

Writers' Challenge Report

By AdaLink



Project Name: Yaad Labs + AdaLink/Frenchies Club + Cardano Curation: Cardano the

Animated Movie

IdeaScale URL: https://cardano.ideascale.com/c/idea/120639

Overview

Yaad Labs is producing an animated short movie that highlights key development milestones in Cardano's history, focusing on the impact of its five eras—Byron, Shelley, Goguen, Basho, and Voltaire—on the community. To enhance the narrative and showcase why the Cardano movement matters globally, Yaad Labs has allocated a budget of 5,000 ADA to collect stories from the Cardano community. These personal stories will be featured in the animated movie, bringing the journey to life.

In collaboration with AdaLink and the Frenchies Club, a unique challenge called *Writers' Challenge – The Chronicles of Cardano, an Animated Movie!* was created to encourage the Cardano community to participate in shaping the movie's script. Community members were invited to submit real, personal stories demonstrating how Cardano has made a meaningful impact on their lives, with additional recognition given to stories that highlighted how technological advancements during the various eras influenced their experiences.



Challenge Description

Participants submitted their stories via the Frenchies Club organization on the Clarity DAO platform, and the top three submissions with the most votes received 1,000 ADA each. Additionally, the top 10 stories were awarded a Frenchie Founders by AdaLink NFT, with 2,000 ADA distributed among voters who participated in the initiative. Voting eligibility was exclusive to holders of a Frenchie Founders by AdaLink NFT, with the submission deadline set for October 11, 2024. By sharing their stories,



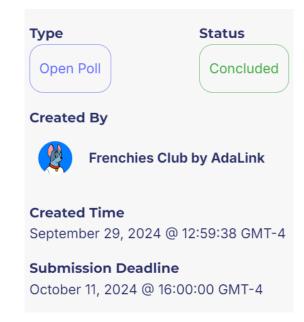
participants agreed to have them adapted for the movie by Yaad Labs, contributing to a script that will immortalize Cardano's journey through animation.

Date Challenge Started

Starting Date: September 29th, 2024

Date Challenge Concluded

Completion Date: October 11, 2024



Challenge KPIs

- 1. Engage the community to encourage participation in the challenge.
- 2. Collect at least 10 stories using the Clarity DAO platform.
- 3. Distribute rewards to all participants and voters.
- 4. Create a script format suggestion based on the collected stories.

Community Engagement

To attract participants to the Writers' Challenge, we used our X (formerly Twitter) account, which had 2,579 followers at the time of writing this report. The first announcement was published on September 30, 2024, followed by six reminder posts on both X and Discord on different dates.



Stories Collected

AdaLink utilized the Frenchies Club organization on the Clarity DAO platform to collect submissions for the Writers' Challenge – *The Chronicles of Cardano*, an animated movie! We received a total of 19 stories from various members of the Cardano community.



Challenge Results

Governance Details:

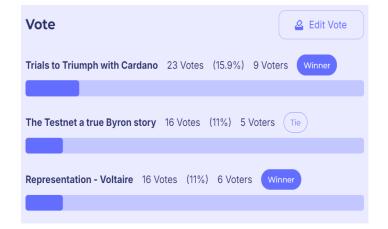
A total of 59 votes were cast during the voting phase of the challenge. Voting eligibility was exclusive to holders of a Frenchie Founders by AdaLink NFT. The voting power was measured as 1 NFT equaling 1 vote, and the minimum threshold to qualify as a winner was 5 votes.

The AdaLink team casted five votes for the following stories, which met the criteria of being real stories and within the words limit: Trials to Triumph with Cardano, The Testnet: A True Byron Story, Decentralized Self-Governance, Representation – Voltaire, How Cardano Changed My Life, Smazackie: Life of Web3, The Journey of Lourde, The Izzy Tale.

