

Kotlin Foundation Annual Report'23

kotlinfoundation.org

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Jeffrey van Gogh

On behalf of
the Kotlin Foundation Board

2023 was a year of rapid change for the Kotlin Foundation. Since its inception in 2017, the foundation has had two corporate members (JetBrains and Google) and has had a relatively small scope: language evolution and trademarks. Last year brought growth in both membership and areas of engagement. We ↗welcomed our first three silver members: Gradle, Touchlab, and Shopify. All three had a significant impact on the Kotlin ecosystem prior to joining and have already started active ↗participation on various committees and the Foundation Board.

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In addition to this, we also expanded our scope: ecosystem and education programs. We launched ↗[grants](#) for open-source Kotlin library authors, and we hosted a student contest around Kotlin Multiplatform, with the ↗[winners](#) getting an expenses-paid trip to KotlinConf. Both programs generated great results. With this expansion, the board believes it is worth sharing in detail what the Foundation is about, how we're taking care of our funds, and how our programs are helping to grow the thriving Kotlin community. Please feel free to reach out to the ↗[board](#) if you have any questions after reading this annual report.



Jeffrey van Gogh

On behalf of
the Kotlin Foundation Board

Our mission is to promote and advance the Kotlin ecosystem. We oversee breaking changes in the language, protect the Kotlin trademark name, promote creation of Kotlin Multiplatform libraries, and increase the adoption of Kotlin in education

Founding members



Google

Silver members



Gradle



shopify

TOUCHLAB

Board of Directors



Maxim Shafirov
JetBrains



Hadi Hariri
JetBrains



Grace Kloba
Google



Jeffrey van Gogh
Google



Jeffrey Namnum
Touchlab



Werner Dietl
Independent Director

Language
committee

Ecosystem
committee

Education
committee

Trademark
committee

Operating
committee

In 2023

We launched a Kotlin Multiplatform contest for students with **43** submissions and **3** winners, who visited KotlinConf'23

We opened a membership program and welcomed **3** new companies: Gradle, Touchlab, and Shopify

We launched a Grants program for KMP Library authors with **100** applications, **5** winners, and **\$30K** in prize money

We received **\$172,000** from Foundation members for supporting the advance of the Kotlin ecosystem

We participated in the Google Summer of Code program with **4** projects

Some numbers

317

universities all over
the world
are teaching Kotlin

710K

active developers
use Kotlin
every month

1.2M

GitHub repositories
currently use Kotlin
as their primary language

Members of the Kotlin Foundation are dedicated to advancing and broadening the Kotlin ecosystem. Besides actively participating in the Foundation's activities, they adopt Kotlin in their codebases and contribute meaningful projects to the community

Google has many engineers contributing to Kotlin open source efforts: Kotlin Compiler: we made large contributions to K2 readiness & Kotlin Native memory improvements. Kotlin Gradle: we delivered large parts of the incremental compilation support and the new hierarchical multiplatform plugin. Library ecosystem: we contributed Kotlin Codegen in Room & experimental KSP support for Dagger & Hilt.



James Ward
Google

We continue to invest in Multiplatform, including server-side platforms such as Ktor, as well as general purpose libraries. With Compose Multiplatform for iOS hitting Alpha this year, we are on track to provide an all-in-one solution for software developers who are looking for cross-platform solutions.



Hadi Hariri
JetBrains

As silver members of the Kotlin Foundation, we're investing in the iOS developer experience to make it easier for teams to adopt Kotlin Multiplatform. Releasing SKIE (Swift/Kotlin Interface Enhancer) as an open-source library addresses a frequent pain point for iOS developers working with KMP.



Justin Mancinelli
Touchlab

Gradle Build Tool strategically leverages the Kotlin language as its next-generation DSL that brings full IDE assistance to editing build logic. Last year, Kotlin DSL became the default for new Gradle builds thanks to the joint effort of Gradle, JetBrains, and Google.

