

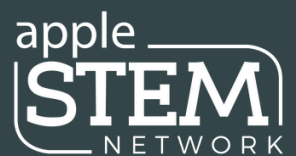
TUESDAY, AUGUST 11 | 8:30 AM - 5:30 PM
WENATCHEE CONVENTION CENTER
AND PYBUS PUBLIC MARKET

Ai | expo

ncwtech.org/ai-expo

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Time	Wenatchee Convention Center Fountain Room 3	Wenatchee Convention Center Fountain Room 2	Wenatchee Convention Center Fountain Room 1	Pybus Public Market Events Center	Pybus Public Market Boardroom
8:30AM - 9:00AM	Wenatchee Convention Center Doors Open - Check-in & Networking			Pybus Public Market Doors Open - Check-in & Networking	
9:00AM - 9:50AM	Cool Tools: Discover Your AI Toolkit <i>Bob Rapp & Ken Johnston</i>	From AI Experimentation to Enterprise Scale <i>Bob Allen</i>	From Messy Data to Smart Decisions: AI at Work <i>Frankie Topasna</i>	Getting Started with AI: Copilot 101, Cowork 101 & More <i>Fabi Tamez</i>	Introducción Práctica a la Inteligencia Artificial <i>Juan Servin</i>
10:00AM - 10:50AM	AI in Action: Put It to Work <i>Bob Rapp & Ken Johnston</i>	Values In, Values Out: Building AI That Reflects Your Organization <i>Drew Zabrocki & Martha King</i>	AI-Assisted Decision Making <i>Richard Koutouan</i>	Practical AI for Everyday Work <i>Spencer Strei</i>	Haz Que la IA Trabaje para Ti <i>Juan Servin</i>
11:00AM - 11:50AM	Know the Rules: Use AI Safely and Responsibly <i>Bob Rapp & Ken Johnston</i>	Everyday AI Use Cases <i>Pavan Gopal Bandla</i>	Hire Your AI Assistant <i>Erica Sponsler</i>	All Remaining Sessions at the Wenatchee Convention Center	
12:00PM - 1:00PM	Midday Break - Lunch on Your Own				
1:00PM - 4:30PM	Afternoon Plenary Keynote <i>Drew Zabrocki & Martha King</i> Use Case Showdown - <i>Sponsored by Microsoft</i> 4 Use Cases Presented Live with Q&A Leading Through Tech Transformation Panel Cowork 101 Demo - Microsoft Closing Session				
4:30PM - 5:30PM	Networking Reception <i>Hosted by Native Network</i>				

AFTERNOON PLENARY



Drew Zabrocki CEO and Founder

Drew Zabrocki is the founder of TOTEM Ltd., where he builds the shared infrastructure industries can't build alone: data governance, interoperability, and standards for multi-stakeholder coalitions. A Wenatchee local, he came up through the electrical trades and co-founded Genext and Centricity Global, which grew to 120 million acres across five continents. He co-leads the Supply Chain of the Future, chairs StageKids, serves on the ASTM F49 executive council, and is happiest on a ridgeline.



Martha King VP, Global Programs

Martha King is VP of Global Programs at TOTEM, where she co-leads the Supply Chain of the Future initiative and co-founded the Collaboratory for Open Software and Systems in Ag and Food (COSSAF). Previously, she led digital agriculture, supply chains, sustainability, and trade initiatives at Farm Foundation. Martha also co-owns a farm in central Illinois, bringing both strategic and practical perspectives to her work.



Scan the QR code to learn
more about today's workshops.



Chanel R. Hall (Moderator) Workforce Ecosystem Program Manager

Chanel R Hall is the Workforce Ecosystem Program Manager at the Technology Alliance, where she brings together leaders from technology, education, workforce, and policy to explore emerging opportunities and challenges. A proud Penn State alumna with a master's degree in chemistry, she is passionate about expanding pathways into STEM careers and curious about how AI is reshaping work and everyday life. She enjoys fostering meaningful conversations that connect people, ideas, and possibilities.



