TreeHacks 2026 General Prizes

TreeHacks will have over $500,000 in prizes this year. Check them out below!

Note: Each team can apply for up to **10 prizes**. All prizes are opt-in (you have to apply on your Devpost submission) except for the Grand Prize, Most Creative, Most Impactful, and Most Technically Complex (which everyone is eligible for and don't count as part of the 10).

Sponsor	Name	Description	Prize
TreeHacks	**TreeHacks Grand Prize** First Place Second Place Third Place	The Grand Prize is awarded to the team whose project demonstrates exceptional innovation, functionality, and overall excellence. This category encompasses projects that excel in various aspects, including creativity, technical complexity, impact, and execution. It recognizes the team that has pushed the boundaries of what is possible in 36 hours and built something incredible.	1st: $12,000 2nd: $8,000 3rd: iPhone 17 Pro Max 512 GB (one per team member)
TreeHacks	Most Creative	The Most Creative prize celebrates the team that shows the highest level of originality, imagination, and ingenuity in their project. This category rewards innovation and unconventional thinking, honoring projects that showcase unique approaches to problem-solving or introduce novel concepts and ideas.	Pioneer DJ DDJ-FLX4
TreeHacks	Most Impactful	The Most Impactful prize recognizes the project that has the potential to create the most significant positive change or address a pressing societal issue. Whether through addressing environmental concerns, improving accessibility, or tackling social injustices, among many other possibilities, this category highlights projects that aim to make a tangible difference in the world.	JBL Partybox 110
TreeHacks	Most Technically Complex	The Most Technically Complex prize is awarded to the team that exhibits outstanding technical skill, sophistication, and complexity in their project. This category celebrates projects that push the boundaries	DJI Flip

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TreeHacks		of technological capabilities, demonstrating mastery in areas such as algorithms, data structures, machine learning, or other advanced technologies.	
TreeHacks	Best Hardware Hack	The Best Hardware Hack prize honors the team that demonstrates excellence in integrating hardware components into their project. From IoT devices to robotics, this category celebrates projects that leverage physical computing elements to create innovative solutions and interactive experiences.	Meta Ray Bans
TreeHacks	Best Beginner Hack	The Best Beginner Hack prize recognizes the outstanding achievement of a team with limited prior experience in coding or hackathons. This category celebrates the journey of learning and discovery, rewarding teams that demonstrate impressive creativity, effort, and progress in their first hackathon endeavor.	FlipperZero

TreeHacks 2026 Sponsor Tracks & Challenges

Track Prizes

Sponsor	Name	Description	Prize
OpenAI	Artificial Intelligence Track	Awarded to the top three teams that use OpenAI API most creatively.	1st Place: Lunch with OpenAI engineers at the office + 1 year of ChatGPT Pro 2nd Place: 1 year of ChatGPT Pro 3rd Place: OpenAI swag
Google	Cloud AI Track		1st Place: Pixel 10 Phones and Pixel Buds (5 Max per team)

Sponsor	Name	Description	Prize
			2nd Place: Pixel Tablets (5 Max per team) 3rd Place: Pixel Watches (5 Max per team)
NVIDIA	Edge AI Track		**1st Place:** 1 DGX Spark, 2 $450 Brev Credit vouchers, 2 Jetson Orin Nano Supers, 4 NVIDIA hats **2nd Place:** 1 DGX Spark, 2 $300 Brev Credit vouchers, 1 Jetson Orin Nano Supers, 4 NVIDIA hats **3rd Place:** 4 $200 Brev Credit vouchers, 1 Jetson Orin Nano Super, 4 NVIDIA hats
Zoom	Education Track		**1st Place** • $1,000 cash ($250 Amazon GC ×4) • Meta Ray-Ban Smart Glasses ×4 • Marine Layer Zoom Hoodies ×4

