





ACCESSIBLE TO ALL

# 2024 Annual Report







# Executive Summary



In less than a year, Research Girl grew from a single-member start-up to an international non-profit organization that serves students across the globe.

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MISSION & VISION



KEY ACHIEVEMENTS



FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

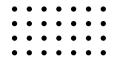


GOALS FOR 2026



CALL TO ACTION

# Letter from the CEO



When I started Research Girl, it wasn't with a team, investors, or any expectation about what the next year would bring. It was just me—one young woman with a dream to make science feel a little less lonely for people like me.

I created Research Girl because I knew how isolating it can feel to be the only woman, the only neurodivergent student, or the only low-income scientist in a lab or lecture hall. I knew what it felt like to love science deeply but not see yourself reflected in the field you hoped to one day belong to.

And I also knew that community could change everything.

This past year has been nothing short of extraordinary. What started as a quiet hope has grown into a global community. I've witnessed mentees secure their first research positions, watched strangers become collaborators and friends, and heard stories from students who, for the first time, feel that they truly belong in science.

But more than anything, I've been reminded—again and again—why we do this. We do this for the students who have been told that science isn't for them. For the girls who want to be researchers but don't know where to start. For the young people who need just one person to believe in them.

We've built something real this year. Not just programs or panels, but a movement—a home—for those who've felt pushed to the margins of science for too long.

To every volunteer, mentor, partner, and supporter: thank you. Your belief in this mission, and in me, has meant more than I can ever put into words.

We're only at the beginning. And I can't wait to show you what comes next.

With endless gratitude,

Mia Soviero

Mia Soviero Founder & CEO, Research Girl

# Key Achievements 2024

#### Launch of Events and Initiatives to Diversify STEM

In 2024, Research Girl hosted our inaugural SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH MENTORSHIP PROGRAM, with over 150 mentors and mentees in our Fall season, and nearly 175 mentors and mentees accepted into our Spring season. Every mentee in this program was underrepresented in science. We also partnered with six organizations and co-hosted four educational events.

#### **Growth of Research Girl's Brand and Presence**

Research Girl has grown into an international organization, with over 23,000 website visitors from over 140 countries. Our social media presence has also grown from 0 to 2,000 followers on Instagram, and 0 to 2,500 followers on LinkedIn.

#### **Development of the Internal Team**

From its humble beginnings with founder and CEO Mia Soviero being the only volunteer, Research Girl has grown to house over 300 volunteer mentors, 18 volunteer internal team members, and 4 members of the Board of Directors.

### Impact Metrics

2024

**Website Visits** 

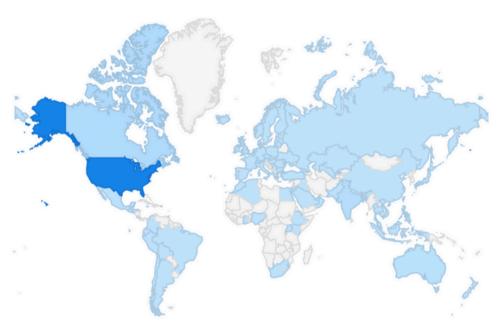
Students Who Attended Our Events + Mentorship

23,000

**Countries Reached** 

350+

140+



Our most impacted countries, in order of impact from greatest to least, include the United States, Australia, Ireland, Canada, Singapore, Pakistan, India, Egypt, Colombia, Peru, Hungary, Malaysia, and Mexico

(where at least 150 individuals per country have accessed our resources)

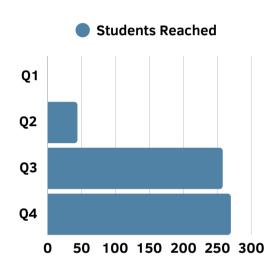
### Impact Metrics

# 2024

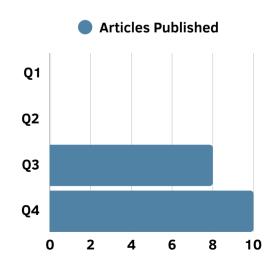
#### **Website Visitors**

# Number of Clicks Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4 O 100 200 300 600 600 600 7000

#### **Event Attendees**



#### **Blog Publications**



Our resources database grew from 0 to 20 resources, including coding tutorials, templates, and guiding questions.

# Community Engagement



#### International Young Researchers Conference

Research Girl was the featured panelist at the 10<sup>th</sup> International Young Researchers Conference, hosted at Columbia University Vagelos College of Physicians and Surgeons on December 7, 2024. The RG team presented about current STEM demographics and Research Girl resources to diversify the scientific research field.

#### Youth STEM Initiative

In collaboration with Youth STEM Initiative, Research Girl is hosting a series of **coding workshops**, **including R Studio**, **MatLab**, **Python**, **and more**. These workshops, held virtually, are conducted with the goal of making coding education more accessible worldwide.

#### Project Level the Field and Harvard Brain Science Initiative

Alongside Project Level the Field, we invited our Research Girl community to two seminars at the Harvard Brain Science Initiative. Held on July 24, 2024 and September 19, 2024, these seminars explored topics in neuroscience.







# Community Engagement .....

#### Psi Chi International Honor Society in Turkey

For International Women's Day, founder and CEO Mia Soviero gave a lecture about gender disparities in STEM in Turkey, for the Psi Chi International Honor Society chapter at Ozyegin University.