Aaron Parrott Performance & Programs Manager

Aaron Parrott is the Performance and Programs Manager at SkillSource in Wenatchee. He manages program policies, performance and compliance, grant management and reporting, labor market analysis, data systems, and technology. This supports SkillSource's mission to build workforce skills with business and one-stop partners to increase economic prosperity throughout North Central Washington and the Columbia Basin.



C. Becket Mahnke, M.D. Chief Medical Information Officer

C. Becket Mahnke, MD is Chief Medical Information Officer at Confluence Health and a practicing pediatric cardiologist. Board-certified in Clinical Informatics and a CMIO since 2016, he leads the responsible adoption of AI across the health system — ambient documentation, Epic AI tools, and Microsoft Copilot — and chairs Confluence's Clinical AI Ops Council. He serves on Epic's Physician Advisory Council.



Heather Hunter Director, Business Technology Solutions

Heather Hunter is the Director of Business Technology Solutions at Chelan County PUD, where she leads enterprise technology delivery, governance, and business modernization initiatives. With more than 20 years of experience leading digital transformation, she is passionate about helping organizations adopt emerging technologies, including AI, in ways that improve decision-making, strengthen stewardship, and create meaningful business value.



James Richmond Technology Services Director / Assistant City Manager

James Richmond is the Technology Services Director / Assistant City Manager for the City of Moses Lake, where he leads strategic modernization of city systems, including the integration of AI-driven tools to improve service delivery, automate workflows, and enhance cybersecurity resilience. With more than two decades in IT leadership and deep expertise in systems management and virtualization, James brings a practical, outcomes-focused approach to adopting emerging technologies that streamline operations and elevate the end-user experience.



Dr. Nik Bergman Superintendent

Dr. Nik Bergman has led Quincy School District as Superintendent since January 2022, drawing on two decades in Quincy as Assistant Superintendent, principal, and MLL teacher. He has strengthened instructional systems, coached educational leaders, and led AI literacy districtwide. A lifelong Eastern Washington resident with degrees from EWU, WSU, and Gonzaga, he and his wife Anne, a pediatric physical therapist, call Quincy Valley home while raising four kids in Quincy schools. Go Jacks!





Sheena Zacherle Creator/Owner

The lack of a nationwide mandate for high school financial literacy and the absence of hands-on financial education hits students from low-income backgrounds the hardest, reinforcing systemic inequality. By rebuilding an outdated Sheena Town simulation with AI, I created a web app that links digital banking directly to the physical costs of living. Sheena Town empowers students to practice real-world decision-making today and understanding the costs and how to navigate finances in the real world. It allowed me to bring my dream to reality and to provide an experience that does not exist for high schoolers.

Industry: Education/Finance

Website:



Franco Lopez III Founder & CEO

Many people in Central Washington struggle to find the specialized, ongoing support needed to improve metabolic health and manage chronic disease. Vanguard Metabolic Nutrition uses AI to transform over 14 years and 40,000+ hours of clinical expertise into standardized protocols, decision trees, personalized care tools, and evidence-based workflows. Combined with biometric data and our five-step Vanguard Metabolic Reset, AI tools help deliver consistent, individualized nutrition care while creating scalable education, training, and outreach materials that enable future dietitians and community health coaches to improve outcomes, expand access to care, and strengthen healthier communities across the region.

Industry: Healthcare

Website:



Dean Lester CEO

Death by suicide is the third leading cause of death for individuals between the ages of 15-29 worldwide. For 30 years, BTECH has been training therapists in Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT), which is the recommended treatment for suicidal individuals with emotion dysregulation disorders. However, our trainees have always had a challenge due to the lack of practice opportunities before meeting with high-risk clients. BTECH has now developed a solution using high-fidelity avatars, powered by AI, to provide a "flight simulator for therapists", providing them opportunities to rehearse, receive evaluations and get to the required standard more quickly, with fewer mistakes.

