

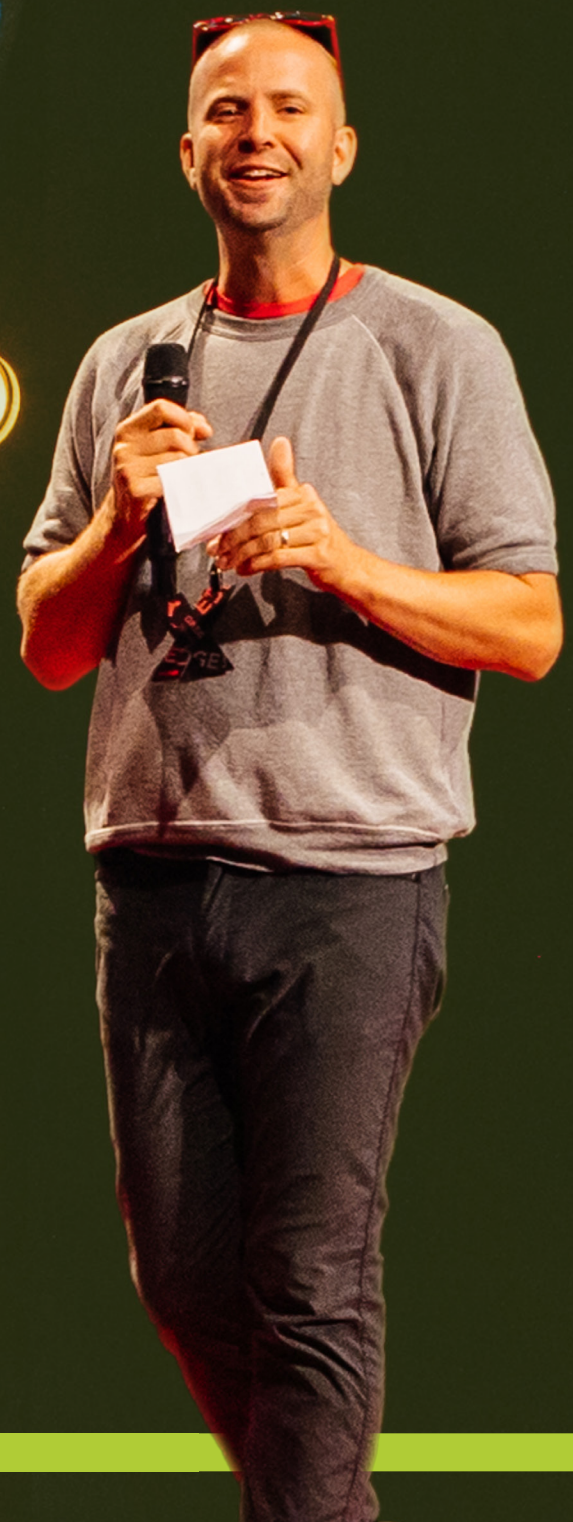
# 2023

ANNUAL REPORT



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## A MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO

Each year, Emerging Prairie hosts 1 Million Thanks as a way to appreciate our community, our partners and vendors, those that make what we do possible. It allows us to continue our practice of gratitude - taking time to reflect and honor what has been done over the past year.

We think about 1 Million Thanks as our physical embodiment of the annual report, an opportunity to see the positive impact that has been made and engage with those who made it happen.

Throughout this report you'll see those efforts. More students graduated from Emerging Digital Academy, we introduced Curiosity Week and Elevate, and we are halfway through construction of the Grand Farm Innovation Campus.

As you turn these pages, you'll get a taste of the impact. Stories, people, and outcomes. All of our impact is because of you. Our community, our partners, collaborators, team members, and friends. Your support is the reason for our success.

As we wrap up 2023 and look to 2024, we are grateful. Grateful for the collective work and momentum energizing our communities.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Greg Tehven".

Greg Tehven  
CEO & Co-Founder



# WHO WE ARE



## OUR MISSION:

**ENERGIZE COMMUNITIES.**

**10 years ago**, our founders gathered around a table in downtown Fargo with an idea to help elevate entrepreneurs in our region. That idea became Emerging Prairie.

Over the last decade that idea has shifted and evolved. What began as telling the stories of entrepreneurs quickly turned into creating connections between them and providing experiences and events to bring them and their ideas together. As we worked to support the startup community, we quickly came to understand that similar gaps existed across the region, and that we had the ability to address them. When a local group of innovators asked how our region could be world class in agriculture technology, our answer was the Grand Farm Research and Education Initiative. When that idea exposed a gap in available technology workforce, our answer was Emerging Digital Academy.

Today, Emerging Prairie works at the intersection of the startup, innovation, and technology communities. What began as an effort to support the work of entrepreneurs has grown into a powerful convergence of those ecosystems.



