

1 Cloudfest

CloudFest is a hackathon hosted by WorldHostingDays. Event information is primarily found on https://www.cloudfest.com/hackathon. On average, every year has approximately 100 attendees. Cloudfest encourages diversity in tech and attempts to create a welcoming environment for all hackers, especially first-time attendees (https://www.cloudfest.com/hackathon). According to (https://www.cloudfest.com/hackathon, they provide a mentorship program for their hackathon projects. Teams receive the help of an experienced hacker. When registering a project pitch, a project mentor comes out to provide guidance and support. Cloudfest, which is dedicated to celebrating the cloud industry (https://www.whitehallresources.co.uk/2019/01/10-coolest-events-for-developers-and-it-entrepreneurs-2019), targets innovative open-source projects that support ecological sustainability (https://www.cloudfest.com/hackathon). Every year, Cloudfest is hosted at Europa-Park, Germany, a theme park located near the tri-border area of Germany, France, and Switzerland. According to https://www.cloudfest.com/agenda, two days (the weekend) are dedicated to the hackathon event, while the rest of the week is dedicated to social events, networking, and the conference. It seems fairly unstructured since there is no definite itinerary online.

2 HackMIT

HackMIT is a hackathon hosted by MIT. Their main website is https://hackmit.org and they typically have around 1000 attendees. According to https://hackmit.org, first-timers will have no troubles with accommodations, as MIT provides resources such as air mattresses, toiletries, and snacks, as well as an innovative mentorship system. HackMIT has an ingenious open-source real-time mentor request system called HELPq. It connects mentors to teams for technical and moral support. In addition, check-ins between mentors and teams are strongly encouraged. The hackathon seeks to create open-source projects based on tracks. Hackers must register with a track before the event; the tracks are assistive tech, urban innovation, fintech, health tech, education, education, dev tools, social good. Every year, HackMIT is hosted at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, in Cambridge Massachusetts. On Saturday, hackers have to check-in and watch the opening ceremony. Hacking starts at 11 AM. there are various workshops for learning more about hacking. On Sunday, the projects are judged by an expo and then sponsor judging happens later. The event is very structured: with most events having dedicated time slots on https://dayof.hackmit.org/schedule. HackMIT, interestingly, hosts an admission puzzle at https://hackmit.org/puzzle.html to identify resourceful hackers for the hackathon.

3 CodeNaija

CodeNaija is a Nigerian hackathon hosted by Andela and the Blacktocats, GitHub's Black Employee Resource Group. It seeks to showcase Nigerian Developer talent. Event information is located on their website: https://www.codenaija.org/. In 2019, 100 hackers showed up. According to https://www.codenaija.org/, existing Nigerian developers and engineers (many of whom are first-time hackers) will receive the support of mentors and guest speakers for inspiration and technical help. They provide technical

and business mentors to support teams throughout the hackathon (https://howng.com/andela-github-others-host-2019-codenaija-hackathon-in-lagos). In addition, Code-Naija has partner with the market entry firm Ingressive to bring over 20 entrepreneurs to help with marketing. The hackathon's goal is to highlight the already-existing community of Nigerian software engineers and provide a platform for them to showcase their technical skills for social good. Their main topic is to build technology solutions to solve Africa's biggest challenges in finance, healthcare, education, and agriculture. 2019 is its first year, and it is hosted at the Andela EPIC tower office in Ilupeju, Lagos State. Day 1 (which interestingly is on a Thursday) has tours and demonstrations early on. It's not until 5 are teams formed for the hackathon. The following day is more hacking, with more demonstrations in the latter part of the day. Day 3 ends with an Idea Pitch Competition and interestingly a "What's next?" presentation. This event is pretty structured and has a lot of events in addition to the hacking.

4 HackNY

HackNY hackathon is a hackathon hosted by HackNY, a non-profit organization based in New York to develop the New York technology community. Their website is https://hackny.org/and they have an average of 200 attendees. According to https://hackny.org/hackathon, they are an event that celebrates hackers of all backgrounds and experiences through the use of mentors, holistic awards and workshops. They have a technical ambassadors program that invites New York-based mentors to offer technical support to teams while they attempt to bring a concept to life. According to https://hackny.org/hackathon, the list of tasks doesn't have any restrictions. However, according to https://hackny.org/2018/04/spring-2018-student-hackathon-recap, hacks are judged based on technical skill, API's, Fun, Hardware, and social good. It's typically held at NYU Courant's Institute, except for Fall 2017 where it was held at Columbia University. The hackathon begins with NYC startups demoing their API's. Teams will then work to build their hack. The next day, they will present their project before a panel of judges. The event is somewhat structured and has certain events definitively shown beforehand.

5 UNESCO Hackathon

UNESCO Hackathon is a hackathon hosted by UNESCO and FOSSASIA: meant to empower those in tech in Southeast Asian. Their website is https://unesco.sciencehack.asia and they tend to have approximately 150 attendees. They have several workshops, mentors, and speakers to help out a first-timer (https://unesco.sciencehack.asia). According to the schedule on https://unesco-hackathon.devpost.com, they provide some workshops with FOSSASIA mentors. According to https://unesco.sciencehack.asia, they have a sizeable list of mentors and speakers, from FOSSASIA, Vietnamese companies, and the Malaysian embassy. The goal of the hackathon is to develop new innovations to help journalists report on climate change and other ecological issues in Asia and the Pacific. Hackers are given the UNESCO's Handbook for Journalists Reporting on Climate Change and Sustainable Development in Asia, which holds knowledge on climate change and treaties surrounding it. The goals are to spread awareness of this guidebook to everyone, help journalists monitor data, and raise awareness to journalists (https://unesco-hackathon.devpost.com). In October 2018, it was hosted in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, while in March 2018, it was hosted in Singapore, Singapore. There have not been any other future or past events. The schedule begins with many speakers such as the Consul General of Malaysia (March 2018), and other events dedicated to informing about climate change. Eventually, hacking begins and other workshops are started

by FOSSASIA mentors. The next day, hacking continues and other speakers have their talks. The awards are given and the hackathon ends. The structure of this one seems pretty rigid and all the talks/events beforehand can be found online at specific times. I found this one interesting because unlike most hackathons, which often are hosted by either tech companies or schools, this one is hosted by an agency of the United Nations. That's just so crazy to me how even an international peace organization is interested in bringing tech to the world stage.