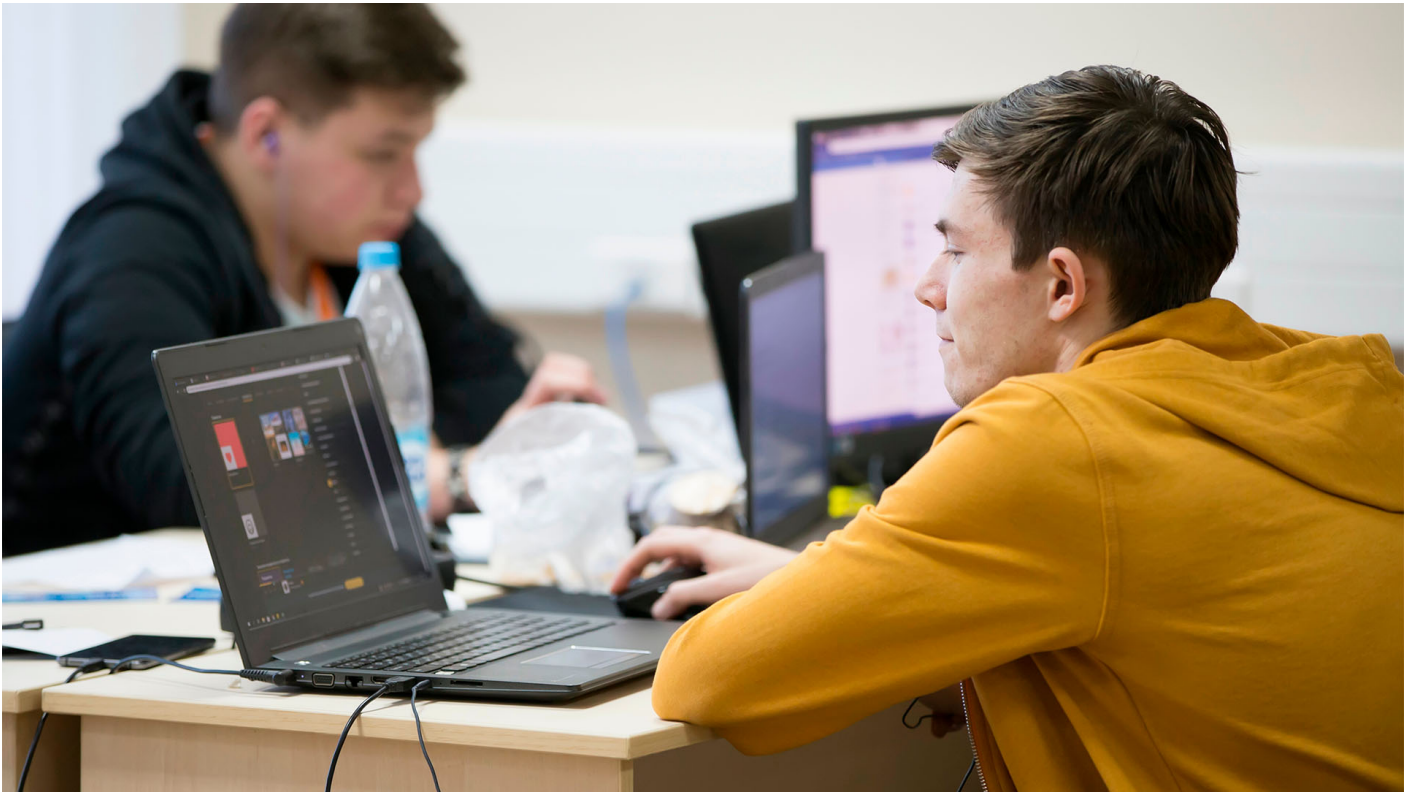# Students from Tec de Monterrey and Harvard win Microsoft Hackathon

The team, which included **students Lourdes Badillo Granillo, Joaquín Badillo Granillo, and Eduardo Villalpando Mello** from **Tecnológico de Monterrey's Santa Fe** campus and Harvard student **Ricardo Skewes Zorrila, won the Microsoft Student Hackathon.**

This event was a **global Hackathon** organized by **The Microsoft Garage,** which focuses on **knowledge of tools and the community**, including **open source projects** to make **Microsoft technology more accessible.**

The challenge was to use **a new technology from Microsoft called Journey,** which allows people to create interactive documents for **coding activities** and **verify that code entered by students is correct** in order to display the next section.

Con libro interactivo alumnos Tec ganan el Microsoft Student Hackathon width="900" loading="lazy">

*"We chose the **education challenge** because **teaching** is a topic that interests the four of us a lot and because we have collaborated on many similar projects in the past,"* said Eduardo.

"Teaching is a topic that interests the four of us a lot."

The interactive book

Their goal was to use the technology to **teach the basics of computer science in the way they would've liked to have been taught from the outset**.

*"We developed a curriculum explaining **the fundamental parts of a computer**, and moving on to create something more complex, in the form of an **interactive book**.*

*"Alongside the curriculum, **we developed several exercises** which allow users to review what they have learned and go deeper in each lesson. We also included **interactive elements** to make it **much easier to learn and experience,** he said.*

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Lourdes shared that the team is very happy because it was a very valuable experience for them.

"The four of us learned to code together by working on various projects during high school *and, at this event, we had the opportunity to look back and think about how to complete the puzzle that we had to put together piece by piece on our own.*

*"We did it so **other people can receive a better introduction and understanding of the basics**, and don't struggle to learn by themselves**,"** she said.*

"Other people can receive a better introduction and understanding of the basics."

Con libro interactivo alumnos Tec ganan el Microsoft Student Hackathon width="900" loading="lazy">

Eduardo pointed out that his team loved working on this type of project and **enjoyed learning throughout the process**.

*"**We did our best and had a lot of fun**. When they told us we were finalists, I honestly couldn't believe it. I was really pleased that the judges felt our passion and liked our idea.*

*"When we found out we'd won, we were very excited and **held a video call to celebrate**. It wasn't until a few weeks ago that we were all finally able to get together in person to celebrate," he said.*

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Finally, Eduardo shared that **the Tec has helped him in more than just theoretical and academic fields. It's helped him get out of his comfort zone and pursue projects he is passionate about.**

*"Thanks to the Tec, I was able to meet incredible friends and **participate in very interesting projects** such as student groups, talks, organizing hackathons, and writing for the newspaper.*

*"**Our passion for learning and pursuing projects** is what **inspired us all to give our best**,"* he said.

Con libro interactivo alumnos Tec ganan el Microsoft Student Hackathon width="900" loading="lazy">

Lourdes shared that she had the opportunity to take **Computer Science** from **the third semester of PrepaTec because she took the International Baccalaureate program,** which allowed her to **develop a good basic knowledge and delve deeper into programming.**

*"I was gradually **able to confirm beyond doubt that I wanted to study this subject.** It's increasingly important that **programming classes are given**.*

*"**Programming is useful in all careers** and opens many doors. It also **encourages more interest in studying STEM areas** (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics),"* she concluded.

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