## OUR VISION:

**THE RELENTLESS PURSUIT TO IMPROVE THE HUMAN CONDITION, BOTH LOCALLY AND BEYOND.**

## OUR PRINCIPLES:



**ACCELERATE ENTREPRENEURS**



**EDUCATE OUR REGION**



**INFUSE THE ARTS**



**BUILD ON OUR BRIGHT SPOTS**



**PRACTICE RADICAL INCLUSIVITY**

# A YEAR IN REVIEW

2023 was a year of growth and progress across our organization that saw the culmination of several large initiatives. We brought new events and experiences to our community, increased engagement with our ecosystems, and grew our footprint. We are grateful to our community that makes this all possible.

11,432  
TOTAL EVENT  
ATTENDEES

170  
EVENTS HOSTED

APPROXIMATELY  
\$7M  
SPENT ON LOCAL  
GOODS + SERVICES



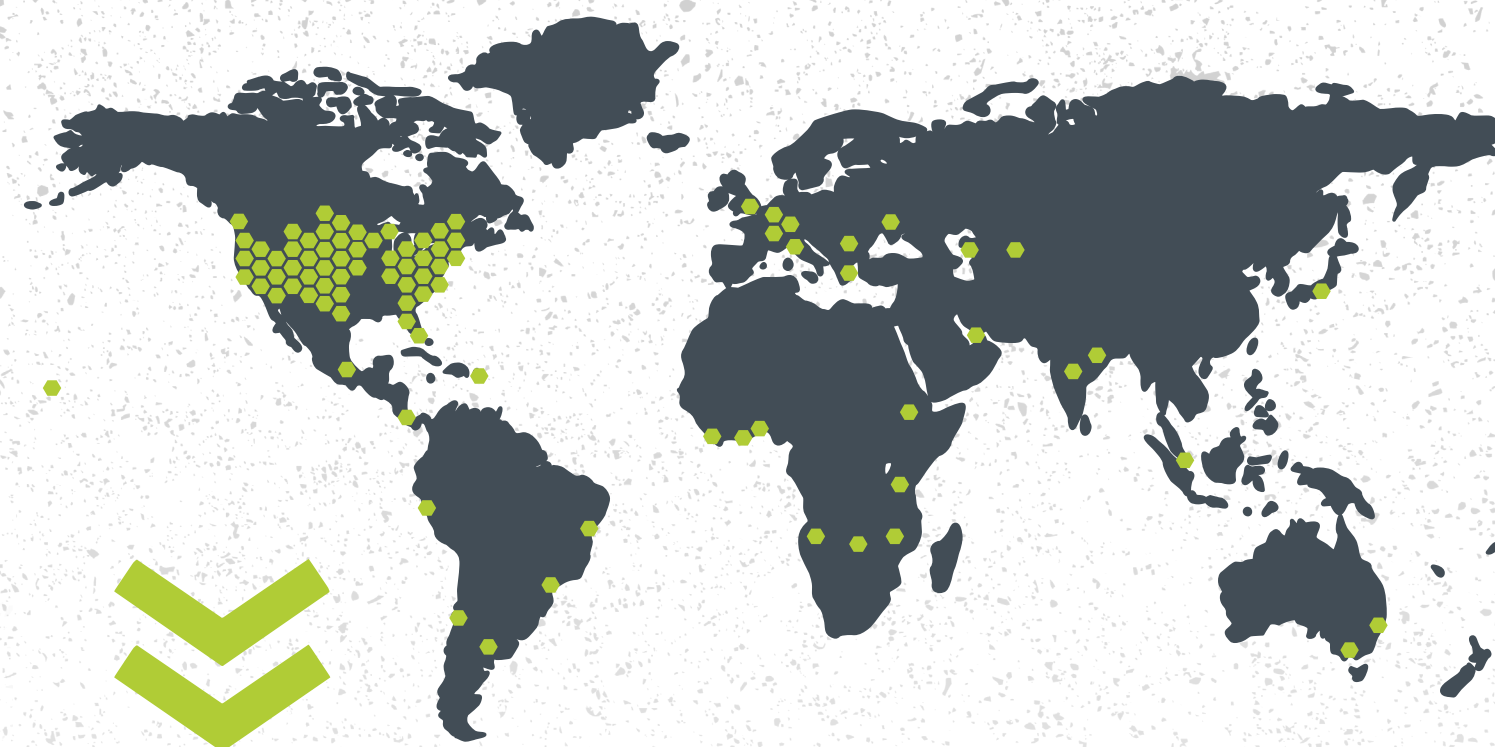
38  
LOCAL ARTISTS  
FEATURED

392  
SPEAKERS  
PRESENTED



“ At Emerging Prairie, we believe in innovation and collaboration, and this year, we saw the results of working together at the speed of trust. We developed valuable partnerships that are connecting our region to other parts of the world. Together, we’re changing the game in innovation, making a positive difference in our communities. We brought new events and experiences to our community, our teamwork expanded engagement across our networks. We also grew our team, welcoming new perspectives that make our journey more exciting. We’re looking forward to more growth, collaboration, and making a difference together in 2024!”