Industry: Behavioral Health

Website:



Steve Mantle Founder & CEO

A farm runs on a thousand signals. Soil, weather, canopy, crew hours, packout numbers, all competing for attention nobody has to spare. We built HarvestReplay™ to find what matters. Drawing on 12.3 million verified labor hours, it works backward from packout to every decision that shaped it, informing the what-ifs a grower weighs all season: audio briefs on cost per pound for the CFO, WhatsApp shift notes in Spanish for the crew lead. This is not a concept. It is in the field today with growers of every size, turning better packouts into farms that make it to next season.

Industry: Agriculture

Website:



Fan Favorite
Award

Ask. Vote. Choose the Fan Favorite.

See bold, practical AI solutions tackling real-world challenges, then rank the presenters who inspired you, challenged your thinking, or made the biggest impact. Your vote will help determine who takes home the \$4,000 Microsoft Fan Favorite Award.

You Decide the Fan Favorite

Scan the QR code to submit live questions while each presenter is on stage. After all four presentations, rank the finalists from 1st to 4th to cast your Fan Favorite vote. **Voting closes at 4:00 PM. One vote per person.**



Amber Wicks Datacenter Inventory & Asset Technician Manager

Amber Wicks is a Datacenter Inventory & Asset Technician Manager at Microsoft, leading logistics and inventory operations across multiple datacenter sites. She is passionate about operational excellence, safety, employee development, and building high-performing teams. Family-oriented and the proud mother of three children, Amber enjoys spending time with her family, photography, watching movies, and playing bingo. She is committed to fostering collaboration, continuous learning, and a positive team culture.



Bob Allen Founder/CEO

Bob Allen is a technology leader with over 25 years in computing and semiconductors. He founded AuditDog.AI to help enterprises avoid the governance, alignment, and technical gaps that derail AI initiatives. Previously, at Arm Holdings, he led global market development, strategic partnerships, and commercialization efforts across emerging sectors. Bob holds a Bachelor's degree in Physics from the University of Redlands.



Brooklyn Averill DECA President

Brooklyn Averill is a junior at Quincy High School, where she serves as President of their DECA chapter and as an officer for Sports Medicine Club and SkillsUSA CompSci. She also plays volleyball and tennis. This fall, she'll be starting Running Start at Wenatchee Valley College. She's especially interested in careers that blend medicine and technology. Outside of school, she enjoys traveling, trying new foods, and listening to music.



Claudia Backus Head of Marketing

Claudia Backus leads Marketing at Positron AI and a seasoned go-to-market strategist with 25+ years driving platform growth across some of technology's most iconic brands — Meta, Microsoft, Amazon, Barnes & Noble, and Motorola. She has built developer ecosystems, launched transformative products, and forged strategic partnerships that generated billions in revenue. A multilingual executive with a track record of turning emerging technologies into dominant market platforms, Claudia is recognized as one of the industry's foremost ecosystem architects.



Ken Johnston Cofounder

Ken Johnston is a Cofounder of the AiGovOps Foundation, a nonprofit practitioner community advancing AI Governance as Code. With over 30 years working at Microsoft and Ford in cloud engineering and data leadership, Ken brings a depth knowledge and experience to all groups he works with. Ken's upcoming book, *The Lean AI Handbook*, Pierson summer 2026, captures best practices for operationalizing AI at scale. He currently works as a governance advisor to key enterprise clients.



Nikki Medved Instructional Worksite Coordinator

Nikki Medved serves as the Instructional Worksite Learning Coordinator for North Central ESD 171, providing leadership in career-connected learning across North Central Washington. She partners with school districts, employers, higher education, and community organizations to expand innovative work-based learning opportunities that prepare students for high-demand careers. Nikki is passionate about building sustainable partnerships that connect education with workforce needs and create meaningful pathways to student success.



Fountain Room



Fabi Tamez Applied AI Technical Program Manager

Cowork 101: When AI Stops Chatting and Starts Working

Most people know AI as a chat box that answers questions. Cowork is what comes next: you hand it an entire task and get finished work back. In 10 minutes, Fabi shows a real everyday task go from a one-sentence request to a done deliverable, and what this shift means for how all of us will work.