Stake Address used to vote: stake1uxg5t5x2rswaatyqcgg3ze74fskr4s30c8czhel96pat5kgwku7zk

Voting Results:

- Top 3 Winners:
- 1. Trials to Triumph with Cardano 23 Votes
- 2.Representation Voltaire 16 Votes
- 3.The Testnet: A True Byron Story 16 Votes
- Top 10 Winners:
- 1. Trials to Triumph with Cardano 23 Votes
- 2.Representation Voltaire 16 Votes
- 3. The Testnet: A True Byron Story 16 Votes
- 4. Cardano Impact Stories 12 Votes
- 5. Shelley: Staking on the Mainnet 11 Votes
- 6. Goguen: Smart Contracts Online 11 Votes
- 7. Basho: Speeding Up the Network 11 Votes
- 8. Voltaire: Power to the People 11 Votes
- 9. Smazackie: Life of Web3 7 Votes
- 10. Journey of Lourde the 900 6 Votes





Rewards Distribution

The top 3 winners received 1,000 \$ADA each:

Trials to Triumph with Cardano -

Tx ID: 162ea5a4263dda2daff93c070be4a304e09943b22b7375cc10d1cb04e892e5f8 Representation – Voltaire –

Tx ID: 51ee345266d9ab9e754254004558cfdb7af80807309af037578d149465bb5b8d **The Testnet a true Byron story** –

Tx ID: 3303d8b58de5242ab97c7d438d09e019556ba87a2abdfcbcd0fcf303ec9b4c39

The top 10 winners received 1 Frenchie Founders by AdaLink NFT:

Tx ID: 2b0152ca1ef65a160cd96ab67ef12e229ec3b6e8d5b3099c94e3e53c1ff6dbcc

2,000 \$ADA were distributed among 54 votes and 24 voters:

37.037 \$ADA per vote

Tx ID: d6488b66d130de3b7b36f14a0e8885e675868739681a2fabb67ea0ed7739f751

Winning Stories:

Story 1: The Testnet a true Byron story

Option Description:

A true story

Setting: a newbie stakepool operator (Or mr. Byron himself), figuring out how to setup his stakepool. Enjoying every minute in the stakepool operator community.

892 characters

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When Cardano mainnet wasn't live yet there was the testnet.

The node software was called Jormungandr and it was really unstable.

When you got two blocks scheduled during the night you had to set your alarm clock twice to see if the nodes were still running and make a quick decision to reset the node or let it run with the fingers crossed.

When you would decide to reset it, it took a mind of its own during the synchronisation of the chain. It could take 15 minutes or an hour to be up and running again.

If a block was scheduled, the television, the computers and the WIFI were all shutdown,



the cat was bound to the chair and everybody held its breath just to make sure nothing would interfere with the incoming block.

Learning to use Linux was a challenge and teaching others how to run their node was sometimes even a bigger challenge.

Those were the days, made many friends and fun memories.

Script Format Suggestion by AdaLink Team

Scene 1: INT. BYRON'S (DUCK) OFFICE - NIGHT

(Camera zooms into Byron's office, cluttered with random tech gear, mismatched cables, and coffee mugs. Byron, depicted as an anxious but determined duck, glances at his alarm clock, checking the time. His cat looks sleepy but curious, sits at one of the computer's large sound speakers,)

BYRON

(muttering to himself, beak twitching)

"Alright, Jormungandr, don't fail me now. Two blocks scheduled tonight. Let's see if you can hold it together, buddy..."

(He nervously sets 4 alarms on his vintage alarm clock. One reads 2:15 AM and the other 3:15 AM, 4:15AM, 5:15AM. Then looks at his cat sited on top of one of his large computer sound speakers)

BYRON

(looking at the cat)

"That should do it! Alarms every hour, just in case. But hey, can you please wake me up if I doze off?"

(The cat gives him a lazy glance, then giggles before curling up and immediately falling asleep on top of one of the speakers.)

BYRON

(smirking)

"Figures..."

(Byron settles into his chair, eyes darting nervously between the screen and the clock. As he leans back, hands clasped behind his head, the faint hum of his old PC fills the room.)

Slow fade out of this wide picture.



Scene 2: CLOSE-UP - NODE TERMINAL

An alarm goes off, 3:15 AM. Byron jolts awake, rushing to the screen.

(The terminal on the old computer shows the "Cardano" logo blinking, and suddenly the node software begins to lag. The screen displays an ominous error message.)

BYRON

(wide-eyed)

"Oh no! Are we crashing again?!"

(Byron quickly glances at his sleeping cat in the corner, who is bound to the chair to avoid WiFi disruption. The camera zooms into his webbed feet tapping nervously on the floor.)

BYRON

(panicked)

"Okay, come on, come on!"

(He relaxes, staring at the terminal. A green checkmark confirms the sync. His eyes widen in joy.)

BYRON

(jumping up)

"-still syncing... phew! We're back in business!"