- Brian Carroll,  
Chief Innovation Officer and Grand Farm Co-Founder



Our impact isn't only local or regional: it's global.

In 2023, we engaged with representatives from across the world, from attendees at our events to trade missions to partnerships.

42  
US STATES  
HAVE BEEN REPRESENTED  
AT OUR EVENTS

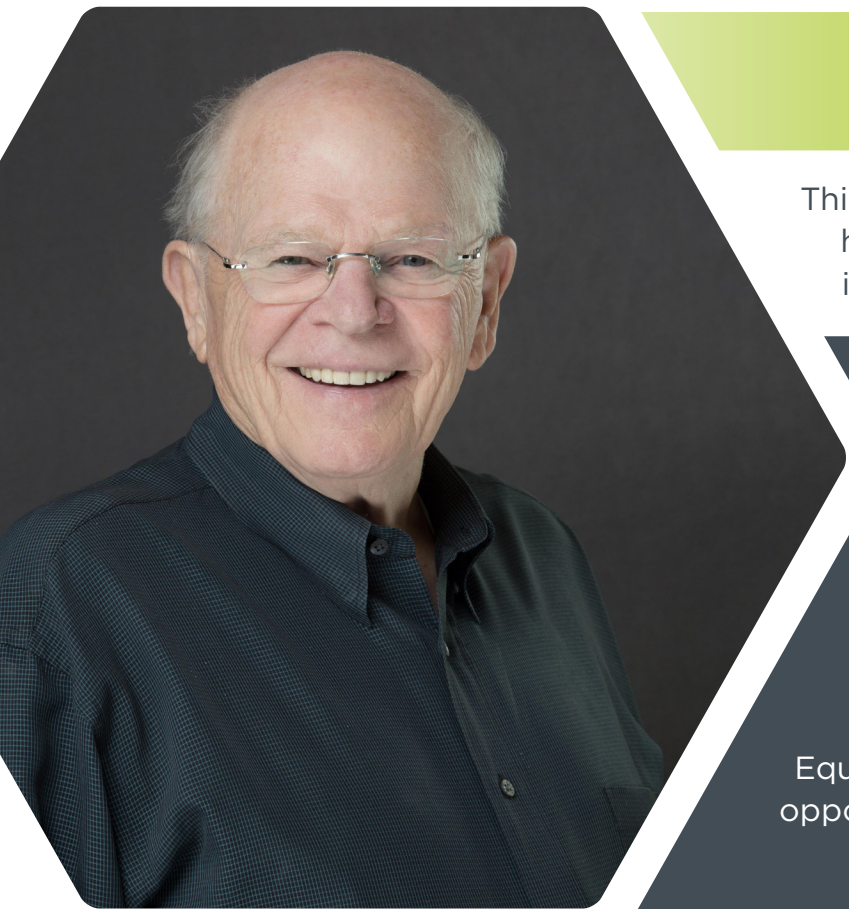
28  
COUNTRIES  
HAVE ENGAGED  
WITH OUR  
INITIATIVES

16  
INTERNATIONAL  
SPEAKERS HAVE  
SPOKEN AT  
OUR EVENTS



# OUR COMMUNITY

One of the ways we celebrate our different ecosystems is by recognizing work done by individuals and organizations that impact our region. These awards are given out each year at our 1 Million Thanks event.



## 2024 LIFETIME IMPACT AWARD WINNER

This award is given to individuals whose impact has left a mark on North Dakota and beyond, inspiring others and shaping a lasting legacy.

### RON OFFUTT

is one of North Dakota's and the nation's premiere agribusiness leaders and philanthropists. As owner of the largest network of John Deere construction and agricultural equipment dealerships in the U.S and founder and chairman emeritus of the R. D. Offutt Company and RDO Equipment Company, Ron has brought jobs and opportunities to this region, especially within the agriculture industry.

ENTREPRENEUR.  
GROWER.  
PHILANTHROPIST.  
**LEADER.**



# 2024 AWARD WINNERS

## 50 SOUTH CAPITAL

### 2024 STARTUP COMMUNITY BUILDER AWARD WINNER

This award is given to organizations that contribute to the ecosystem in a meaningful way, allowing us to energize and elevate our startup community.



## STATE REPRESENTATIVE MIKE NATHE

### 2024 STARTUP COMMUNITY CHAMPION AWARD WINNER

This award is given to an individual that has demonstrated significant growth and success in making an impact within and beyond our region.

## USDA ARS

### 2024 INNOVATION CHAMPION AWARD WINNER

This award is given to an organization that drives immense agricultural innovation in our region.



## FARMS TEAM

*Colleen Fitzgerald, Ryan Aasheim, Brian Carroll, and Jenna Currie-Mueller*

### 2024 INNOVATION PROJECT OF THE YEAR AWARD WINNER

This award is given to a project that has embraced the advancement of innovations in agriculture technologies.

