



FAQ

Q: What is the hack.summit()?

hack.summit() is a virtual conference where you can learn from the world's most renowned programming language creators, open-source contributors, and thought leaders.

Q: When does hack.summit() take place?

hack.summit() broadcasts live online December 1 - 4, 2014 from 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. PST.

Q: Where will hack.summit() take place?

hack.summit() will be broadcast 100 % virtually over Crowdcast using Google+ Hangouts. You can tune in on the computer from the comfort of your home or office.

Q: How much does the event cost?

You can earn a ticket via pay-what-you-want donation to the coding nonprofit of your choice. For those unable to donate, we ask that you spread the word on Twitter to help us find more donors. We want to ensure that everyone has access to this special event.

Q: What are the goals of hack.summit()?

hack.summit()'s goals are to educate developers worldwide on software development best-practices, to raise money for a coalition of coding nonprofits, and to encourage mentorship among programmers.

Q: What topics will be discussed?

Dozens of speakers will discuss their experiences in the field, sharing insights and anecdotes to educate and inspire coders of all levels. No specific knowledge of any given technology or coding language is required, but a general understanding of programming is very helpful, as some of the talks will be technical.

Q: Who are the speakers?

Speakers range from programming language creators, major open source code creators, and developers who have made significant advances in the field, including:

- Tom Chi (co-creator Google Glass)
- Grady Booch (creator the Unified Modeling Language)

- David Heinemeier Hansson (inventor of Ruby on Rails)
- Brian Fox (invented the GNU Bash shell)
- Hakon Wium Lie (inventor of CSS)
- Alex Gaynor (Director, Python Software Foundation, and core committer to Django)
- Sarah Allen (Presidential Innovation Fellow, led development for many Adobe products)
- Gilad Bracha (co-author of the Java Language Specification)
- Kent Beck (creator of Extreme Programming, created Test Driven Development, co-created Agile, author of 9 books)
- Ward Cunningham (inventor of the wiki, contributed to Extreme Programming, co-author of Design Patterns)
- Hampton Catlin (creator of Sass, Haml, m.wikipedia.org, book author)
- Matei Zaharia (creator of Apache Spark)
- Melody Meckfessel (Google Director of Engineering)
- Jon Skeet (the top answerer on StackOverflow)
- Scott Hanselman (author of multiple books)
- Jeff Haynie (founder of Appcelerator)
- Ryan Bubinski (founder of Codecademy)
- Aaron Skonnard (founder of Pluralsight)
- Floyd Marinescu (founder of InfoQ)
- Steve Newcomb (founder of Famo.us)
- Orion Henry (founder of Heroku)
- Janet Wiener (Engineering at Facebook, big data expert)
- Scott Chacon (CIO, Github)
- Chad Fowler (CTO, Wunderlist, well-known programming educator and blogger)
- Salil Deshpande (open source investor titan)
- Hadi Partovi (founder of Code.org, was in charge of Internet Explorer, advisor to Dropbox and Facebook)
- Rebecca Parsons (CTO at Thoughtworks)
- Qi Lu (Executive vice president of Microsoft's Applications and Services Group)
- Chris Richardson (Java Champion, book author, founder of CloudFoundry)
- Bram Cohen (Inventor of Bittorrent)

Q: Who are hack.summit()'s nonprofit partners?

Partners include a coalition of a dozen nonprofits that directly benefit programming education, including:

- Code.org
- Black Girls Code
- Codestarter
- CoderDojo
- Women Who Code
- ScriptEd
- Code the Change
- GiveCamp
- Code2040
- Ladies Learning Code

Bridge Foundry
...and more

Q: Why is hack.summit() a virtual conference?

Physical conferences are expensive and require travel; their logistics impede efficiency and attendee access. With the advent of new technologies such as Google+ Hangouts and Crowdcast, we believe that it's now possible to deliver a successful virtual conference without all this hassle. We see ourselves as stewards of the virtual conference space, and hope that if we are successful, more events like this will occur in the future.

Q: Can I ask the speakers questions during hack.summit()?

Yes! You can ask questions during the event, which will then be broadcast over Twitter to our speakers. The audience can also upvote/downvote submissions to ensure that the the speakers are asked the most popular questions.

Q: Will hack.summit() be recorded and posted online after December 4?

Yes! Videos of the speakers' sessions will be posted online following the event. We will share the link via social media and the hack.summit() site.

Q: I'd like to meet the speakers! How do I do that?

Attendees can jump into the conference's Google+ Hangouts with speakers after their talk via a provided link. During this time, participants have the opportunity to engage in a private conversation with the speakers on a space-available basis. In addition, we will hold a lottery for each attendee to receive an hour-long mentoring session with participating speakers.

Q: What other perks does hack.summit() provide to participants?

hack.summit() will host a lottery that offers free mentoring sessions between speakers and participants. Winners will be chosen during the conference and informed via email.

Q: How do I know if I won the lottery for a free mentoring session with a speaker?

This will be announced over email after the summit.

Q: I'd like to be a partner for hack.summit(). How do I get involved?

If you have access to an audience (as a meetup organizer, developer community leader, media outlet, etc.) then we'd love to partner with you. Qualified partners will be provided with free passes so their community can bypass the registration process, and will be given exposure on the hacksummit() site. Please contact hack.summit@triplepointpr.com if you or your organization is interested in partnering with hack.summit().

Q: I'm a member of the press. Who can I speak to about this event?

Please contact our PR team at hack.summit@triplepointpr.com.

Q: Who is organizing hack.summit()?

hack.summit() is being organized and sponsored by hack.hands(), a virtual coding mentorship platform. hack.hands() is contributing technology resources and subsidizing infrastructure costs to connect mentors and mentees, and are not profiting from the event. All proceeds from the event will go to hack.summit()'s nonprofit partners.

Q: Who are the advisors to hack.summit()?

Tom Chi, co-creator of Google Glass
Alistair Croll, author of Lean Analytics
Frank Greco, founder of the NY Java SIG
Dustin Clingman, chairman emeritus of the IGDA
Mike Perham, author of Ruby on Rails sidekiq gem
Matthew Dorey, founder of the Factory
Damian Madray, founder of Hunie
Cy Hossain, founder of Crowdcast

Q: What is the hack.pledge()?

More information about the hack.pledge() will be revealed on December 1, 2014 during hack.summit(). Stay tuned for more details. :)