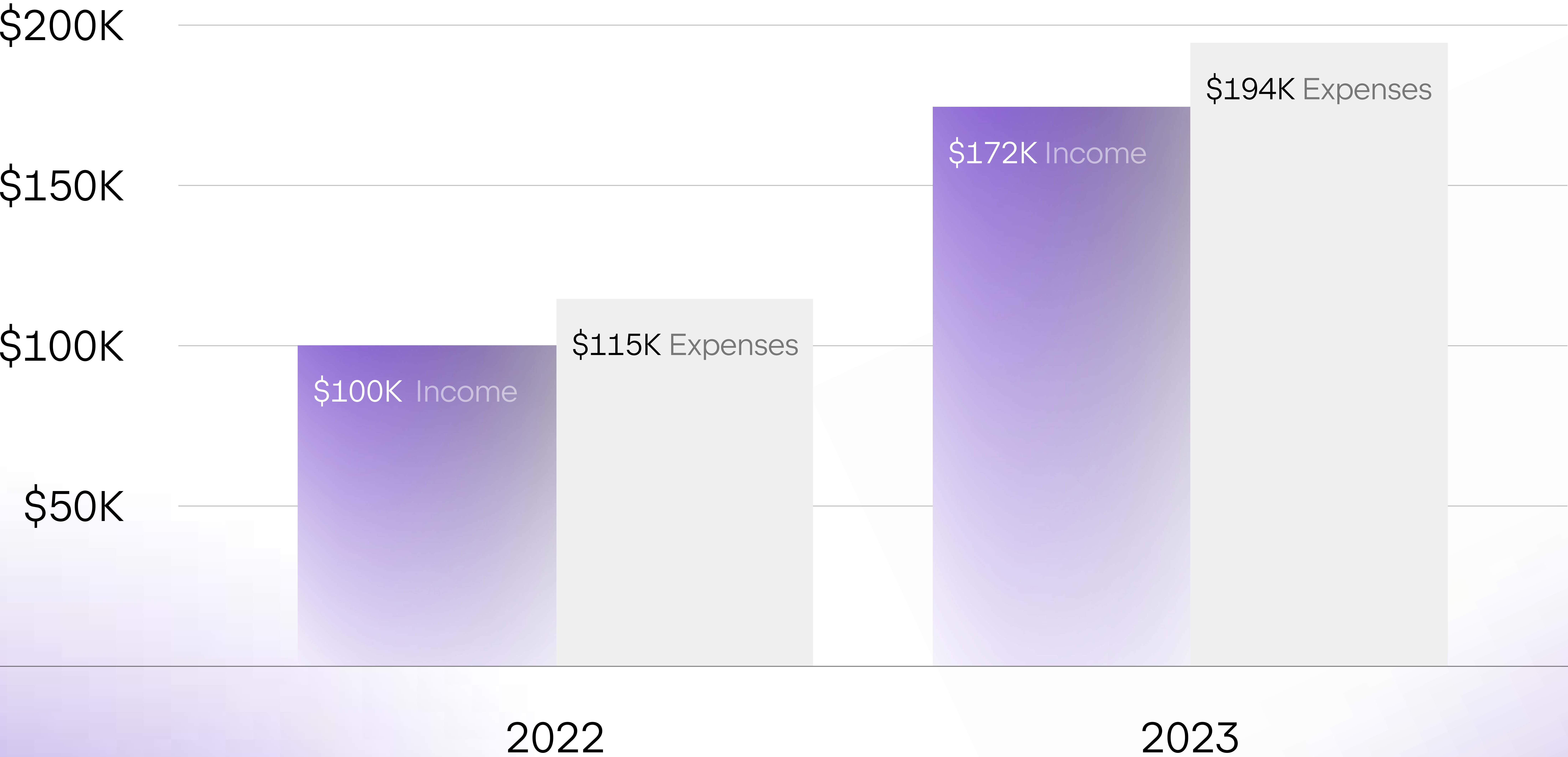


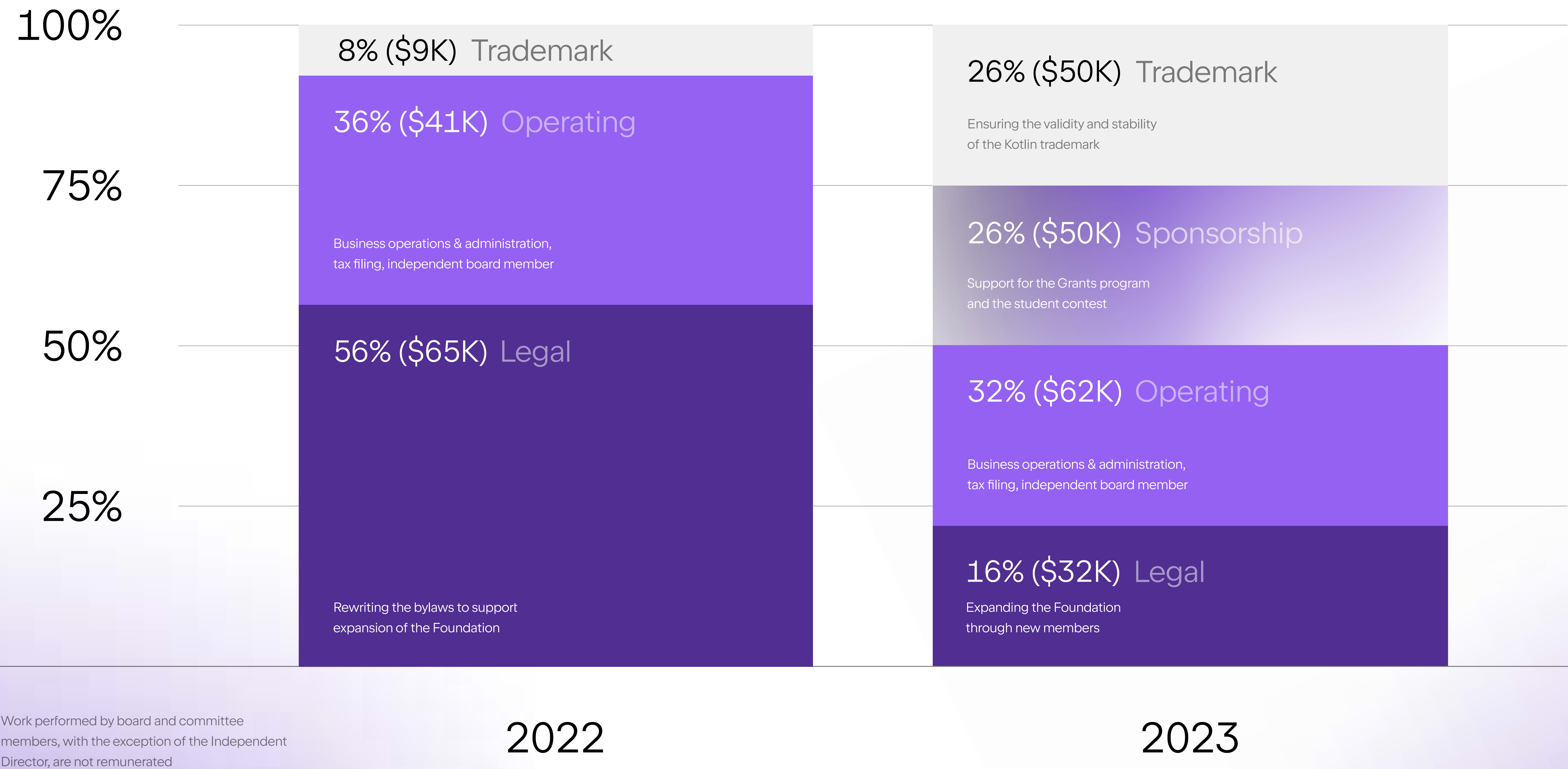
Piotr Jagielski
Gradle

At Shopify, we're committed to advancing mobile app development through a significant investment in Kotlin, particularly Kotlin Multiplatform. It powers some of our most critical features that are used by millions of users. We're working closely with JetBrains, providing feedback on language features and tooling, and helping improve the experience of using Kotlin Multiplatform at scale.



Mustafa Ali
Shopify





The Kotlin Foundation's Ecosystem committee has completed its first round of grants to developers. The grants were targeted towards high-value libraries that the committee identified as the best examples of work that generally supported the Kotlin community, and specifically Kotlin Multiplatform.