## COTA SYSTEMS

### 2024 TECHNOLOGY COMMUNITY BUILDER AWARD WINNER

This award is given to an organization that has contributed in meaningful ways to support the technology community in our region.



## KARA KALBUS

### 2024 TECHNOLOGY COMMUNITY CHAMPION AWARD WINNER

This award is given to an individual that has shown immense commitment to upskilling the technology workforce of North Dakota.

# STARTUP PROGRAMS



6,260  
TOTAL EVENT  
ATTENDEES  
IN 2023

90  
FOUNDER EVENTS  
HELD IN 2023

177  
COMMUNITY LEADERS  
SHARED THEIR  
STORIES

“What an incredible whirlwind 2023 has been!

We began the year by taking 90 entrepreneurs to the North Dakota State Capitol where they engaged with policymakers to gain insights into the state’s business landscape and share their startup perspective. Discussions ranged from the impact of laws and regulations on entrepreneurs, to access to capital and available resources.

In January, we kicked off our 2023 season of StartupBREW Fargo that included notable speakers like Jon Dahl, founder of Mux and a two-time Y Combinator Entrepreneur, Bryce Wuori, founder of Pavewise, and Dr. Sue Mathison, founder of Catalyst Medical Center. In the spring we brought together community builders from around the region for our Community Instigators Summit, and this fall we held our annual Prairie Capital Summit and launched Curiosity Week!

We eagerly anticipate what 2024 has in store. We’re excited to be bringing back Founder’s Retreat not once but twice. And, as we aim to serve scalable and growth-oriented founders, we plan to unveil a lunch and learn series covering a wide range of topics to support founders in their development.”

– Sadie Schaeffer,  
Startup Programs  
Manager



# ENGAGING STARTUPS

Entrepreneurs and startups in the region have continued to grow, but we know it's hard to do it alone. 2023 was a year of progress as we built new programs and events, set high goals, and continued our efforts to create connections. We're excited to see the ecosystem expanding and believe the community is as strong as ever!

This was the third year of StartupBREW Fargo, and we had a blast hosting it at Drekker Brewing and Brewhalla! This weekly morning meetup is for entrepreneurs, innovators, creatives, and community members alike to come together and explore the entrepreneurial journey. In 2023 we heard from **65 founders** at over **35 events**, and served **3,000 cups of coffee** to over **5,000 attendees** - that's an **average of 140 a week!** StartupBREW has truly become a special community event where the community can gather and share their insights.

“The opportunity that StartupBREW Fargo gives to our community to connect and support one another is invaluable. We are honored to be part of the StartupBREW family and look forward to seeing the success of this event keep spreading across the Midwest!”

- **Bryce Wuori,**  
Co-founder and CEO of Pavewise



## FOUNDER WIN

Pavewise has been selected as a finalist for SXSW Pitch 2024! This event provides an outlet for companies to present the latest ideas across eight categories to a panel of industry experts, early adopters, and representatives from the investment community.



# StartupBREW FARGO

## MEMORABLE MEETUPS OF 2023

### UNIVERSITY TAKEOVER DAYS

With NDSU, MSUM, and Concordia College  
616 total attendees

### UNICORN COMPANY, MUX

Featuring Jon Dahl, founder of Mux  
171 attendees

### BARBIES + BOOKS

A pink, Barbie-themed hit  
170 attendees



# 2023 STARTUP EVENTS

Within our startup ecosystem, 2023 was filled with connection, memories, and a sense of community. Through our Entrepreneur Day at the Capitol, monthly Founder's Hour meetups, entrepreneur roundtables with elected officials, and more: we see our startup community thriving and making a difference in our region.



## COMMUNITY INSTIGATORS SUMMIT

The Community Instigators Summit is a curated event aiming to connect and empower community builders and founders in our region. The summit focuses on improving startup ecosystems and quality of life through collaboration.



36 attendees



12 speakers



9 communities represented



## CURIOSITY WEEK

Curiosity Week 2023 was a week-long series created to cultivate a startup culture that sparks creativity, curiosity, and growth, paving the way for impactful and scalable ventures that benefit our region.



278 total attendees



93 speakers



26 engaged organizations



## PRAIRIE CAPITAL SUMMIT

Prairie Capital Summit is an event that brings together entrepreneurs, investors, and community builders to spark discussions around private capital in the midwest. It includes inspiring speakers, panel discussions, and educational tracks.



247 attendees



20 speakers



4 breakout sessions



## LOOKING AHEAD TO 2024 »

### FOUNDERS RETREAT //

June 5th-7th, October 2nd-4th



### PRAIRIE CAPITAL SUMMIT //

October 1st

### STARTUPBREW //

Weekly on Wednesdays

### FOUNDERS HOUR //

Monthly

### STARTUP INVESTORS MEETUP //

Quarterly





“ In 2023, Grand Farm experienced significant growth and momentum, marked by key milestones such as our expansion into Casselton, establishing the Grand Farm Innovation Campus, commencing the construction of our Innovation Shop, recognition of our work and collaborations by the National Science Foundation, record partnership numbers, and unprecedented engagement across all platforms.

