important	Links
Workshop Files Folder (Lesson plan, slides, & more!)	https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1TBLCIvBAoGliQE1WLae16sm3XLGXmU-q?usp=sharing
Discord Server	https://discord.gg/QHAksZtb8y

→ responsibilities + expectations ←

To establish a positive and impactful experience, each Collective Member agrees to be:

- ★ Willing to participate
- ★ Open to learning
- ★ Committed to attending activities; if not - reaching out for alternative arrangements
- ★ Constructive in seeking and receiving feedback
- ★ In tune, taking time to reflect
- ★ Patient with yourself!

→ getting iNdigital toolkit ←

Programs that we work with:

Name	Description	Download link
Discord	Discord is a communication program that we will be connecting through to share	Mac Program Installers: https://drive.google.com/drive/folders



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	<p>work, and meet for workshops and mentoring periods.</p> <p>Join our iYC server here: https://discord.gg/QHAksZtb8y</p>	<p>/1eUkGxHovy-Apojoqy5RXZd7vkdvrvl9m?usp=sharing</p> <p>Windows Program Installers:</p> <p>https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1ONDStRFalfARtxilQR_eXZvm6a0Lzu9E?usp=sharing</p> <p>(Make sure you create a discord account if you don't have one already.)</p>
Bitsy	<p>bitsy is a little editor for little games or worlds. The goal is to make it easy to make games where you can walk around and talk to people and be somewhere.</p>	<p>https://bitsy.org/</p>
Twine	<p>Twine is an open source tool for telling interactive stories.</p>	<p>https://twinery.org/</p>

→ **resources + opportunities** ←

Please keep an eye out here as we will add resources and upcoming opportunities. If you have any questions or need any assistance please let us know.

- EQ Bank and their 2023 Emerging Digital Artists Award Open Call for Applications are now accepting, apply by June 15:
<https://edaa.eqbank.ca/how-to-apply/>
- Learn coding with the Indigenous Friends Association:
<https://www.indigenousfriends.org/indigital>
- Find more events and activities for Indigenous youth at Finding Our Power Together: <https://findingourpowertogether.com/>
- Find work and learn career skills through Miizwe Biik Aboriginal Training and Employment: <https://miziwebiik.com/>



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- Get scholarships through Indspire: <https://indspire.ca/>



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