↗ Coil

An image loading library.

↗ Store

Typed repository that returns a flow from local and networked data sources.

↗ http4k

An HTTP toolkit enabling serving and consuming HTTP services.

↗ KMP-NativeCoroutines

A library to use Kotlin Coroutines from Swift code in KMP apps.

↗ Lyricist

An i18n and l10n library for Jetpack Compose.

Developing KMP-NativeCoroutines has been a lot of fun, and being one of the Kotlin Foundation Grant winners has provided extra recognition and motivation to keep working on it. KMP-NativeCoroutines is all about improving the developer experience around using coroutines code from Swift, but its own DX could still use some love.

Thanks to the grant from the Kotlin Foundation, it's going to get the ❤️ it needs to get to that stable 1.0 release. Things like bidirectional interop, IDE support, and improved documentation are all coming.



Rick Clephas

KMP-NativeCoroutines

The Kotlin Foundation's Education committee held the first Kotlin Multiplatform student contest. Students and recent graduates were asked to create and submit a project that will be heavily reinforced by Kotlin Multiplatform.

We received a total of 43 submissions from all over the world. After careful deliberation, our panel of judges has chosen the top 3 winners. We brought them to KotlinConf'23, compensating travel and accommodation costs.



I took part in the contest as it was a great opportunity to improve my coding skills and gave me a lot of motivation to deliver a fully working multiplatform app. I've had a great time at KotlinConf, meeting people from the Kotlin community and having the ability to grasp from them new ideas and patterns for future work.

Maciej Procyk | [github.com](#)
University of Warsaw, mini-games

The KMM contest showcases Kotlin's value to its community, and at KotlinConf, I had the unique opportunity to learn about Kotlin's future and vision directly from the creators. It was an unforgettable memory that inspires my journey in tech.

Ahmet Burak Ilhan | [github.com](#)
Istanbul Biruni University, DoGoodMobile

Only four months after creating my first Kotlin application, I stumbled upon the contest, excited to apply what I had already learnt. The competition introduced me to the "Kotlin Multiplatform Multiverse," and to be honest, I've been captivated ever since. What I particularly love about Kotlin Multiplatform is the ability to deploy to different platforms without the overhead of learning a new language.

Brian Kamau Mbigo | [github.com](#)
Multimedia University of Kenya, VisioZoezi

The Kotlin Foundation participated in the Google Summer of Code with mentors provided by JetBrains, Google, and Gradle

Kotlin Multiplatform Flogger

Contributor: Giancarlo Buenaflor

Achievement: iOS support was added to the [Flogger library](#).

Eclipse Kotlin Gradle Editing

Contributor: Nikolai Vladimirov

Achievement: The Eclipse Buildship plugin has experimental support for editing Gradle KTS build files.

Parallel Stacks Debugger

Contributor: Raehat Singh Nanda

Achievement: An IntelliJ plugin enabling graphical display of coroutines stacks and drill-into navigation.

Enhance kotlinx-benchmark

Contributor: Henok Woldesenbet

Achievements: Improved docs, error messages, and profiler usage for the library.

We're going to continue growing the Kotlin Foundation, maintaining current programs and exploring new opportunities to support the ecosystem and Kotlin in education.

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Expansion of
Gold membership

2

A new round of
Grants program

3

A new Kotlin Multiplatform
Contest for KotlinConf'24

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Maxim Shafirov
President of
the Kotlin Foundation

It is awesome to see Kotlin adoption growing across multiple platforms and technology stacks. The Kotlin community has proven to be extremely diverse, open-minded, and welcoming. We are amazed by the Kotlin team's commitment to catering to the community's needs by both providing a steady pace of innovation across the Kotlin ecosystem and ensuring a reliable foundation that others can build upon.