While crafting this report, our team identified nearly six pages of points identified worthy of inclusion from impact created this previous year – none of which would be possible without our partners and ecosystem. Though this report captures only a fraction of our collaborative work, it lays the foundation for the year’s highlights and the strides we’ve made, offering a glimpse into our promising future.

Looking ahead to 2024, our team continues the trajectory of growth, momentum, and heightened definition, driven by stakeholder engagement and our dedicated leadership. We are excited for the grand opening of the Grand Farm Innovation Shop, the near 4x increase in acres of the Grand Farm Innovation Campus, and the launch of Dakota Smart Farm. We are privileged to have our ecosystem and partners join us on this extraordinary journey to enable technology to feed the world.”

– Dr. William Aderholdt,  
Director of Grand Farm



# GRAND FARM



3,043  
PEOPLE ATTENDED  
GRAND FARM  
EVENTS

33  
TOTAL TOURS  
AND EVENTS HELD BY  
GRAND FARM  
IN 2023

65  
GRAND FARM  
PARTNERSHIPS  
IN 2023



# ENGAGING INNOVATORS



The **Grand Farm Research and Education Initiative** is a network of growers, corporations, startups, educators and researchers, government, and investors working together to solve problems in agriculture with applied technology.

2023 was an important year for Grand Farm. We continued to develop the innovation ecosystem, broadened our grower and education engagement, and launched projects on our new Innovation Campus near Casselton and expanded our footprint there. All of this was made possible by our partners and community members who continue to make this region the hub for AgTech.



# INNOVATION CAMPUS

## COMPLETION OF PHASE 1 OF INNOVATION CAMPUS CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Grand Farm announced it fully achieved Phase 1 of its Innovation Campus capital campaign with contributions from over 40 families and organizations totalling \$15.1M.

Phase 1 included 140 acres of land used for collaboration, research, and demonstrations, and a 25,000 sq. foot facility to host groups, demonstrate technology, and upskill the region.

The campaign was launched in February of 2022 when Grand Farm was awarded a \$10 Million matching grant by the North Dakota Legislature and North Dakota Department of

## INNOVATION SHOP CONSTRUCTION

Grand Farm's Innovation Shop will be the first building to go up on the Innovation Campus. Infrastructure construction started over the summer on the site, and structural work began in the fall including foundation and steel work. Work on the Innovation Shop is scheduled to be completed by Summer 2024.

# 2023 CONFERENCES

## SPACE AG

Space Ag Conference seeks to explore the potential of advanced agriculture technologies to transform the AgTech industry in space, with the understanding that solutions to space-based challenges can often be applied to those on Earth. This year's conference was held virtually allowing us to be joined by many speakers and companies from outside of the region and country.

220 attendees

23 speakers

81 registered students

## CULTIVATE

This conference's mission is to highlight growers' voices and showcase the work happening within the AgTech industry. The morning portion featured speakers from around the world with workshops in the afternoon focused on AI, global trade, grower dialogue, and ag education.

478 attendees

49 speakers

4 interactive workshops

## AUTONOMOUS NATION

Autonomous Nation brings together the best and brightest minds in the autonomous industry, and showcases the latest innovations and solutions shaping the future of autonomy. The morning portion took place at the Microsoft campus with autonomous demonstrations in the afternoon at the Grand Farm Innovation Campus.

508 attendees

32 speakers

12 demonstrations



OCT. 2022



AUG. 2023



DEC. 2023



SUMMER 2024

## VISITOR ENGAGEMENT + GLOBAL OUTREACH

Grand Farm welcomed an average of 100 weekly visitors to our Innovation Campus, hosting 23 field plot tours, and three Field Days events during the growing season. Attendees included industry professionals, representatives from various states and countries, educators, government officials, and growers, demonstrating broad interest in agricultural practices, technology, sustainability, and collaboration opportunities.

## STRATEGIC EXPANSION + AGCO ANCHOR TENANT ANNOUNCEMENT

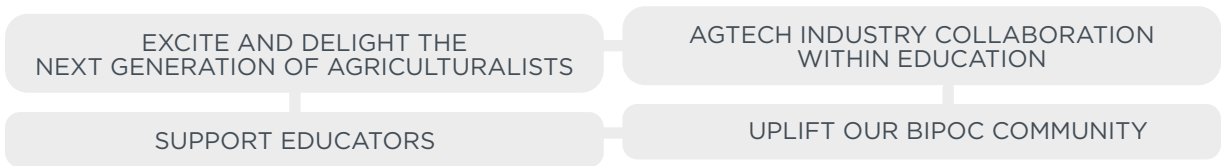
Our field footprint expanded from 140 to 590 acres with the acquisition of the full contiguous section at our Innovation Campus. In September, Grand Farm announced AGCO as an anchor tenant of the Innovation Campus utilizing 300 acres to build the Dakota Smart Farm. AGCO aims to develop innovative farming practices to create a truly sustainable farm, specifically focusing on precision agriculture technologies and high-value retrofit solutions.



