Danielle (Dani) Horowitz entered Hofstra University in 2000, pursuing a BS in computer science with a minor in business computer information systems. In February 2002, during her sophomore year, she started the DaniWeb.com IT discussion community as a hobby project. She turned it into a full-time business when she graduated from Hofstra in December 2005. DaniWeb.com has developed into a thriving online community of over 1 million IT professionals and 10 million visitors a month, making it not only one of the largest social media websites in its niche, but also one of the largest publications on the Web to date.

In addition to running and doing the majority of the Web development work for DaniWeb.com, Ms. Horowitz hosts events throughout Manhattan during Internet Week, Advertising Week and Social Media Week, with each event seeing an average of 1,000 attendees. She also hosts a bimonthly meet-up group for techies in Nassau, Suffolk and eastern Queens, and she speaks on panels at search engine conferences. Most recently, in March 2014, Ms. Horowitz launched DaniPad, a brick-and-mortar co-working community for the tech industry in Queens, New York, making it the first technology-only community center east of Manhattan.