



By: *Elise Quevedo*

# 5 Tech Giants Who Are Changing the Game of Open Tech Learning



A few days ago, I shared my thoughts on Cisco U., the digital learning platform from Cisco that is making technological education more accessible than ever.

Remember when I said, what if all the major tech players did the same? What if learning became as open as innovation itself?

Spoiler alert, many already have ;)

Learning from inside the belly of the beast. What better way to learn than from those creating the technological solutions of today and tomorrow?

Some of the biggest names in technology are stepping up as educators. These platforms are more than tutorials or certifications. They are signals of a changing world where knowledge is power, and access to it becomes a basic right. Remember the days when only those with the most \$\$\$ would have access?

So this week, as I greet you all from the beautiful Granada's Alhambra, where I am experiencing their Easter celebrations for the first time, let me dive into five tech giants who are reshaping how we learn, grow, and prepare for the jobs of the future.

## Cisco U.

Cisco U. is the embodiment of Cisco's transformation. The platform is intuitive, inclusive, and intelligent. I will leave you with the link to the previous [article](#).

## Microsoft Learn

Microsoft **Learn** might be, in my opinion, the most underrated treasure trove in the entire digital learning space. It's comprehensive. And it's designed with career outcomes in mind. Whether you want to master Azure cloud services, get certified in security fundamentals, or explore Power BI, the platform walks you through a clear, practical path.

Microsoft Learn is scenario-based. You're solving real-world problems, simulating job tasks, and building digital confidence. For those who prefer structured guidance, learning paths and interactive labs make the journey smoother.

Microsoft has a dedication to lifelong learning. With tailored content for students, professionals, and educators alike, Microsoft is developing tech talent in addition to tech tools.

## Google Cloud Skills Boost & Grow with Google

Google plays a dual role in the learning revolution, and both are equally powerful.

With Google Cloud Skills Boost, it **delivers** a high-impact platform tailored to cloud professionals. With hands-on labs, the courses are project-based, and the credentials carry weight in the hiring world. You can't fake your way through a Google badge. You earn it, and it means something.



*Google empowers people with no tech background to enter high-demand fields and get hired*

Then there is Grow with Google, which takes a more **inclusive** and community-focused approach. This programme reaches far beyond tech professionals. It's designed for job seekers, career changers, small businesses, and students from under-represented communities. With offerings like IT Support and Data Analytics certificates, Google empowers people with no tech background to

enter high-demand fields and get hired.

## Amazon – AWS Skill Builder

Amazon's approach to digital learning is as expansive as its cloud footprint. AWS Skill Builder is an always-evolving **platform** packed with hundreds of courses, from beginner-level cloud literacy to advanced topics in machine learning, serverless computing, and even generative AI.

There's a path for everyone: students, IT pros, developers, and business leaders. You can earn micro-credentials, prep for globally recognised AWS certifications, and even simulate real-life cloud environments with their interactive labs.

But what sets AWS apart is its re/Start programme, where Amazon leans into its heart.

re/Start is a full-time, tuition-free training program designed for individuals who are unemployed or underemployed, many of whom have never written a line of code.

Over 12 weeks, participants go from zero to job-ready, with career coaching, interview prep, and direct links to hiring partners. AWS says, "Here's how the cloud works" and "Here's how you can thrive in the cloud economy."

## IBM – SkillsBuild

IBM has quietly built one of the most impact-driven educational ecosystems in the industry. With SkillsBuild, they **focus** on bridging the digital divide for the workforce of tomorrow and for those left behind by the workforce of yesterday.

The platform offers AI, cybersecurity, data analytics courses, and more. But it goes beyond technical skills. Learners also receive training in soft skills, digital literacy, and workplace readiness, skills essential for long-term success that are sometimes ignored by

other platforms.

IBM's commitment to underserved populations deserves kudos.

SkillsBuild partners with nonprofits, workforce development boards, and educational institutions to support military veterans, refugees, marginalised youth, and adult learners looking for second chances.

It isn't about building a better résumé. It's about rebuilding lives with dignity and purpose.

## Education For All, Can It Happen?

In my eyes, these five tech giants are tearing down the gates and letting knowledge flow freely. They're planting seeds in places where talent has long been overlooked.

But here's the catch, this access cannot be optional anymore or just a marketing stunt on paper. Every tech company that wants to shape the future must ask itself, are we also shaping the people who will build that future?

**It's not enough to innovate, we must educate, not just the few but the many**

It's not enough to innovate, we must educate, not just the few but the many. Not just the privileged but the passionate. Because talent is everywhere, even if the opportunity is not available yet!

## A Hopeful Future

If you're reading this, maybe you're just beginning your tech journey. Or maybe you're deep into your career and wondering how to give back. Either way, you're not alone. The gates are opening, and you have the right to walk through them.



And the movement is clearly bigger than just these five. Other tech titans are joining the learning revolution, too.



*Think bigger than Silicon Valley; what if the next global innovator is sitting in a small town, tablet in hand, logged into a free course that changes everything?*

NVIDIA empowers developers and researchers with its Deep Learning Institute, offering hands-on training in AI, accelerated computing, and robotics. Meta provides learning tracks in AR/VR development and AI ethics through Meta Blueprint.

Salesforce Trailhead has built an entire universe for mastering CRM, leadership, and soft skills. Oracle University continues to train global IT professionals in cloud, database, and application services. And Intel is investing in AI and edge computing education, including programmes for students and under-represented communities.

As these learning ecosystems evolve, I'll be watching, learning, and sharing more stories. Because this movement is far from over. In fact, it's just getting started.

And so I leave you with this thought, think bigger than Silicon Valley; what if the next global innovator is sitting in a small town, tablet in hand, logged into a free course that changes everything?

That's the kind of future I believe in. And I hope you do, too. It's a collective shift. A global signal. A call to action.