# 2023 EDUCATION ENGAGEMENT

Through Grand Farm's ecosystem, we aim to create an inclusive and collaborative network to meaningfully engage the next generation of agriculturalists. We will do this by establishing pathways between educational institutions and the AgTech industry to solve challenges in agriculture education.

## OUR STRATEGY



To gain insight into the most impactful way we can engage with educational institutions, our team conducted personal interviews, surveys, and attended and participated in agriculture-related conferences. Participants included education stakeholders, such as teachers, students, faculty and state leaders.

## OUR 2023 EVENTS

Grand Farm hosted a series of engaging workshops and events in 2023, free of cost thanks to our event sponsors. In June, the **EduConnect Workshop** at the Cultivate Conference connected educators with AgTech professionals, fostering knowledge exchange for their students. August saw the **TechConnect Workshop** at the Autonomous Nation Conference, linking students and educators with industry experts to explore career opportunities in technology and autonomous fields. The **Livestock Bonanza!** in September engaged over 100 students in agriculture-themed challenges, trivia, culinary delights, and hands-on interactions with llamas, goats, ponies, and calves, creating a memorable learning experience.



“ Teaching in a rural area, a lot of my students come from farming and ranching families. They understand the challenges well, and many come up in classroom conversation. Kids are imaginative and bold in their ideas, and it's good to know there are venues for them to exercise their creativity professionally!”

- Educator feedback from our EduConnect workshop

# 2023 GROWER ENGAGEMENT

In 2023, Grand Farm continued to strengthen its ties with growers through dedicated initiatives and engagement platforms. This year's focus on connection and dialogue has not only enriched relationships but also paved the way for exciting opportunities in the coming year.

## GROWER PAIN POINT REPORT

Grand Farm's Grower Pain Point Report serves as a vital link between growers and the global AgTech ecosystem. Addressing challenges faced by farmers and ranchers, this report initiates feedback loops with stakeholders such as startups, corporations, educators, researchers, investors, and government agencies. By spotlighting grower challenges, Grand Farm catalyzes innovation, fostering solutions that enhance productivity, profitability, and overall resilience in agriculture.



SCAN ME

## OUR GROWER ADVISORY BOARD

The Grand Farm Grower Advisory Board is a group of innovative growers that provide advice, feedback, and recommendations to the Grand Farm team on a range of agricultural technologies and environmental issues that are of importance to agriculture and rural communities. Their insights have been instrumental in shaping Grand Farm's events, engagements, and overall support for the AgTech ecosystem. Our commitment to collaboration ensures that the agricultural community's voice remains at the forefront of Grand Farm's initiatives.

“ Being on the Grand Farm Grower Advisory Board has been a very educational and interesting journey for me. We were chosen to add our input to the system as farmers saying what farmers need and would be interested in trying. Little did I know how many new inventions are coming at us, and if they seem like there is no purpose on our farm, we are free to express our opinions on that. The knowledge I have gained and the insight into the process has me excited about the future of agriculture. Technology will continue to expand our possibilities and will change how we farm in the future.”

- Vanessa Kummer, Grower Advisory Board member



# 2023 PROJECTS

Grand Farm's Program Management Office (PMO) coordinates our ecosystem, Innovation Campus, and innovation framework to solve problems with partners. We work directly with innovation teams to help them apply innovative thinking within their organizations and provide direct capabilities and services to ease technology research, development, and validation.

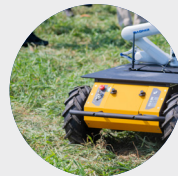
2023 was year one working on our Innovation Campus where we utilized 100 acres to conduct projects across seven partners.



**FIELD  
MANAGEMENT**



**PROJECT  
FACILITATION**



**INNOVATION-  
AS-A-SERVICE**

## GROWING OUR REACH

Grand Farm continued to expand strategic project relationships in state and outside of our region with partners including the United States Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Research Service.

## EVOLVING PROJECT COMPLEXITY

Grand Farm's field projects have grown in complexity, aligning with team expansion and capability-building. In 2023, we provided monthly drone imagery and limited analytics. In 2024, we plan to enhance this by increasing drone imagery frequency and analytics depth, enriching field trial data. We also collected on-field agronomic data for partners' research, with plans for further growth in this capability.

## FACILITATING INNOVATION

One of the key challenges found in our Grower Pain Point Report was the proliferation of herbicide resistant weeds. Through multiple opportunities, the Grand Farm Innovation-as-a Service team has engaged with the key challenge of herbicide-resistant weeds. This has been accomplished through researching technologies, engaging with startups, and collaborating on projects across our platform.



