



Kaufman Center  
**Kaufman Award**  
Social Impact



# KAUFMAN AWARD CANDIDATES

In the USA:	2
In the EU:	4
In Latin America:	6
In Africa:	8
In Asia (particularly China and India):	10



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## In the USA:

### A. Defy Ventures

Website: <https://defyventures.org/>

Activities: Provides entrepreneurship training and mentoring to currently and formerly incarcerated individuals.

Achievements: Has served over 3,500 incarcerated individuals, and participants have launched hundreds of businesses.

### B. Tech Goes Home

Website: <https://techgoeshome.org>

Activities: Offers courses to help participants access the internet and acquire necessary devices, focusing on skills development.

Achievements: Has served over 35,000 participants and distributed more than 20,000 new computers.

### C. The Birthday Party Project

Website: <https://thebirthdaypartyproject.org>

Activities: Hosts monthly birthday parties at homeless and transitional living facilities for children.

Achievements: Has celebrated over 12,000 birthdays with kids across multiple cities.

### D. First Book

Website: <https://firstbook.org>

Activities: Distributes books and educational resources to programs and schools serving children from low-income families.

Achievements: Distributed over 200 million books and educational resources.

### E. Rising Tide Capital

Website: <https://risingtidecapital.org>

Activities: Provides entrepreneurship training and resources for struggling individuals and communities.



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**Achievements:** Served thousands of entrepreneurs, with an average 64% increase in business sales for participants.



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## In the EU:

### A. **CodeYourFuture**

Website: <https://codeyourfuture.io>

Activities: Provides coding education and career support to refugees and disadvantaged individuals.

Achievements: Successfully helped numerous graduates to secure roles in tech companies.

### B. **RESTORE Project**

Website: <https://restore-horizon.eu>

Activities: Aims to advance therapies and technologies to address societal challenges like aging populations and chronic diseases.

Achievements: Promotes cooperation and knowledge-sharing among experts in advanced therapies.

### C. **Ashoka Europe**

Website: <https://www.ashoka.org/en-gb>

Activities: Supports social entrepreneurs with innovative solutions to societal challenges.

Achievements: Built a network of change-makers and social entrepreneurs across Europe.

### D. **Techfugees**

Website: <https://techfugees.com>

Activities: Mobilizes the international tech community to help refugees.

Achievements: Developed projects such as Basefugees, a data hub on displaced people's needs.

### E. **Polaris Europe**

Website: <https://polarisproject.org/>

Activities: Works against human trafficking and modern-day slavery.



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Achievements: Empowers survivors and works with stakeholders for policy advocacy.



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In Latin America:

## **A. Un Techo para mi País (TECHO)**

Website: <https://techo.org>

Activities: Youth-led organization working on community development in impoverished areas.

Achievements: Constructed thousands of emergency homes and developed community centers.

## **B. Laboratoria (Mexico)**

Website: <https://laboratoria.la>

Activities: Training women from underrepresented communities in web development and UX design and helping them enter the tech workforce.

Achievements: Laboratoria has trained thousands of women, and over 75% of its graduates secure jobs in the tech industry.

## **C. Proyecto Patrimonio (Uruguay)**

Website: <https://proyectopatrimonio.com.uy>

Activities: Focuses on cultural heritage and social integration by involving communities in the preservation and appreciation of their cultural heritage.

Achievements: Engaged numerous communities in cultural projects that promote heritage as a tool for social integration.

## **D. Fundación Forge (Argentina)**

Website: <https://fundacionforge.org>

Activities: Offers training and employment programs for young people in vulnerable situations. Fundación Forge focuses on empowering young people from low-income backgrounds. Through its training and employment programs, it helps participants develop skills that are in demand in the labor market. These programs are aimed at



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increasing employability and promoting social inclusion. The foundation also works with companies to encourage them to hire young people

**Achievements:** More than 50,000 young people have participated in their programs, with a high percentage obtaining formal employment.

## **E. Reinserta (Mexico)**

Website: <https://reinserta.org>

**Activities:** Works to improve the Mexican penitentiary system, and focuses on social reintegration by working with inmates and their families.

**Achievements:** Impacted the lives of thousands of inmates and their families through various programs aimed at reducing recidivism and improving living conditions within prisons.



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## In Africa:

### A. **Shining Hope for Communities (SHOFCO)**

Website: <https://shofco.org>

Activities: Based in Kenya, SHOFCO tackles urban poverty and gender inequality by providing critical services like healthcare, education, and clean water, and also engaging in community advocacy.

Achievements: SHOFCO has reached over 220,000 individuals with its initiatives and has gained global recognition, including the Hilton Humanitarian Prize.

### B. **Amref Health Africa**

Website: <https://amref.org>

Activities: Amref focuses on improving health in Africa. They train local healthcare workers, provide innovative health services, and advocate for better health policies and practices.

Achievements: It is the largest Africa-based healthcare non-governmental organization, and it has been a key player in improving healthcare in many African countries.

### C. **Akilah Institute**

Website: <https://akilahinstitute.org>

Activities: Located in Rwanda, the Akilah Institute is an academy that offers diplomas and training focused on empowering women with leadership skills and entrepreneurial attitudes.

Achievements: Akilah has empowered hundreds of women with education and skills necessary for career success and leadership roles.

### D. **Siyavula**

Website: <https://siyavula.com>

Activities: A South African initiative that focuses on improving education by providing accessible learning materials and employing technology to improve science and math education.





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**Achievements:** Has reached millions of learners with high-quality, accessible educational materials in science and mathematics.

## **E. Safaricom Foundation**

**Website:** <https://safaricomfoundation.org>

**Activities:** Based in Kenya, it focuses on health, education, economic empowerment, environmental conservation, and arts & culture.

**Achievements:** Since its inception, the Safaricom Foundation has funded over 1,000 projects, benefitting millions of Kenyans.



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In Asia (particularly China and India):

## **A. Barefoot College (India)**

Website: <https://barefootcollege.org>

Activities: Focuses on empowering rural communities through education, skills development, solar energy solutions, and advocating for women's rights.

Achievements: Has trained more than 3,000 women as solar engineers and has established 110 night schools.

## **B. Pratham (India)**

Website: [pratham.org](http://pratham.org)

Activities: One of India's largest NGOs, Pratham focuses on high-quality, low-cost education in rural and urban communities.

Achievements: Reached millions of children through literacy programs and significantly improved learning outcomes.

## **C. Jack Ma Foundation (China)**

Website: <https://jackmafoundation.org.cn>

Activities: Focuses on education, entrepreneurship, women's leadership, and environmental conservation.

Achievements: Provided funding and support to numerous educational initiatives and entrepreneurship projects in China and Africa.

## **D. Tencent Charity Foundation (China)**

Website: <https://gongyi.qq.com>

Activities: Focuses on education, healthcare, environmental protection, and disaster relief.

Achievements: One of the largest philanthropic organizations in China, it has contributed to numerous social programs and disaster relief efforts.

## **E. BRAC (Bangladesh)**



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Website: <https://brac.net>

**Activities:** Focuses on alleviating poverty by empowering the poor, and providing services in education, health, social and economic development.

**Achievements:** Known as the world's largest NGO, it has had a significant impact on improving conditions for the poor in Bangladesh and other countries.