

Inaugural Update 2023-24

A Year of Milestones and Momentum

October 2024 / Los Angeles, CA

A Year in Review

The Learning Transformation Studios was founded with the visionary goal of leveraging the creative economy, while closely aligning with the University's charter, to foster educational transformation in Los Angeles and California.

In the year since, we have begun realizing this goal by positioning ourselves as an interstitial force – bridging organizational gaps and driving innovation by being adaptable, inclusive, and focused on leveraging ASU's resources to meet the needs of our partners.

As we move forward, we remain committed to fulfilling our unique purpose and contributing significantly to the continued success and growth of the University.

The following update highlights key milestones from this past year and outlines a plan to build on the momentum going forward.

Onward,



Alan Arkatov

*Executive Director, Learning Transformation Studios
Senior Advisor to President Crow*



Key Milestones



Driving Innovation and Awareness

Leveraging our expertise as thought partners, conveners, and interdisciplinary connectors, the Studios focused on efforts to **boost innovation and awareness** of ASU in Los Angeles, California, and beyond.



Building Partnerships

From the very beginning, our strategies focused on **building trust and relationships across the complex systems** in which we operate – both across ASU and externally across the educational ecosystem.



Leveraging ASU Resources

We understood that **harnessing ASU's commitment to innovation and ethos of entrepreneurship** would be essential to achieving our goals.

KEY MILESTONE

Driving Innovation and Awareness

In LA, California, and beyond, our efforts to drive awareness and engagement across the educational spectrum have been met with enthusiasm, participation, and results. From demonstration projects to rapid cycle research, executive retreats and specialized gatherings, we have ignited conversations and addressed issues that matter. Looking ahead, the planned summits and engagements for the coming year are set to further this momentum.



Events

In 2023-24, the Studios hosted more than a dozen events that convened more than 1000+ influentials.

Many of these events were designed and hosted with partner organizations, including (but not limited to):

- LAUSD, LACOE, LACCD
- GSV
- NAMLE
- Media, industry, and nonprofit organizations
- Local, state, and federal government

The Studios focused growing awareness of ASU's physical spaces in LA by hosting 50+ tours in addition to holding offsites at several partner locations. These include (but not limited to):

- Congresswoman, Sydney Kamlager-Dove
- LAUSD Superintendent, Alberto Carvalho
- LACOE Board President, Yvonne Chan
- Landscape Architect, Mia Lehrer
- Frank Gehry Partners
- Colburn School President, Sel Kardan
- LACCD Chancellor, Francisco Rodriguez



ASU+GSV 2024 Media Literacy Panel



LACOE AI Task Force Event



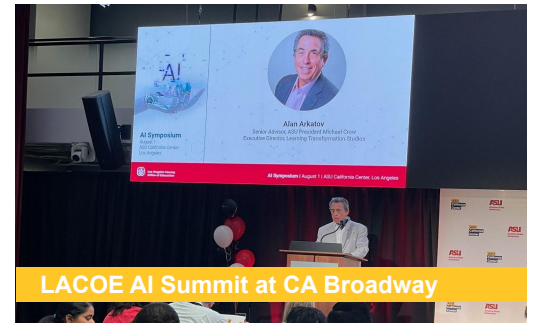
LAUSD Board Retreat



Congresswoman Kamlager-Dove



NAMLE Media Literacy Summit



LACOE AI Summit at CA Broadway

Notably, many Studios events focused on edge-pushing, consequential issues of our time – such as workforce development, sustainability, and wellbeing.



KEY MILESTONE

Building Partnerships

Collaboration is at the heart of all we do. Over the last year, we have successfully strengthened our network through strategic relationship-building with a wide array of leaders, influencers, and organizations. Our target stakeholders include decision-makers and experts across pK-12 and higher education, technology, media, entertainment, business, government, and nonprofit organizations, among others.



300+

Orchestrated Connections

We engaged a wide variety of internal and external groups in LA, California, and beyond who might not normally collaborate. For example:

- ASU + GSV India
- Dreamscape + Glendale CC
- HIDA + LACHSA
- Axio + LACCD
- Alice Waters / Edible Schoolyard + ASU-GSV
- MLFTC + Teach for America
- Colburn School + ASU Prep

15

Sectors Engaged

Including (but not limited to):

- pK-12 & Higher Education
- Technology & AI
- Healthcare/Wellbeing
- Philanthropy
- Media & Media Literacy
- Sustainability
- Sports
- Arts

External Partners

Including (but not limited to):

- Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD)
- LA County Office of Education (LACOE)
- LA Community College District (LACCD)
- LA Area Archdiocese Schools
- LA Economic Development Corporation
- Colburn School
- CA Charters Schools Assoc.
- LA County High School for the Arts & Colburn School
- CA Charters Schools Assoc.
- International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE)
- Exposition Park
- National Associations for Media Literacy Education (NAMLE)
- USC
- UCLA
- Happiest Baby
- Project Tomorrow

Internal Partners

Including (but not limited to):

- Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication
- Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts
- Thunderbird School of Global Management
- Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College
- EdPlus
- Edson College of Nursing and Health
- Prep Digital
- Luminosity
- Realms 1-5 and most Schools & Divisions
- Media Enterprises
- CEN
- Cintana
- Over 250+ faculty and staff

Case Studies

The following examples are a representative sample of existing and emerging Studios partnerships.