# LOOKING AHEAD TO 2024 »

**GRAND FARM FIELD DAYS //**  
March 13th, April 16th, June 12th, July 17th, August 14th, and September 10th

**INNOVATION CAMPUS GRAND OPENING //**  
Summer 2024

**AGTECH WEEK //** June 10th-14th

**CULTIVATE //** June 13th

**AUTONOMOUS NATION //** September 12th

**SPACE AG //** October 24th



# EMERGING DIGITAL ACADEMY



51  
TOTAL EVENTS  
HELD BY EDA  
IN 2023

592  
TOTAL EVENT  
ATTENDEES  
IN 2023

26  
EDA APPLICATIONS  
SUBMITTED IN 2023

“ 2023 was a year of growth and focus.

We graduated 19 students and celebrated the start of our 12th cohort. Our mentorship network is as strong as it has ever been, with more mentors positioning themselves to make as much of a direct impact on the lives of our students than ever before.

For those of you who had an opportunity to attend our Elevate Conference, we hope that you were able to feel the energy in the room that can only be possible when a connected and passionate community comes together for a day of networking, discussion, and fun. Speaking of new programs, we also launched Emerge, a six week training program that covers the basics of HTML and CSS for folks who are curious about EDA web development in general, as well as our Co-Op Program, which essentially is a managed internship program for our alumni where companies can work with our team directly to onboard our students into project work under a short-term contract. Thanks to the generosity of our partners and donors, we have been able to offer scholarships for both Emerge and under-represented individuals in our full-time program.

As we look back on 2023, I can't help but be grateful to our students, community, and team for all of the support and hard work that makes our program possible. We're looking forward to 2024 and are grateful for our continued opportunity to make an impact in the lives of our students and community.”

– Blaine Booher,  
Program Director of  
Emerging Digital Academy



# ENGAGING TECHNOLOGISTS

**Emerging Digital Academy (EDA)** is a 20-week immersive coding bootcamp that prepares students for entry-level software development positions. This year marked four years and 11 student cohorts graduated for EDA. 2023 was an impactful year that saw an expansion in program offerings and events that brought the tech community together.

We're grateful to our advisory board, partners, and alumni who've exemplified the value in being a go-giver, by continuously engaging with our learners and events. 2024 is sure to bring big ideas, new events, and more lives changed.



“Emerging Digital Academy has completely changed my life. When I decided to quit my job and join the program, it felt pretty intimidating, but now I've landed a job at the place I used to dream about when I first started. It's been a game-changer, and I couldn't be happier with how things have unfolded.”

- Alyssa Nichols, Software Developer at Scheels



## Meet our 2023 EDA Cohorts

### IWATANI

The six students of the Iwatani cohort start in 2022 and were our first graduating class of 2023. Iwatani was named after the pioneering game designer best known for creating Pac Man. The Iwatani cohort graduated in April 2023.

### JOLITZ

The Jolitz cohort was named after Lynne Jolitz, a known figure, founder, and co-creator of the 386BSD open-source operating system. The seven members of the Jolitz cohort graduated in August of 2023.

### KOSS

The Koss cohort was named after American pioneering computer programmer, Adele Mildred Koss. The six members of the Koss cohort graduated in December of 2023.



**33**

unique employers have hired our students



**12,800**

hours of cumulative work was completed by our 2023 graduates



**19**

students graduated our program in 2023



**\$54,800**

average starting salary post-graduation



**120**

interviews were conducted for potential students this year



**5**

companies engaged in our pilot co-op program

“EDA has revolutionized our approach to student tracking at Haley's Hope. The app went beyond our expectations, offering a comprehensive solution that transformed how we track scores and monitor student progress. Their dedication to understanding our unique requirements and translating them into an efficient and user-friendly platform has been outstanding.”

- Kari Bucholz, Founder of Haley's Hope and Emerging Digital Academy student project client



INTRODUCING

# ELEVATE

A NEW KIND OF TECH CONFERENCE

This year, Emerging Digital Academy launched its first signature conference: Elevate.

Elevate was designed to bring our region's technology community together and highlight our impressive ecosystem. From interactive sessions on the art of discovery, iterative thinking, and the creative process, to hands-on workshops, and insights on careers in tech, Elevate is the new kind of tech conference we needed!

130 attendees 13 speakers 3 interactive workshops



## LOOKING AHEAD TO 2024 »

### COHORT GRADUATIONS //

- Leavitt Cohort // April 4th
- Minsky Cohort // August 1st
- Neumann Cohort // November 28th

### ELEVATE //

November 14th

### INTRO TO CODING WORKSHOPS //

Monthly on the first Thursday

### COFFEE + CODING //

Monthly on the second Thursday

### FULL STACK FARGO //

Monthly on the third Thursday

## OTHER NEW PROGRAMS

### EMERGE »

An immersive six-week programming course designed for students interested in diving into the world of coding by exploring the fundamentals of multiple programming languages. Sponsored by AT&T Foundation and US Bank Foundation.