Sponsor	Name	Description	Prize
			2nd Place • **Apple AirPods x 4** • Zoom Portland Gear Cascade Backpack ×4 **3rd Place** • **Sony Noise Cancellation Headphones x 4** • Zoom Ocean Bottle ×4
OpenEvidence	Healthcare Track		$4,000 + Interview Opportunity with OpenEvidence
Anthropic	Human Flourishing Track	This track challenges hackers to showcase how AI can make life better. We want you to see what's possible when technology serves human potential.	1st Place: 4 tungsten cubes 2nd Place: 1 year of Claude Pro 3rd Place: 6 months of Claude Pro
Modal	Inference Track	Modal is AI infrastructure developers love, used by companies like Ramp, Suno and Lovable. With flexible GPU compute, code sandboxes, and storage, you can use Modal to run inference or train coding agents, voice agents and more. For the Inference Track, we're looking for ambitious applications running inference on Modal to solve a real-world problem.	Inference Track Grand Prize: $5K in Modal Credits per person, paid visit (flight & hotel) to SF or NY Office with lunch

Sponsor	Name	Description	Prize
			with Modal team,. Inference Track Runner Up Prize: $1K in Modal credits, airpods for each team member.
Stanford Ecopreneurship	Sustainability: Best solves the user's pain point of a provided challenge	CHALLENGE DOC: https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/13RBGKPF63ZBhhA8e6FyIb39C7jnnLaCpFkcBVoLHgg8/edit?gid=0#gid=0	$1,500 Cash & feature in Ecopreneurship article
	Sustainability: Best prototyping process		$1,500 Cash & feature in Ecopreneurship article
	Sustainability: Best incorporation of broader context (e.g. regulatory, competitive landscape) to improve venture viability		$1,500 Cash & feature in Ecopreneurship article
Y Combinator	Build an Iconic YC Company with AI	What if you could rebuild Airbnb, Dropbox, Reddit, or PagerDuty—but as if it were born in 2026 with AI at its core? YC is challenging you to do exactly that. The Prompt Pick a YC company from before 2022 (i.e. from before ChatGPT came out), and build an AI-native MVP that reimagines or disrupts it for the world we live in now. This isn't about copying the original—this is about asking: "If that company were founded today, what would it look like with AI in the driver's seat?" What to Submit By the deadline, submit the following: A working MVP: Ideally deployed (e.g., Vercel, Replit, Hugging Face Spaces, etc.). 1-2 min Loom video discussing your idea Share your Github with sdhu. Make sure to include a README that has a couple paragraphs describing. Optional: A quick demo video or link to user feedback/test results. Inspiration: - Start with this list of top YC companies for your target. (https://www.ycombinator.com/companies)	**1st Place:** Guaranteed YC interview **2nd Place:** Guaranteed YC Office Hours **3rd Place:** Guaranteed YC Office Hours

Sponsor	Name	Description	Prize
		- You can also browse our Requests for Startups (RFS) for recent themes we like: Full-stack AI companies AI product management AI-first developer tools Agents, copilots, and assistants (https://www.ycombinator.com/rfs)	

Sponsor Challenges

Sponsor	Name	Description	Prize
Modal	Sandbox Challenge	Run AI-generated code in dynamically defined sandboxes. Instantly scale to 50,000+ concurrent sessions. Sandboxes are used by Lovable and Scale AI to run AI-generated web apps, evals, RL environments, and MCP servers. For this challenge, we're looking for the best use of sandboxes to build a company.	Sandbox Challenge Grand Prize: $5K in Modal Credits per person, paid visit (flight & hotel) to SF or NY Office with lunch with Modal team. Sandbox Challenge Runner Up Prize: $1K in Modal credits, airpods for each team member.
OpenEvidence	Best Use of Clinical Information	Vast amounts of clinical information already exist—but value comes from how it's used. This award goes to the project that most creatively and effectively converts existing clinical data into a product that improves understanding, decision-making, or care delivery.	4x Apple Watches
Anthropic	Best Use of Claude Agent SDK	Create an autonomous AI application that tackles real problems.	$2,500 in Claude Developer Platform credits
Zoom x Render	Best use of Zoom APIs + Render:	Challenge Details: https://zoom-treehacks.onrender.com/	**Bose QuietComfort Headphones** — Wireless Bluetooth Headphones × 4 (one per winning team member, up to 4) **$1,000 Render credits**