Fountain Room 3



Bob Rapp Co-founder - AiGovOps Foundation



Ken Johnston Co-founder - AiGovOps Foundation



AI GovOps: A Three-Part Learning Series

Bob Rapp and Ken Johnston lead this engaging three-part series, bringing the humor, energy, and approachable teaching style that have made their workshops favorites at expos and conferences.

Workshop 1: Cool Tools: Discover Your AI Toolkit

Discover how to build AI-augmented workflows for everyday tasks across content, strategy, and analysis that are ideal for AI support. You'll compare top tools like Copilot, ChatGPT, Gemini, etc., and learn to match the right tool to each task. Walk away with 2-3 customized workflows.

Workshop 2: AI in Action: Put It to Work

Discover how to use AI for lesson planning, differentiation, and feedback. Build effective prompts, explore top tools like Copilot and Canva, and walk away with a sample lesson plan and curated educator resources.

Workshop 3: Know the Rules: Use AI Safely and Responsibly

Get a rapid-fire tour of top AI tools, why Copilot might be your best first pick, and bust common AI myths. Join a live prompt remix game and leave with go-to voices and communities for continued learning.

Fountain Room 2



Bob Allen Founder/CEO



From AI Experimentation to Enterprise Scale

Bob Allen, Founder and CEO of AuditDog.AI, explores why enterprise AI adoption is so difficult and the four phases organizations navigate from early experimentation to scale. Drawing on industry trends and real-world observations, he highlights the governance, operational, and organizational barriers that slow progress—and how strong leadership, alignment, and disciplined execution can accelerate success.

Fountain Room 1



Frankie Topasna IT Operations Manager



From Messy Data to Smart Decisions: AI at Work

Frankie Topasna, IT Operations Manager at Microsoft, explores how artificial intelligence can transform fragmented, inconsistent business data into meaningful insights that support informed decision-making. Through a realistic business expansion case study, participants follow a CEO's journey as they leverage Microsoft Copilot to assess disorganized financial reports, reconcile conflicting planning documents, and evaluate critical information needed to make a high-impact strategic decision.

Pybus Events Center



Fabi Tamez Applied AI Technical Program Manager



Getting Started with AI: Copilot 101, Cowork 101, Copilot on M365, and Scout 101

Fabi Tamez, Applied AI Technical Program Manager at Microsoft, leads this hands-on workshop where she will walk through four tools one at a time: Copilot, Copilot in Microsoft 365, Cowork, and Scout. For each one you'll learn what it's for, watch a quick live walkthrough, and try one small exercise yourself, so you leave having actually used every tool instead of just hearing about them.

Pybus Boardroom



Juan Servin Instructor de Tecnología



Introducción Práctica a la Inteligencia Artificial

Juan Servin, Instructor de Tecnología de NCW Tech Alliance, dirige esta introducción práctica a la inteligencia artificial para miembros de la comunidad que desean comprender mejor cómo funciona la IA y dónde se utiliza. Los participantes se irán con mayor confianza, conocimientos prácticos y un punto de partida claro para continuar su aprendizaje sobre la IA.



Scan the QR Code to learn more about today's workshops.

Fountain Room 2



Drew Zabrocki & Martha King

Values In, Values Out: Building AI That Reflects Your Organization

In this hands-on workshop, TOTEM's Drew Zabrocki and Martha King guide participants through a structured exercise to identify the core values of their organization — then show them how to embed those values directly into the AI tools, agents, and workflows they're already using. You'll leave with a working values set and a configured AI governance prompt you can put to use the same day. No technical background required — but bring your device.

Fountain Room 1



Richard Koutouan Budget Lead

Smarter Decisions, Better Results: AI-Assisted Decision Making

Richard Koutouan, Finance Manager at Microsoft, will lead you through real-world examples and live demonstrations, where participants will discover how AI can help analyze business performance, identify growth opportunities, improve business decision effectiveness, forecast cash flow, enhance customer service, and streamline daily operations.

