Introduction to Laravel

ABOUT ME

- Started with PHP in 2000
- Experience with Java, ASP, C++, etc...
- Freelance web developer since 2009
- Mostly CodeIgniter and Wordpress
- Started the Laravel meet up to bring devs together and help the framework gain traction in Tampa Bay

WHAT IS LARAVEL

"...we've attempted to combine the very best of what we have seen in other web frameworks, including frameworks implemented in other languages, such as Ruby on Rails, ASP.NET MVC, and Sinatra."

BETTER THAN THE REST?

- Authentication
- Routing
- Sessions
- Packages (Called Bundles in L3)
- Command-line utility (Artisan)
- Eloquent ORM
- Migrations
- Unit-Testing
- Well tested, over 900 tests on core

Use what makes sense for your project!

REQUIREMENTS

- PHP >= 5.3.7
- MCrypt PHP Extension
- PHP 5.5 may need PHP JSON Extension
- Composer to manage dependencies

COMPOSER

The problem that Composer solves is this:

a) You have a project that depends on a number of libraries.
b) Some of those libraries depend on other libraries.
c) You declare the things you depend on.
d) Composer finds out which versions of which packages need to be installed, and installs them (meaning it downloads them into your project).
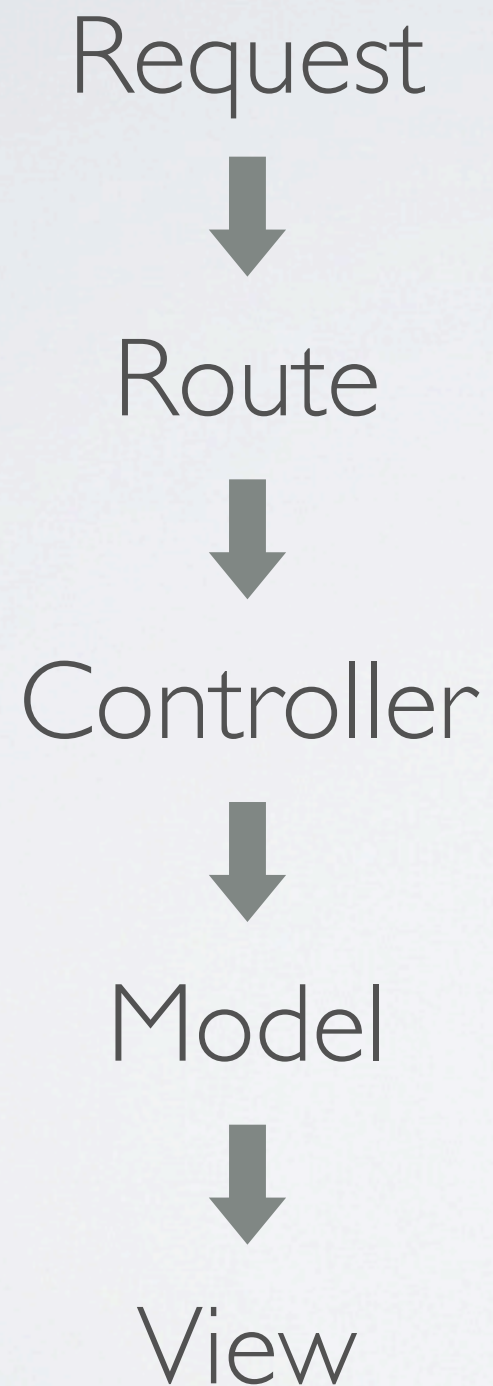
https://packagist.org

GETTING STARTED

composer create-project laravel/laravel --prefer-dist

Make app/storage writable, that's pretty much it

REQUEST LIFECYCLE

Request

Route

Controller

Model

View

Start Files

Events

Filters

ROUTING

- GET
- POST
- PUT
- DELETE
- ANY
- Filters (auth)

CONTROLLERS

- Better organization
- All controllers extend BaseController
- Shared logic goes in BaseController
- Dependency injection

VIEWS (BLADE)

- Contain your HTML
- Separate controller logic from presentation logic
- Build your own or use Blade
- @section and @parent
- Passing variables

ELOQUENT ORM

```
class User extends Eloquent {

    protected $table = 'my_users';

}

$users = User::all();
$user = User::find(123);
```

INSERT, UPDATE, DELETE

```php
$user = new User;
$user->name = 'John';
$user->save();


$user = User::find(123);
$user->email = 'john@foo.com';
$user->save();


$user->delete();
```

RELATIONSHIPS

- One To One
- One To Many
- Many To Many
- Polymorphic Relations

OTHER COOL STUFF

- Timestamps
- Eager loading
- Accessors & Mutators
- Model Events
- Converting To Arrays / JSON
- and more...

MIGRATIONS

- Version control for you database
- Paired with Schema builder
- Run with Artisan

UNIT TESTING

- Supports PHPUnit out of the box
- Easy to get started with Composer
- Allows you to simulate a web browser

THANK YOU!

@eliwheaton
facebook.com/eliwheaton
http://eliwheaton.com

Other Resources:
codehappy.daylerees.com (L3)
codebright.daylerees.com (L4)
culttt.com
net.tutsplus.com

Let's keep the meetups going!