

Molson Coors celebrates successful program with i.c.stars, building diverse tech workforce and inspiring innovation

Program cycle provides hands-on experience and career opportunities for students in Milwaukee

MILWAUKEE – July 26, 2023 – Molson Coors implemented another iteration of its yearly partnership with technology training nonprofit, Inner-City Computer Stars (i.c.stars), continuing to strengthen its commitment to diverse leaders and emerging technology. i.c.stars participants learn by building applications to solve client challenges through a 16-week training cycle. As the project sponsor, Molson Coors tasked students in cycle 12 with creating a revamped companywide internal human resources portal for increased access to HR information and support.

"The participants selected for the program consistently go above and beyond, exhibiting a strong drive to develop their skills and make a positive difference in their community," said Jonah Turner, head of emerging technologies, Molson Coors. "i.c.stars shares our commitment of fostering innovation and inclusivity in the workplace. Through this partnership, we have welcomed eight individuals from multiple cohorts onto our corporate IT team and in assignments across our network of breweries in Milwaukee, Golden, Fort Worth and Shenandoah."

Participants competed in small groups to develop an innovative technology solution for an updated HR portal and presented their recommendations to key stakeholders at Molson Coors from the IT and HR departments who were involved with the program. Designed to be engaging, user-friendly and easy to update, the winning idea incorporated self-serve options for employees to learn about pay and benefits, HR policies and career development resources.

"At i.c.stars, we understand the importance of equipping our graduates with more than just technical skills; we provide them with the tools and support necessary to excel in a professional environment, where they will encounter diverse management styles and people from different backgrounds," said Blanca Gonzales, executive director of i.c.stars Milwaukee. "Through our partnership with Molson Coors, participants receive networking opportunities and exposure to skills sought by potential employers. The program also facilitates deep relationships with companies, ensuring ongoing student success in the workplace."

Alumni Spotlight: Luz Mercado

The winning team for cycle 12 included alumni student and standout participant Luz Mercado. Luz, originally from Mexico, was raised in the south side of Milwaukee. She pursued her education at Cardinal Stritch University, focusing on Business Management and Communication. Luz was recently hired as a cloud automation developer for Molson Coors' Cloud Migration project.

Since 2020, Molson Coors has partnered with i.c.stars to identify, train and hire exceptional young adults who exhibit potential for success and community impact. After completing a rigorous 16-week training program, i.c.stars graduates receive on-the-job experience, mentorship and access to professional networks with Molson Coors and other corporate partners. i.c.stars, originally launched in Chicago more than 20 years ago, is free and offers participants a weekly stipend and a laptop. Since its introduction in Milwaukee in 2018, the program has trained nearly 200 individuals and is currently in its 13th cycle.



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Apart from its partnership with i.c.stars, Molson Coors is committed to investing in emerging technologies and continuous tech initiatives to enhance its operations, foster inventive solutions, and uplift the communities it serves. To learn more about Molson Coors, visit www.molsoncoors.com.

About Molson Coors

For more than two centuries, Molson Coors has been brewing beverages that unite people to celebrate all life's moments. From Coors Light, Miller Lite, Molson Canadian, Carling, and Staropramen to Coors Banquet, Blue Moon Belgian White, Blue Moon LightSky, Vizzy, Leinenkugel's Summer Shandy, Creemore Springs, Hop Valley and more, Molson Coors produces many beloved and iconic beer brands. While the company's history is rooted in beer, Molson Coors offers a modern portfolio that expands beyond the beer aisle as well. Our ESG strategy is focused on People and Planet with a strong commitment to raising industry standards and leaving a positive imprint on our employees, consumers, communities and the environment. To learn more about Molson Coors Beverage Company, visit molsoncoors.com, MolsonCoorsOurImprint.com or on Twitter through @MolsonCoors.

About i.c.stars

Inner-City Computer Stars (i.c.stars) is an educational and workforce development organization offering technology training, leadership development, and career readiness support to inner-city young adults. The curriculum aligns with workforce projections, leading to credentials that employers value. It also helps companies fill the growing number of tech positions while addressing the need for greater diversity and inclusion in the tech sector. i.c.stars nurtures leaders who drive change in their neighborhoods, support the economy, and build stronger communities. Learn more at icstars.org.

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