

**NEW YORK INSTITUTE  
OF TECHNOLOGY**



**BEAR BYTES  
ANNUAL REPORT  
2022-2023**





# A Note From Our Associate Provost

Dear New York Tech Community, External Partners, and Supporters,

The Bear Bytes initiative has concluded its third year of providing food and other health and wellness resources and information to students at our New York campuses. Initiated in spring 2020 at New York Tech's Long Island and New York City campuses, Bear Bytes is a collaborative effort among campus partners, New York Tech Campus Dining Services, the School of Management Student Advisory Board, Bursar, Facilities, and community resources including Stop & Shop, Invisible Hands Deliver, Inc., and Food Bank For NYC. It promotes and supports the proper nutrition and wellness that are essential to academic success. The Bear Bytes committee of students, faculty, staff, and alumni are dedicated to creating health and wellness resources and events, establishing partnerships, and sharing university and community information that are responsive to student needs.

This year, we are excited to highlight that our fundraising efforts resulted in a 101% increase, from \$19,509 raised last year to \$39,397.58 raised in the 2022-23 Academic Year. Additionally, we introduced new efforts such as a New York Tech Farmers Market that provided fresh fruit and vegetables to students, faculty, and staff. We are excited to share 2022-2023 information and updates in this annual report and to highlight the continued care, dedication, and innovation that our university community and external partners have demonstrated towards supporting our students.

With deepest gratitude,

**Tiffani L. Hinds, M.S., Ed.M.**

Associate Provost for Student  
Engagement and Development

# Meet the Committee

The New York Tech community members listed below are committed to providing food and other health and wellness resources and information to students at our New York campuses.



Hannah Berling  
Student Life Coordinator  
Student Life



Amy Bravo  
Senior Director, Career Success  
& Experiential Education



Patricia Duran  
Senior Director  
Student Accounts



Robert DiGangi  
Interim Associate Director of  
Student Care & Community  
Standards



Ali Gedawi  
College of Arts & Sciences  
Student  
Student Government Association



Mindy Haar  
Chair, Interdisciplinary  
Health Sciences  
School of Health Professions



Felipe Henao  
Dean of Students  
Student Life



Tiffani Hinds  
Associate Provost for  
Student Engagement &  
Development



Harminderjeet Kaur  
Student Support Specialist  
Student Life



Andrea Massop Ramos  
**Clinical Nutritionist and  
Private Health Chef**



Lorraine Mongiello  
Associate Professor  
School of Health Professions



Victoria Neubauer  
Senior Major Gift Officer  
Development & Alumni  
Relations



Joanne West  
Director, Student Engagement  
& Development Administration  
and Operations

# Bear Bytes Year in Review

## Fall 2022 NYC Campus Usage

404 appointments  
Up 345% from  
last Fall

## Fall 2022 LI Campus Usage

65 appointments  
Up 242% from  
last Fall

## Spring 2023 NYC Campus Usage

516 appointments  
Up 76% from  
last Spring

## Spring 2023 LI Campus Usage

65 appointments  
Up 23% from  
last Spring



Bear Bytes hosted several events during the year including a garden tour, a holiday meal distribution, DIY Trail Mix making, apple tasting, and various informational tabling events.

Both LI and NYC cupboards now have the capacity to store perishable items. Many thanks to Robert Rizzuto, Director of Dining Services, for donating the LI Campus refrigerator.

Bear Bytes is actively working to create professional closets on each New York Campuses. These closets will supply professional clothing to students in need. Be on the lookout for updates.

The Grizzly Cupboards are now hitting the road! Throughout the semester, students can pick up food and personal essentials in a grab-and-go setting.

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# 2022-2023 Fundraising at a Glance



Thank you to our generous donors!



