

Next Generation Tech – Advice from InSite, 2018-2019 First Place Winners

Hello Next Gen Tech competitors! Matthew Werneken here, Project Manager of team InSite. I'm going to be working with our team of four to bring you the best advice we've got throughout the NGT season. Strap in for a wild ride; Next Gen Tech is going to be a journey you won't regret!

Who are you? What is InSite?

InSite is a brainstorming and idea accountability tool developed over seven months of Next Gen Tech mentorship and preparation. Our team of four took full advantage of the resources NGT offered, constantly connecting with new mentors, attending tech conferences in Tampa, and improving our own skill sets to bring the judges a working product at the end of the day. We're passionate about sharing the knowledge we have gained over the past year and excited to document our thoughts to help you grow.

Why join Next Gen Tech?

You've read this far. Chances are that you're a student looking for opportunity, and you've come to the right place. Next Gen Tech attracts successful students because it promotes the qualities that are needed to "get somewhere" in today's competitive world. It isn't about grant money or college applications – in the end, these are both mediums for achieving the success that NGT promotes reaching *now*. You aren't too young to take your ideas to the stage, but to get in front of the crowd you need connections and experience. Next Gen Tech is your chance to connect with *phenomenal* mentors from every tech/business industry in Tampa Bay and push your adaptability to its limits. These are opportunities every student in the world should have the chance to jump at, but right now only a select few (that's you!) do. Don't pass it up!

The Application

Alright, so you're in! I can't wait to connect with you (find me at workshops! Say hi, ask me questions!) and see your idea grow. It's important to note that *every* product will diverge from the plan over the course of your innovation. When the InSite team looked back at our initial application at the end of the program, we had submitted an *entirely different* problem AND solution to start our journey. The fantastic people behind the scenes of NGT aren't looking for an application to reject. They're looking for your passion to show through your ideas. Nobody will be denied based on their idea or their application – it's to get you to start thinking and innovating now! Don't make the application a barrier, but an enjoyable challenge to start your life-changing experience in Next Gen Tech!

Keep an eye out for future posts from our team and mentors! Above all: Take advantage of your mentors' experience! Ask questions! Always innovate!

See you at Workshop 1!

– Matthew Werneken, InSite Project Manager