



Open Badge

Born: October 2011, Barcelona, Spain
Parents: Mozilla Foundation & McArthur Foundation

MY SKILLS

While over 90% of actual learning takes place outside of institutions of formal education, most of it remains invisible. It is to address this challenge that I was born as a child of the Mozilla Foundation and the McArthur Foundation. *I now have millions of siblings!*

While initially conceived to make informal learning visible, I have also discovered that *I have the power to make informal recognition visible!* Communities of learners and citizens are now empowered to establish local and global *open recognition ecosystems*.

MY EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE

I have a broad experience ranging from primary to higher education. In Italy, Cineca, the consortium of Italian universities has developed **.Bestr**, an Open Badge platform for all Italian institutions of higher education. There are many Universities in Europe that have understood the value of Open Badges in making visible competencies that are critical to employment in the 21st century.

I feel that an important contribution could be made towards opening access to the recognition of prior learning and experience. For example, North Eastern University, in the US, is offering academic credits to those who have earned IBM Open Badges.

MY WORK EXPERIENCE

I have been chosen by **IBM**, to bring human resource management into the 21st century: "Optimizing the project staffing process through Digital Badges, to make more efficient and strategic staffing decisions." **Over 500,000 badges** have been delivered, and it's just the beginning! Beyond learning, Open Badges are a means to update in real time competency frameworks and elicit career and continuous professional development pathways.

MY SOCIAL EXPERIENCE

One year after I was born I was chosen as a catalyst for the **Chicago Summer of Learning**, a city-wide learning initiative. Tens of thousands of badges were issued and a number of cities decided to follow Chicago's example.

France's **Badgeons la Normandie** is the first initiative establishing an open recognition ecosystem at a regional level to establish a *learning region*.

MY INTERNATIONAL MOBILITY

Students love me to create "international pathway" badges; once approved by a university, I travel to other countries where I get skills and achievements endorsed by the people and organisations I meet throughout my journey. It is a great way to expand recognition networks.

MY INTERESTS

I like addressing challenging problems that have not found a satisfactory solution, yet!

MY PERSONAL VALUES

I believe in trust and openness as the means to create an open and inclusive society. *Open Badges are the currency of a trust and recognition economy.*

MY MAIN CHALLENGE IS...



Open Badges are **verifiable claims** recognising a person's achievements, competencies, talents, affiliations or aspirations. They describe:

- Who are the **recipient** and **issuer** of the badge
- What are the **criteria** for its delivery
- What is the **evidence** supporting the claim



making informal recognition visible



making informal learning visible



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