### CO-OP PROGRAM »

A new cooperative educational program designed to support students in the workplace and provide employers with a cost-effective and dependable pipeline for hiring technical talent.



**TED**

**are**

**FE**

**TEDx Fargo**

**x = independently  
organized TED event**



# TEDxFARGO

Every year we endeavor to describe TEDxFargo in a new way, and each year we arrive at the same phrase, because it truly encapsulates the core of what it is: a love letter to our community. Each TEDxFargo brings a new focus, dives into intriguing thoughts from unexpected voices, and brings everyone together to think about big ideas.

Everyone's experiences and perceptions are unique but just as true as your own. At **TEDxFargo EDGE**, we embarked on a journey to embrace our differences and meet each other at the edge to share our experiences and ideas. We explored this question on stage through talks ranging from addressing mental health in the C-Suite to the art of dumpster diving. We cannot wait to bring more voices to the stage on **July 25th, 2024** and convene our community to once again think big.



We've hosted **12,629** TEDxFargo attendees since 2012



We've produced **242** TED talks to date



The world has viewed TEDxFargo talks online **12,276,192** times

## A VISIT FROM TEDHQ



More than 3,000 TEDx events are held around the world each year with a small but mighty staff coordinating it all. We had the pleasure of welcoming Will Davis from TED headquarters to join us at TEDxFargo EDGE and talk to our audience about TED's mission. We had the honor to hear just how renowned TEDxFargo is in the TED community and learned how we are being recognized globally.

## OUR 2023 SPONSORS



## 2023 EMERGING PRAIRIE ANNUAL PARTNERS



## 2023 STARTUP PROGRAMS PARTNERS



## EDA FOUNDING FOREVER PARTNERS



## 2023 GRAND FARM PARTNERS



## EMERGING PRAIRIE FULL-TIME STAFF

**Dr. William Aderholdt //** Director of Grand Farm  
**Ujjwal Adhikari //** Grand Farm Project Coordinator  
**Dr. Ruchi Joshi Bhardwaj //** Senior Program Manager of Education & Research  
**Bailey Block //** Marketing & Communications Coordinator  
**Blaine Booher //** Program Director of Emerging Digital Academy  
**Sydney Brusseau //** Events Manager  
**Katie Burington //** Emerging Digital Academy Life Cycle Manager  
**Liz Campbell //** Director of Experiences & Events  
**Brian Carroll //** Chief Innovation Officer  
**Austin Erickson //** Grand Farm Marketing & Communications Coordinator  
**Antonio Franklin //** Grand Farm Revenue Manager  
**Andrew Jason //** Grand Farm Ecosystem Director  
**Ashlyn Schauer //** Marketing & Communications Specialist  
**Natalie Lemnus //** Business Development Manager  
**Haley Lewis //** Accounting Manager  
**John Mann //** Grand Farm Startup Programs Manager  
**Nathan Marcotte //** Grand Farm Senior Project Manager of Innovation Technology  
**Lisa Mystic //** Grants Manager  
**Lloyd Nelson //** Chief Financial Officer  
**Ann Nobriga //** Grand Farm Senior Program Manager of Field Operations  
**Jenna Radtke //** Emerging Digital Academy Student Life & Recruitment Coordinator  
**Sadie Schaeffer //** Startup Programs Manager  
**Jada Schwindt //** Experience & Events Coordinator  
**Madi Simpson //** Marketing & Communications Manager  
**Madison Stone //** Experience & Events Coordinator  
**Greg Tehven //** Co-Founder and Chief Executive Officer  
**Stetson Urlacher //** Grand Farm Grower Program Coordinator  
**Alexys Walker //** Executive Assistant  
**Matt Wendel //** Chief of Staff  
**Kyle Whitcraft //** Director of Grand Farm Program Management Office

## EMERGING PRAIRIE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Byron Snider // Chair**  
VP of Information Technology, Scheels  
**Kodee Furst // Vice Chair**  
Director, 50 South Capital  
**Mike Derheim // Secretary**  
Co-Founder, Bunnycup Winery  
**Jonathan Warrey // Treasurer**  
Director of Sales Development, Marco  
North Dakota State Representative

**Howard Dahl // Member**  
President & CEO, Amity Technology  
**Bec Heinrich // Member**  
US Greenhouse Leader,  
Managing Director, Deloitte Greenhouse  
**Greg Tehven // Member**  
Co-Founder and CEO, Emerging Prairie

## GRAND FARM BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Greg Tehven // Chair**  
Co-Founder and CEO, Emerging Prairie  
**Mark Watne // Vice Chair**  
President, North Dakota Farmers Union  
**Cynthia Schreiber-Beck // Secretary**  
North Dakota State Representative  
**Jessica Fyre // Member**  
Chief Operations Officer & General Counsel,  
AgCountry Farm Credit Services

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Former CEO, Bank of North Dakota  
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