Scene 3: INT. BYRON'S LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

(The entire house is in lockdown mode. The television is off, WiFi is disconnected, and Byron is tiptoeing across the room like a secret agent, trying not to disturb the delicate balance of his node.)

BYRON

(whispering to the Cat)

"No one breathes! If this node syncs, I'll finally get that block... and maybe some sleep."

Scene 4: INT. BYRON'S OFFICE - NIGHT

(Byron resets the node, glancing anxiously at the screen as the synchronization begins. The screen shows a loading bar stuck at 35%.)

BYRON

(sighs, slumping into his chair)

"It's like watching paint dry... or worse, watching my dreams crash."



(Suddenly, the screen shows the sync completing. Byron's beak twitches with joy, but the relief is short-lived as the clock strikes 4:45 AM.)

Scene 5: CLOSE-UP - NODE TERMINAL

(The node syncs successfully. The terminal flashes green as "Synchronization Complete" appears on the screen. Byron's eyes widen with excitement as he leaps from his chair.)
BYRON

(*quacking triumphantly*)

"I DID IT! The node synced! The block is mine!"

(Coin dripping sounds and the computer flashes blue, on the screen "340 ADA Rewards". Byron, filled with excitement, rushes to his computer and opens a video call with his fellow SPOs. The screen shows a grid of fellow ducks and other animal avatars, all representing different operators. Everyone's faces light up when they see Byron's gleeful expression.)

COMMUNITY MEMBER #1 (PENGUIN)

(*laughing*)

"Byron, did you really pull it off?"

COMMUNITY MEMBER #2 (DOGE)

(*cheering*)

"Looks like you're a real stakepool pro now!"

BYRON

(*proudly quacking, raising a celebratory cup of coffee*)

"Thanks, everyone! Couldn't have done it without the support of the SPO community. This one's for all of us!"

COMMUNITY MEMBER #3 (Turtle)

(*cheering*)

"Can you share some tips?"

(The video call erupts in cheers, with everyone toasting to Byron's success. Byron finally sits back in his chair, smiling and enjoying the moment.)

CLOSE-UP - BYRON'S MONITOR

(Suddenly, an email notification pops up on Byron's screen. The sender? IOG.)

BYRON



(*reading out loud in Charles tone and accent*)
"Dear SPOs, we've released a new node update..."

(Byron's face falls, his coffee cup frozen in mid-sip. The SPOs on the video call gasp in unison.)

COMMUNITY MEMBER #1 (PENGUIN) (*in disbelief*)
"Already? We just synced!"

BYRON

(*sighing*)

"Well, here we go again... time to update."

(The whole screen fades as Byron reluctantly closes his email and reopens the terminal, his enthusiasm tempered, but the work never-ending. The life of an SPO...)

Scene ends with Byron, tired but determined, back to work.

Story 2: Trials to Triumph with Cardano

Option Description:

Is your story a true/real story?

Yes

Describe your characters

The story features me (Abdulrahman Abdulbasit Adigun, Founder of Next Trend Labs), a young entrepreneur from Nigeria, determined to solve local financial issues. Other characters include the Next Trend Labs team and the Cardano community members.

Describe the setting

The story unfolds in Nigeria, where youth are struggling under the poor governance of our founding fathers. My journey began in 2019 pursuing my mission, but it took a significant turn during the Cardano Shelley era when I discovered Project Catalyst and extended into the Voltaire era, where community-driven governance offers new hope.

Share your story

As a young Nigerian entrepreneur from a humble background, I've always been driven by a dream to build a permissionless financial solution that could empower our youth, the ones abandoned by a broken system of Nigerian governance. In Nigeria, financial instability has long been the bane of opportunity, particularly for the youth who are left to fend for themselves with little to no support from those in power. The passion to bring



about change ignited in me early on, but the path was far from easy. In 2019, I began my journey with nothing but a vision. Like many, I sought to leverage the blockchain revolution, believing it could offer the keys to economic freedom for people who had long been denied it.

But not all journeys begin in triumph. When I first tried to build on the Binance Smart Chain, I invested my life savings into the project, hoping to create a financial lifeline for my community. That dream was shattered when I was betrayed by a fraudulent developer. Losing every bit of the hard-earned money I'd saved over the years felt like the end of the road. I remember the sleepless nights, wondering if I had failed not only myself but also the people I had hoped to uplift. It was devastating, and in that moment, it felt like my vision would remain forever unrealized, a distant dream consigned to the drawing board.