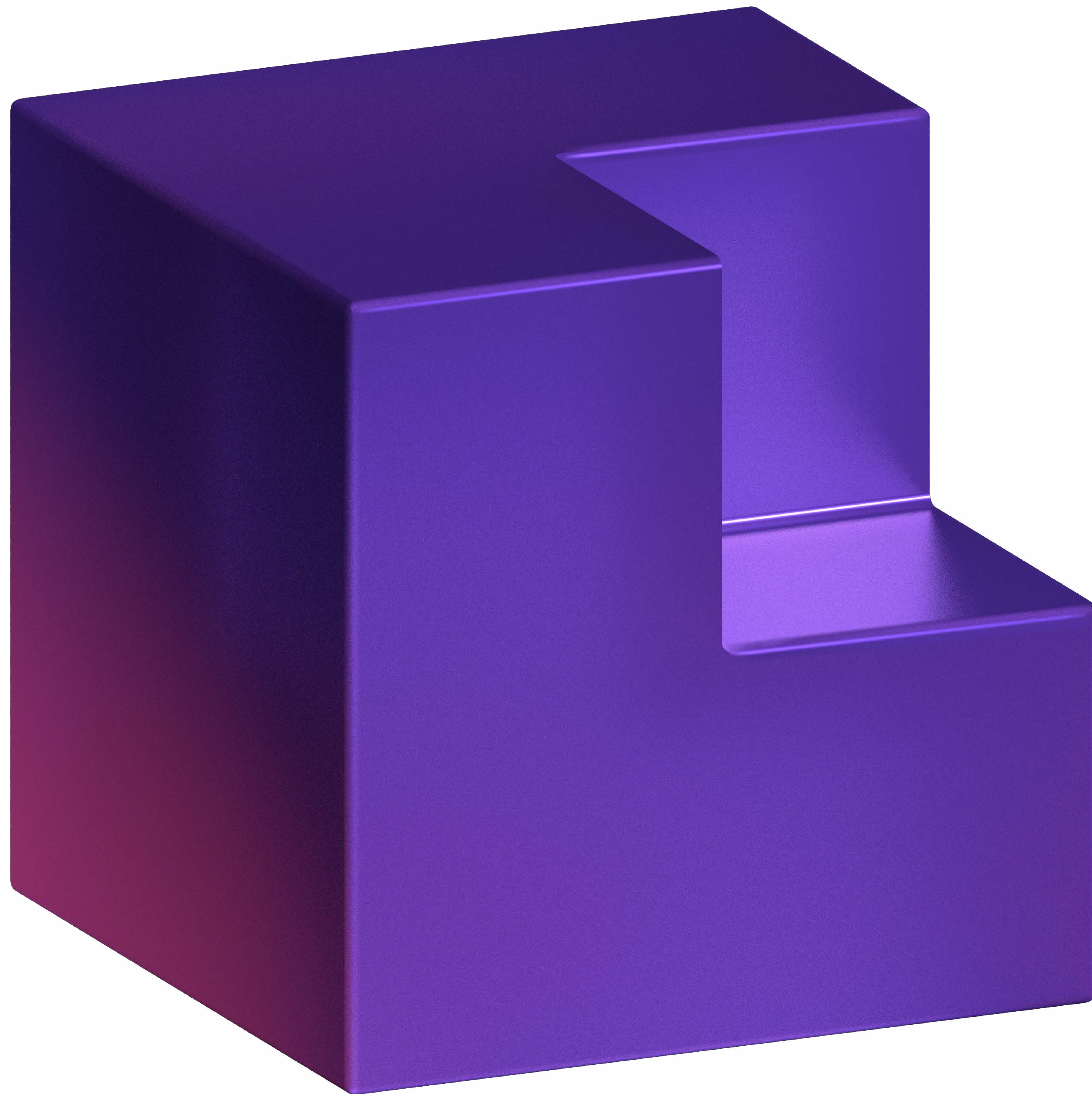
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It is not a coincidence that we at the Kotlin Foundation have full alignment and support from our member companies and from the Kotlin community for multiplatform library ecosystem initiatives, educational initiatives, and ensuring language stability.

Let's make creating quality, modern, performant, and scalable software a joyful process – together.



Maxim Shafirov
President of
the Kotlin Foundation



Have any questions? Contact us!

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hello@kotlinfoundation.org