Pybus Events Center



Spencer Strei Technical Solutions Manager

Practical AI for Everyday Work

Microsoft technical solutions manager Spencer Strei skips the buzzwords and goes straight to live demos. Some of it is the paperwork that eats your evenings: records, applications, reporting. Some of it is work nobody could do before at all, like asking hard questions of your own operation and getting a real answer back in seconds. No coding, no big investment, nothing you can't start Monday morning. You'll leave knowing what these tools are good at and where to start.

Pybus Boardroom



Juan Servin Instructor de Tecnología

Haz Que la IA Trabaje para Ti

Juan Servin, Instructor de Tecnología de NCW Tech Alliance, dirige este taller práctico diseñado para ayudar a propietarios de pequeñas empresas y miembros de la comunidad a utilizar la inteligencia artificial con mayor confianza. A través de demostraciones prácticas y actividades guiadas, los participantes aprenderán a elegir la herramienta de IA adecuada para cada tarea, redactar mejores instrucciones y reconocer cuándo la información generada por la IA puede ser incorrecta.

Fountain Room 2



Pavan Gopal Bandla Principal Software Engineering Manager

Everyday AI Use Cases

Pavan Gopal Bandla, Principal Software Engineering Manager at Microsoft, will guide you through real-world examples and live demonstrations, you'll learn how AI can help you save time, organize information, create content, make better decisions, and become more productive—regardless of your profession or technical background.

Fountain Room 1



Erica Sponsler Senior Software Engineer

Hire Your AI Assistant

Erica Sponsler, Senior Software Engineer at Microsoft, leads a live-build workshop where attendees use Microsoft Copilot to create a personalized context file describing who they are, how they work, and what they need. They will then deploy it as a personal assistant in Copilot Studio, accessible by phone or desktop after the session.

Survey



2026 AI EXPO ATTENDEE FEEDBACK SURVEY

Help us improve attendee experience. **Scan** the QR code to complete our brief survey to share what you enjoyed, what you learned, and what you would like to see next.



REQUEST A WORKSHOP AND OTHER RESOURCES

Ai² | learning

AI Learning That Meets You Where You Are

Build practical AI knowledge through customizable workshops designed for teams, organizations, and communities of 5 to 500 participants.

AI 101 courses are designed for beginners and anyone new to AI. **AI 201** courses help teams move beyond the basics and explore more strategic, real-world applications.

Each course includes a **Request This Class** button, and every workshop can be tailored to your organization, audience, goals, and use cases.



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to learn more or
request a class*

Ai² | in action toolkit

Explore the AI in Action Toolkit

Find practical guides, templates, training, lesson plans, podcasts, and trusted frameworks to help you understand and use AI.

Whether you are an educator, organizational leader, or curious learner, these free resources offer clear starting points, real-world examples, and tools you can put to work right away.



*Scan the QR Code
for the AI in Action
Toolkit*

October 7 | 10 AM - 6 PM

Big Bend Community College, Moses Lake

NORTH CENTRAL WASHINGTON Cybersecurity Summit



Explore practical cybersecurity strategies through sessions designed for technology professionals, business and community leaders, educators, nonprofits, and everyday technology users. Then, celebrate organizations advancing digital access across North Central Washington at the Tech Trailblazers Reception.

*Scan the QR Code to
reserve your spot*



JOIN NCW TECH
ALLIANCE FOR THE

25TH ANNUAL INNOVATOR AWARDS LUNCHEON

WHO INSPIRES YOU?

We are celebrating the drive, passion & spirit of innovators in North Central Washington.

NOMINATIONS ARE OPEN!

**Nominate
an innovator
today!**



**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2026
11:30 AM - 1:30 PM
WENATCHEE CONVENTION CENTER
RESERVE YOUR SEAT**

NCWTECH.INFO/INNOVATORS