Then, in late 2021, I was introduced to Cardano. It was in the midst of its Shelley era, where decentralization was more than just a technical upgrade it was a movement built on the foundation of peer-reviewed research and collective community effort. The idea of decentralization resonated deeply with me. Shelley's emphasis on community-driven stake pools and the delegation of power wasn't just about building technology, it was about restoring faith in humanity. It gave me hope that there was still space in this world for fairness, for systems built by and for the people, especially for someone like me, the son of nobody trying to make a difference. I joined Project Catalyst, determined to rebuild my dream.

Although I failed to secure funding through Project Catalyst, I never felt defeated. Cardano had already solved 60% of the challenges I faced. By putting the community first, it aligned with the core values I wanted to bring to my work. The collaborative, research-driven ethos of Cardano reignited the belief that we could still create permissionless applications that served the greater good. Through my continued participation in the Cardano ecosystem and my involvement in DeFi, I was able to raise enough funds to keep Next Trend Labs, my company, afloat. Slowly, we started making progress again. This was not just a financial achievement, it was proof that the ecosystem Cardano had created could breathe life back into seemingly lost dreams. The true turning point came when one of our core team members was selected to represent Nigeria at the upcoming Cardano Constitutional Conference in Argentina, during the Voltaire era. This was a defining moment. For someone like me, who had come from nothing, to be able to send a representative from our small company to be part of a monumental decision about Cardano's on-chain governance felt surreal. Voltaire's focus on decentralized governance represented everything I believed in giving power back to the community, allowing everyone, no matter their background, to have a voice. Knowing that we would have a seat at the table in shaping the future of this ecosystem was a moment of deep pride and validation.

Today, my mission continues. Cardano gave me something I never thought I could find again after the Binance fiasco hope. It gave a voice to people like me, individuals who come from backgrounds where we're often overlooked. It offered a pathway not just to



financial recovery but to becoming part of a global movement focused on real, lasting change. Through the Shelley era's decentralization and Voltaire's approach to governance, Cardano empowered me to keep pushing forward, knowing that, in this community, even the smallest voices can make the loudest impact.

Thank You.

Script Format Suggestion 2 by AdaLink Team

Scene 1: EXT. BUSY NIGERIAN STREET - DAY

(Narration)

As a young Nigerian entrepreneur from a humble background, I've always been driven by a dream to build a permissionless financial solution that could empower our youth...

(SCENE)

The camera pans across a busy street in Lagos, showing youth walking aimlessly, vendors selling their goods, and a general sense of hustle. Amidst this, **ABDULRAHMAN**, dressed simply but determined, walks purposefully. His expression is focused as he weaves through the crowd, clearly on a mission. We follow him as he glances at his surroundings with a spark of hope in his eyes.

Scene 2: INT. SMALL OFFICE - NIGHT

(Narration)

In 2019, I began my journey with nothing but a vision. Like many, I sought to leverage the blockchain revolution...

(SCENE)

Abdulrahman sits at a small desk, cluttered with papers and an old laptop. The glow of the computer reflects on his face as he types away. A diagram of blockchain networks and notes about "financial freedom" can be seen pinned to the wall behind him. He pauses, leans back in his chair, and lets out a deep sigh—both exhausted and hopeful.

Scene 3: INT. OFFICE - DAY

(Narration)

But not all journeys begin in triumph. When I first tried to build on the Binance Smart Chain... I was betrayed by a fraudulent developer...

(SCENE)

The office now looks slightly more chaotic. Abdulrahman stares at a flashing error screen on his laptop, frustration etched on his face. He clenches his fists and slams them down



on the table. In the background, his team watches in silence, unable to find the words to console him.

Scene 4: EXT. NIGERIAN STREET - SUNSET

(Narration)

Losing every bit of the hard-earned money I'd saved over the years felt like the end of the road... It was devastating...

(SCENE)

Abdulrahman walks the same street from earlier, but this time with a defeated posture. The once vibrant scene now appears duller, and the hustle around him fades as he walks in slow motion. He stops to sit on a bench, his head in his hands, contemplating his next move.

Scene 5: INT. COMMUNITY HUB - DAY

(Narration)

Then, in late 2021, I was introduced to Cardano. It was in the midst of its Shelley era, where decentralization was more than just a technical upgrade...

