Using technology to break down barriers and connect the leaders of tomorrow.

PRESSKIT

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USING TECHNOLOGY TO BREAK DOWN BARRIERS AND CONNECT THE LEADERS OF TOMORROW.
756,000

open IT jobs in Europe by 2020

Source: eskills4jobs
open IT jobs in Germany 2016
Source: Bitkom
and...
1.091.894

refugees arriving in Germany

7 Months

Average refugee waiting time in Germany

Source: Federal Office of Migration (2014)
WIN
WIN
WIN
€
Earth
Smiley face
Industry
Society
Refugee
ReDI School of Digital Integration was founded in February 2016 by a team convinced that technology can bring people together to build new solutions to old problems.

We believe integration starts with a "Hello" - People meeting around a shared interest. Indeed, the idea of ReDI School was sparked by a conversation on a warm August day in 2015 in a refugee home in Berlin. Here, we realized that amongst the newcomers there are incredible IT-talents eager to learn, who want to contribute to Germany's society and who could help fill the 43,000 open IT-jobs in Germany.

From Insight to Action

From the beginning, our school has been developed through co-creation between the Berlin tech community and our students. Since then, we've grown into a non-profit social enterprise offering several 3-months IT-programs, workshops, corporate training projects as well as short term summer courses. We have also helped incubate 3 startups!

Our aim is to provide our students with valuable digital skills and a strong network of tech leaders, students and alumni to help create new opportunities for all.
Co-creation along the whole journey
Pilot class December 2015
Brainstorming ideas
6 classes * 3 days/week* 4 months
Demo Day June 9th
Graduation
Anne Kjær Riechert is a 2006 graduate from the prestigious social innovation and change management education KaosPilot in Denmark.

From 2006-2009 she worked as creative lead and corporate social responsibility consultant for the Copenhagen-based brand strategy company Stoic.

In July 2010, Anne moved to Japan, when she was entrusted with the prestigious Rotary Peace Fellowship. In 2012 Anne moved to Berlin to set up the Berlin Peace Innovation Lab in collaboration with Stanford University.

The lab focuses on how technology is facilitating emerging and measurable social change toward global peace.

In response to the refugee crises, Anne co-founded Refugees on Rails in the summer of 2015, to help integrate refugees into the European tech scene. The project later developed into a vocational training program teaching basic and advanced programming skills to asylum seekers to get them job ready. Since January 2016 Anne is managing director of the program, called “ReDI School of Digital Integration”.

Ferdi van Heerden is bush baby turned business designer with a passion for delivering social impact. Born in Phalaborwa South Africa, Ferdi operates internationally as a change agent by applying values driven, Human Centered Design. This passion and focus has resulted in co-founding the ReDI school of integration as COO.

Ferdi has served on the global boards of both Speedo International and Steilmann. In his individual capacity Ferdi has consulted global clients such as Instagram, WPP (Acceleration), Microsoft, Etsy, Helsinki University, Gestalten Verlag and the New Zealand government. Prior to that he worked as a Business Designer at IDEO working extensively with teams in Munich, London and New York on a diverse range of innovation projects.

As a father of three, Ferdi firmly believes in the long term difference that human centered education and the connection with personal purpose can make in the shape and equity of society.
Encouraging entrepreneurship...

ReDI School of Digital Integration started teaching classes on February 21, 2016. We offer our students high-quality training and the chance to collaborate with the startup and digital industry. At ReDI, a combination of Readiness and Digital Integration, we equip our students with laptops, workstations in co-working spaces and access to technical mentors to work in project groups.

The first classes started with more than forty students. Most were originally from Syria, but students from Afghanistan, Eritrea, Iraq, Tunisia and Lesotho were also represented. 35 of them stucked with us to the end and graduated successfully.

Today, our alumni started internships at companies like Cisco and Klöckner & Co, or moved on to start their own ventures: Let’s Integrate, Bureaucrazy and Jasmin, the original taste of Syria.
SOCIAL IMPACT

Total class and mentorship contact time  544 hours
Total workshops  123 hours
Total student contact time  667 hours
Total number of classes  74
Total number of Mentorship sessions  161
Total number of events/workshops  29
Total of event/workshop time  264 hours
Let’s Integrate is a matching platform for newcomers and locals to meet and organize joint activities.
Bureaucrazy is an app that simplifies the process of filling in bureaucratic forms in order to spare the time applicants and the authorities spent on work hours.
Jasmin is a catering service, where illiterate women, with little chance of employment in Germany, can earn a living through their cooking skills.
As seen on….

**AJ**
From war zones to coding school – these refugees are aiming for jobs in Germany's IT industry.

**CNN**
Last Look: Refugee coding school

**Handelsblatt**
Wie der Stahlhändler Klöco dem Facebook-Chef zuvorkam

**DIE ZEIT**
Eben noch Flüchtling, jetzt Unternehmer
"Priscilla and I visited the REDI School of Digital Integration in Berlin - a non-profit that teaches refugees to code. Being able to meet with students from Syria was one of the highlights of my visit to Germany and I was impressed by their courage and determination."

Mark Zuckerberg, Founder & CEO Facebook Inc.
What our community has to say....

"The best thing about ReDI isn’t the coding part, but the atmosphere it provides us with. After arriving here, hollowed, lost and purposeless, ReDI school motivated and energized me, in a way I never thought possible, to get back on my feet again and start fresh in Germany."

Ghaith Zamrik, ReDI Student and Co-founder of Bureaucrazy App
"Our students are an amazingly talented, resourceful and motivated group. Through this project we help them realize their potential, and give them a clear path into the future. I feel honoured to be allowed to contribute to their growth."

Sebastian Probst Eide, Teacher and CTO of a Berlin based Startup
An eco-system of partners
Images and Logos...

Following this link (http://bit.ly/1SMSeXn), you get access to images you can use. Please make sure to credit the talented photographer, Ben Fuchs - benfuchs.de.
Contact us

Anne Kjaer Riechert
Co-founder and Managing Director

Email: press@redi-school.org
Thank you

ReDI School of Digital Integration

First Class 2016