LACOE Partnership on AI Integration

With the rapid onset of AI tools and questions about how and why AI might be used in classrooms, LACOE (largest county office of education in the US, representing almost 2 million students) engaged the Studios for guidance in navigating the moment.

The Studios joined LACOE's AI Task Force for the 2023-24 academic year and contributed to a set of standards around AI use, considerations, and impact in schools and classrooms.

What resulted was the release of [LACOE's AI Guidelines](#) in June 2024, with a launch event hosted at ASU's CA Center Grand, and a more strategic and responsible approach to AI integration in LA County schools.

Main components:

- Members of LACOE's AI Task Force, helping to advise 80 school districts in LA County and generating a set of AI Education guidelines.
- Partnered with LACOE and [Project Tomorrow](#) to launch a [needs assessment](#) on Generative AI across the district.
- Hosted LACOE in August 2024 at ASU's CA Center Broadway for a [full-day symposium](#) about AI in teaching and learning.

Innovation Hub

In late 2023, LAUSD expressed the desire for a physical space where education leaders, teachers, families, and students could come to experiment with ed tech products, to try them out before piloting in schools.

In the months since, the Studios has worked with partners at LAUSD, LACOE, ISTE, HIDA, and Luminosity Lab to conceptualize and strategize around an "Innovation Hub" that could increase awareness of edtech-enabled tools, boost motivation among educators and leaders, and improve the chance of success for new ed tech implemented in schools.

Alongside LAUSD, the Studios is actively seeking funding partners and physical sites for the project.

Main components:

- Bringing together stakeholders inside and outside the university
- Rapid cycle iteration of concept design
- Platform for featuring ASU education technology assets, including [Dreamscape Learn](#), [Khan World School](#), [SNOO](#) and [Axio](#).

KEY MILESTONE

Leveraging ASU Resources

The Studios capitalized on our unique position to connect ASU with key stakeholders, harnessing the expertise of ASU's Teaching and Learning Realms, Knowledge Core, and University Enterprises to amplify the university's impact. This has yielded a strong foundation for evolving ASU's internal systems and improving its ability to positively influence others in the education sector and beyond.



Case Studies

The following examples are a representative sample of existing and emerging initiatives the Studios is helping lead at ASU.

Media Literacy Task Force and Initiative

Conceived and executed by the Studios, ASU leadership recognized the urgent need to equip university students, faculty, and staff with the skills and mindsets to navigate the current media climate.

The Studios partnered with the Provost's Office to convene a university-wide Media Literacy Task Force. Leaning into its role as an interstitial partner, the Studios led the interdisciplinary group of sixty staff and faculty who were tasked with identifying strategies that ASU could adopt to strengthen media literacy skills and knowledge among its students and educators.

What resulted was an actionable set of recommendations – endorsed by the Provost – to research, operationalize, and scale media literacy efforts across ASU.

Future outcomes:

- Implementation of the three task-force working group recommendations
- K-12 recommendations: Partner with LAUSD, LACOE, and school districts across California and the nation to develop media literacy curriculum and tools.
- Higher Education framework: Collaborate with the American Council on Education to create a template and repository for media literacy education at colleges and universities.

Y1 Initiative

The Y1 (Year One) Initiative aims to deepen our understanding of early childhood development and family well-being, addressing existing research gaps in the study of health, education, and social welfare outcomes for babies and families during the first year of life.

Using an interdisciplinary approach and leveraging innovative products, policies, technology solutions and ASU's Principled Innovation framework, the initiative will identify and accelerate research opportunities and solutions for addressing the challenges facing children and their families during this critical period. Co-led by the leaders from ASU's College of Health Solutions and College of Nursing and Health Innovation, a Steering Committee is helping to guide the vision and goals of the Initiative and design the first major summit of interdisciplinary partners in early 2025.

Ultimately, the Studios' approach focuses on translating research into practical and actionable strategies for improving early childhood development, family well-being, effective and efficient use of technology, and public health policy.

Future outcomes:

- Working with key ASU partners including Health, Nursing, Wellness, Public Health, Engineering, Business, and Education.
- Aligning with key external partners, including for-profit, nonprofit, health, and tech companies for marketing and fundraising.
- Utilizing 650+ million hours of sleep data from SNOO.

The Next Phase

Our journey is just beginning. The landscape in which we operate is rapidly evolving while our commitment to innovation and collaboration only deepens. Given the Studios' unique position as a unique University bridge to challenges and opportunities, we will continue to leverage innovation, foster strategic partnerships, and remain agile and proactive in our work.



Studios Goals for 2024-25

1

Driving innovation and awareness by increasing the number of events held throughout ASU and prioritizing events and initiatives that focus on provocative, urgent, and cross-disciplinary topics.

2

Cultivating deeper, mutually beneficial relationships that result in formalized agreements with our core partners to create lasting impact in LA, California, and beyond.

3

Leveraging ASU resources to increase enrollments, influence program development and public policy, and generate general and initiative-specific advancement opportunities for the Studios and University.



ASU Learning Transformation
Studios
Arizona State University

Connect with Us!

To collaborate with the Studios, [send us a note](#).

For more information about our team and work, [visit our website](#).

For questions, email us at its@asu.edu.