(SCENE)

Cut to Abdulrahman at a community hub, surrounded by other young entrepreneurs. They gather around a large screen displaying Cardano's Shelley era roadmap. A member of the Cardano community is enthusiastically explaining the concept of stake pools. The energy in the room is positive, and Abdulrahman listens intently, feeling a renewed sense of hope.

Scene 6: EXT. STREET MARKET - DAY

(Narration)

Although I failed to secure funding through Project Catalyst, I never felt defeated. Cardano had already solved 60% of the challenges I faced...

(SCENE)

The scene shifts to a busy street market where Abdulrahman is handing out flyers about his project. He chats with local business owners, explaining how blockchain could help them. The interactions are filled with smiles and optimism, despite the earlier setbacks.



Scene 7: INT. CARDANO CONFERENCE ROOM - NIGHT

(Narration)

The true turning point came when one of our core team members was selected to represent Nigeria at the upcoming Cardano Constitutional Conference in Argentina...

(SCENE)

Abdulrahman and his team gather around a monitor in a medium conference room, watching a live stream of the Cardano Constitutional Workshop. As the camera zooms in, we see their excitement build as their team member speaks on behalf of Nigeria. The room erupts in cheers and high-fives.

Scene 8: EXT. NIGERIAN SUNSET - DAY

(Narration)

Today, my mission continues. Cardano gave me something I never thought I could find again... It gave a voice to people like me...

(SCENE)

The camera shows Abdulrahman walking confidently through the same street market from earlier, but this time with a sense of purpose and optimism. He smiles as he greets people along the way, the setting sun casting a warm glow over the scene, symbolizing hope for the future.

Story 3: Representation - Voltaire

Option Description:

My name is Samuel Hogan, but many of you may know me as \$shaggyrax. I first came into Carano in 2022 and it definitely took some time for me to find my place, but THIS is the True Story of how I have spread my wings in the Voltaire Era.

My initial motivation for coming to Cardano was as a tool for Music Distribution. I was on boarded to the ecosystem by my childhood friend who had spent a year or more prior to my arrival in the NFT and DeFi space. At the time he had observed a guy making serious moves in Music Tokens with the Cardano blockchain. His name was Jimmy Londo; and he goes by SickCity. After a short onboarding session with my friend where he hooked me up with a wallet and some Discord links as well as directed me to the Cardano community on X(Formerly Twitter). After that I sought out a meeting with Jimmy!

From my first meeting with Jimmy, I knew immediately that what he was looking to build here on Cardano for music artists and producers could potentially change the game as



far as traditional music distribution. He taught me about a protocol they had just got established as a CIP(Cardano Improvement Proposal) under CIP - 60. What CIP - 60 was set out to do was create an established standard for Music Tokens on the Cardano blockchain.

Now over the course of the following year and change, I onboarded my local team and fellow label-mates at So Litty Records while we worked to further the initiative. Throughout that process we created a series of music tokens and identified some gaps in the current CIP - 60 standard. Amongst ourselves, me and the team deliberated how to tackle making these changes to the CIP.

Then I heard about the Voltaire Era of the Cardano roadmap and met a gentleman named Gabriel who had a plan to move forward with a v3 for the CIP - 60 standard. Governance was upon us!

Initially, my desire to push forward an update to the CIP - 60 standard brought me into the fold of community governance. My continued journey has been far from just CIP's though; I have since joined IntersectMBO with some of my team members as well as work with the CIP working group to push the updated CIP - 60 Music Metadata Standard v3 out to the Cardano Foundation CIP repository with Gabriel. Our team also requested that Gabriel help us be represented through the Voltaire Era as our DRep(Delegated Representative).

Over this journey I came to realize that I have a place and a voice here in this ecosystem as a participant and a leader. The Voltaire Era has helped me spread my wings and really push forward developments that my community holds dear.

Script Format Suggestion 3 by AdaLink Team

Scene 1: INT. HOME STUDIO - NIGHT

(Narration)

My name is Samuel Hogan, but many of you may know me as \$shaggyrax. I first came into Cardano in 2022...

(SCENE)

The camera pans through a dimly lit home studio. **SAMUEL** is working on a laptop surrounded by instruments, audio equipment, and vinyl records. He pauses from mixing a track and looks at his phone, browsing through Cardano-related tweets and forums. The music in the background is calm, setting the stage for his entry into the ecosystem.