Hicks Nurseries  
Kalmar Family Dentistry  
New York Institute of Technology AAUP  
James O'Rourke  
Community Food Connection  
Stop & Shop  
Heritage Farm & Garden  
Palentine's Event  
Costco  
Big Give  
Payroll Deductions  
General Donations  
Final Roar



Fundraising goal for the  
2022-2023 Academic Year

**\$25,000**

Total raised during the  
2022-2023 Academic Year

**\$39,397**

Fundraising goal for the upcoming  
2023-2024 Academic Year

**\$50,000**

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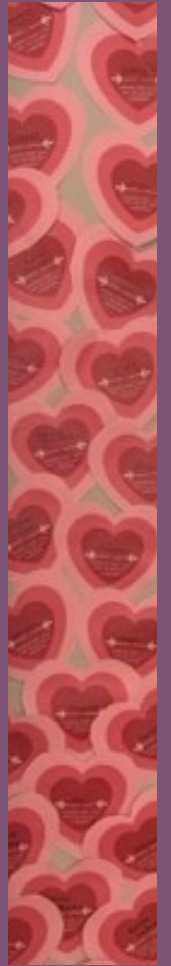
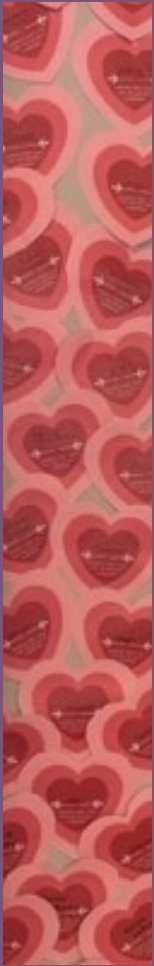
# Palentine's Day Fundraiser

On February 13, 2023, students, faculty, and staff celebrated our first annual Palentine's Day by showing some love for the Grizzly Cupboard!

Palentine's Day, celebrated on February 13th, honors the love you have for all of your friends. It is a time to recognize and honor those friendships that mean the most to us.

For a small donation benefitting the Grizzly Cupboard, delicious macaroons, cookies, and hot chocolate were available, thanks to the generosity of New York Tech's Campus Dining. Donors could choose to write their name on a heart that was displayed throughout the remainder of February. What a warm way to share friendship and support our friends!

Thanks to the efforts of the committee, this event raised \$691, which will go to support the Grizzly Cupboards.



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# Fall Garden Tour

To educate students on the value of fresh produce and teach them how some can be grown with limited space, the School of Health Professions and Bear Bytes sponsored a Fall Garden Tour on September 21, 2022. Participants were able to tour the garden, learn about what is harvested there, sample delicious produce, and even plant their own vegetable. Special thanks to School of Health Professions Faculty Dr. Mindy Haar and Dr. Lorraine Mongiello and Capital Planning and Facilities Foreman Jimmy O'Rourke for their efforts on this event.



# Farmers Market in NYC



During the Spring 2023 semester, the New York City Grizzly Cupboard offered three Farmers Market days on Fridays. During these days, an array of free fresh produce was set up in the 26 W. 61st Street lounge, a floor above the Grizzly Cupboard, and was open to any and all students who stopped by. The produce days were made possible by the grant allocated to the NYC Grizzly Cupboard from the NYC Community Food Connection (CFC) and their partner vendor, H. Shrier Foods. Over the course of the three separate Farmers Market events, 150 students received a variety of fresh produce such as potatoes, apples, kale, corn, and more! Through this effort, we distributed approximately 1,800 pounds of produce. The Bear Bytes Committee looks forward to continuing these Farmers Markets in the upcoming Academic Year.







# BEAR BYTES

## Are You Interested in Donating to Bear Bytes?

There are several convenient ways to support our pantries:

[Amazon Wish List](#)

[Faculty & Staff Payroll Deduction](#)

[Make a Direct Donation](#)

Non-perishable donations can be delivered to:  
Student Activities Center, 2nd Floor Suite in Long  
Island or

26 W. 61st Street, 1st Floor Suite  
in New York City

[Learn more about Bear Bytes here](#)