#### Other Engagements

- Independent Research Project Group with Youth STEM Initiative
  - o Opens April 15, 2025
- Lecture about diversifying STEM for University of Connecticut's NeuroConn club
  - o March 26, 2025
- Panelist at the WiSTEM Breakthrough Career Panel
  - March 23, 2025
- Lecture about RG resources for the John Jay College of Criminal Justice
  - November 18, 2024

#### **Our Partners**















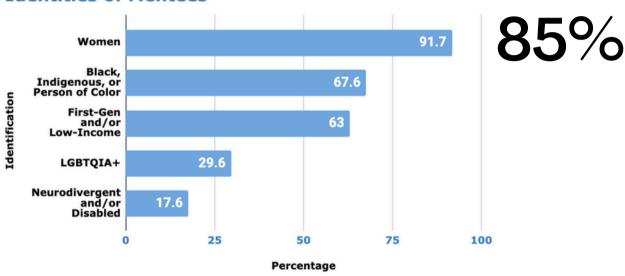




## Mentorship Program

#### **Match Success Rate**

#### **Identities of Mentees**



Our Fall 2024 Mentorship Program hosted **109** mentees, who were **91.7% women**, **67.6% BIPOC**, **63% FGLI**, **29.6% LGBTQIA+**, and **17.6%** neurodivergent or disabled.

"I like that I was matched to my mentee not only according to our research interests, but also our demographics and cultural backgrounds."

"My mentor is organized, resourceful, and incredibly helpful! I couldn't be happier with my match."

"My mentor found me my first research job! It was not only perfect for my scientific interests, but also my cultural background."

"To this day, my mentor is the person I go to for career advice."

# Our Site Contributors



TEM Content Contributor



STEM Content Contributor



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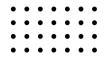
STEM Content Contributor Neuroscience



STEM Content Contributor

### **Financial**

### Overview



#### **DONATIONS**

Period	Highest	Total
Q1	\$ 0	<b>\$</b> 0
Q2	\$ 0	\$ 0
Q3	\$ 100	\$ 100
Q4	\$ 500	\$ 1750

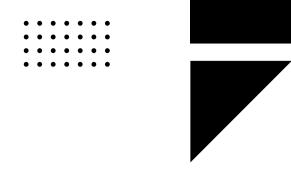
#### **TOTAL SPENT**

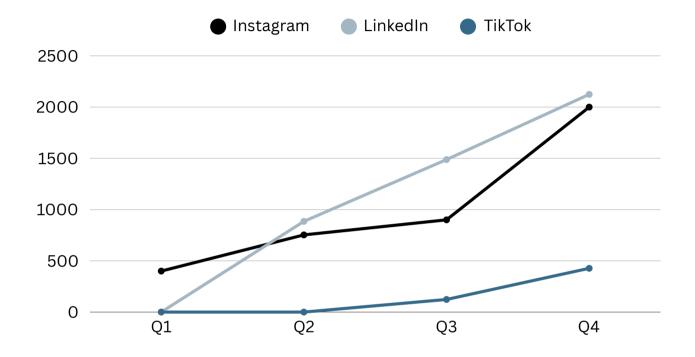
#### **EXPENSE CATEGORY**

Legal Start-Up	\$ 1438.00	
Administrative	\$ 246.21	
Programming	\$ 1142.61	
Marketing	\$ 193.01	
Total	\$ 3019.83	

Research Girl officially launched in May 2024. Many of our expenses were due to start-up costs. During the first year of any new initiative, start-up costs normally exceed the expected revenue. But over 2025, we are ramping up our fundraising to ensure that all programming and operations will be not only covered but exceeded, to ensure our continued expansion.

# Digital Presence





Research Girl has grown its digital presence from zero to about 5,000 followers across our three platforms. We have also recruited a team of content creators that send in video and graphics content for our TikTok, Instagram, and LinkedIn on a biweekly basis.



# Our Goals For 2026

#### **Increase Fundraising Efforts**

Currently, Research Girl is applying to local, national, and international grants and awards, to cover the cost of programming and resources. In the future, we aim to fund stipends for students to get hands-on research opportunities.

#### **Host A Research Girl Conference**

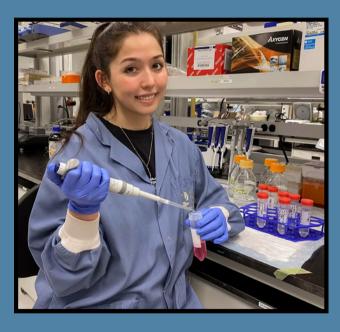
We aim to host our inaugural Research Girl Scientific Research Conference, specifically aimed at underrepresented groups in STEM. Students will have the opportunity to present their research and network with professionals. We will also host educational lectures and panels.

#### **Expand Our Reach**

Research Girl aims to leverage its social media presence and affiliations with other organizations in order to expand our reach to more countries. As part of this goal, we aim to launch chapters in various cities, beginning in the United States and eventually extending worldwide.

## Acknowledgements

The Research Girl Internal Team would like to thank our volunteers, sponsors, and affiliated organizations for helping us achieve such incredible growth in the year of 2024. Without your support, it wouldn't have been possible to reach so many students and provide them with free resources.









# How To Get Involved



Contibute to the diversification of the scientific field!