Scene 2: INT. RECORDING STUDIO - DAY

(Narration)

My initial motivation for coming to Cardano was as a tool for Music Distribution...

(SCENE)

Samuel sits in a recording studio, nodding along as his childhood friend explains how blockchain and music tokens work. His friend sets up a digital wallet on the laptop, hands Samuel a small physical ledger, and shows him links to Discord groups and Cardano community spaces. Samuel's excitement grows as the camera focuses on his wallet opening up and the Cardano logo on the screen.

Scene 3: INT. LOCAL COFFEE SHOP - DAY

(Narration)

After that, I sought out a meeting with Jimmy!

(SCENE)

Cut to Samuel meeting **JIMMY** (**SickCity**) at a local coffee shop. They're seated at a table, discussing the future of music and blockchain over steaming mugs of coffee. Jimmy pulls up a tablet, showing Samuel CIP-60 and explaining the concept of music tokens. The camera zooms in on Samuel's face as his eyes widen in excitement, realizing the potential for this new tech in the music world.

Scene 4: INT. STUDIO - NIGHT

(Narration)

Now over the course of the following year and change, I onboarded my local team...

(SCENE)

The camera shows Samuel and his team from **So Litty Records** in the studio, creating music tokens. They're surrounded by instruments, laptops, and whiteboards filled with notes about CIP-60. A collaborative atmosphere fills the room as Samuel and his team work hard, discussing the gaps they identified in the CIP-60 standard. The vibe is energetic and focused.

Scene 5: INT. VIRTUAL MEETING - DAY

(Narration)

Then I heard about the Voltaire Era...

(SCENE)

Samuel is on a video call with GABRIEL, who is speaking from a minimalist office setting.



The call shows Gabriel discussing his plan to upgrade the CIP-60 standard to v3. Samuel listens attentively, nodding along and taking notes, visibly impressed. The scene emphasizes the importance of governance as Gabriel explains the new era of community-driven governance under Voltaire.

Scene 6: INT. HOME STUDIO - NIGHT

(Narration)

My continued journey has been far from just CIP's though...

(SCENE)

The setting returns to Samuel's home studio, now much more organized and professional. On the screen, Samuel and his team discuss CIP governance and the DRep system, requesting Gabriel to represent them. Samuel leans back in his chair, looking determined and reflective, clearly seeing how far his journey has come.

Scene 7: EXT. OUTDOOR STAGE - SUNSET

(Narration)

Over this journey, I came to realize that I have a place and a voice here in this ecosystem...

(SCENE)

The scene shifts to Samuel speaking on an outdoor stage with a music band behind him listening. The sunsets, and a small crowd of Cardano community members and fans cheer him on. The band symbolizes his growth and the collective power of the community behind him. The scene highlights his transformation from a blockchain newbie to a participant and leader in the Cardano ecosystem.



Suggestions from AdaLink to the Production Team for *The Chronicles of Cardano* Animated Movie:

1. Cameos from the Community

Include subtle nods to important figures within the Cardano ecosystem. This adds a layer of authenticity and a fun "Easter egg" for fans.

2. Show, Don't Tell

Ensure the story is driven by visual storytelling rather than lengthy narrations. Let the actions and interactions of the characters depict the evolution of Cardano and the community's impact.

3. Balanced Comedy

Keep the humor clever and relatable, not overly grotesque or slapstick. Comedy should serve to make complex topics more approachable while still maintaining the integrity of the narrative.

4. Strong Takeaway

Ensure that the movie has a strong takeaway. One opportunity is to showcase an overall message that highlights how Cardano is driven by its community. The final scenes could emphasize that, while the technology is impressive, it is the people behind it who create change and innovation.

5. Character Arcs

Every main character should have a clear arc of growth. For example, Charles Hoskinson character might evolve from a cautious leader to someone who embraces decentralization's chaotic and unpredictable nature, mirroring Cardano's expansion.

Conclusion

The *Chronicles of Cardano* is shaping up to be an exciting and impactful way to showcase the ecosystem, its vibrant community, and its innovative technology. The AdaLink team is thrilled to have contributed to the project and can't wait to see the final product!



Links to Relevant Sources

Challenge Announcement:

Writers' Challenge Announcement

Follow up posts:

Reminder 1

Reminder 2

Reminder 3

Reminder 4

Reminder 5

Reminder 6

Challenge Overview, Submissions and Results:

Frenchies Club Organization on Clarity DAO