			(max $250 per person)
NVIDIA	Open Models Hit Different on DGX Spark	Build a multi-agent solution or system with NVIDIA open models	Jetson Orin Nano Super
Neo	Most Likely to Become a Product	We're looking for strong product intuition, rooted in real problems and real human behavior. Team: Founders who would seriously consider committing long-term.	Airfare and accommodations for your team to join a Neo retreat alongside Neo scholars, startup founders, and experienced mentors.
Human Capital	Human Capital Fellowship Prize	Awarded to a team of exceptional engineers solving a big, ambitious problem and eager to build their vision for the long term.	Acceptance to Human Capital Fellowship, $50k equity-free check per team member (up to $200k total) HC Fellowship is a program for exceptional engineers ready to tackle massive problems and build generational companies. Each team member will receive a $50k equity-free check (up to $200k total per team), hundreds of potential customer calls scheduled on your behalf, and 24/7 access to our community space for builders in our San Francisco office. Learn more here: https://human.capital/hc-fellowship
Greylock	Best multi-turn agent	Award for the best hack that includes an agent that reasons about feedback to dynamically complete complex, multi-step tasks	Courtside tickets to Warriors game ($10k value) Office hours with Greylock Partners
Visa	The Generative Edge: Future of Commerce	Reimagine shopping — use generative AI to craft smarter + effortless commerce	$10,000 total, awarded to one winning team (up to four participants). *For teams with multiple members, the prize will*

			be distributed among team members at the team's discretion.
Fetch.ai	Build, launch and monetise AI Agents on Agentverse that turn user intent into real outcomes.	🧁 What are AI Agents? They are autonomous pieces of software that can understand goals, make decisions, and take actions on behalf of users. 🚀 Your Mission Design a multi-agent workflow that takes natural language goals, breaks them into multi-step plans, and adapts in real time to ensure success - while including built-in monetization so you can charge for usage, outcomes or features. Use any agentic framework like Langgraph, CrewAI, ADK, etc. of your choice to bring your idea to life. Deploy your agents to Agentverse and implement the Chat & Payment Protocol to support direct ASI:One interactions and built-in monetization. You can also create custom applications that use agents in the backend, delivering innovative user experiences and unlocking new monetization opportunities. 🌍 Inspiration Productivity – Tools that make daily tasks faster and smoother. Automations for schoolwork, small businesses, or niche workflows like CRM updates, email handling, or social media coordination. Finance – Agents that improve personal or corporate finances. From expense trackers to credit assessment or portfolio optimization, anything that helps users save, invest, or manage money. Education – Agents that help people learn, stay updated, and understand complex topics. Think interactive study aids, AI explainers, or research companions. Wildcard – Got an idea that doesn't fit neatly into the above? Go for it. As long as it uses the Fetch.ai stack and delivers real value, it belongs here. Note : To be eligible for a prize, at least ONE or ALL of your agents **MUST** be registered with Agentverse and discoverable on ASI:One. Check out the **Hackpack** for more details on judging criteria, challenge statement and submission requirements. https://www.fetch.ai/events/hackathons/tree-hacks-2026/hackpack	**Best Overall AI Agent Solution ($2500) :** Awarded to the team that delivers the most complete end-to-end agent solution - successfully turning user intent into real-world outcomes with strong technical execution, clear monetisation approach, and meaningful user impact. **Best Multi-Agent Workflow($1500) :** Recognises the team that designs the most effective and well-coordinated multi-agent system, demonstrating clear planning, real-time adaptation, and seamless collaboration between agents to achieve complex goals **Most Impactful Real-World Use Case($1000)**: Awarded to the team that demonstrates the strongest real-world value, showing how their AI agents solve a meaningful problem, deliver tangible

			outcomes for users, and have clear potential for real adoption or deployment
Runpod	Best use of Flash	Build a project that deploys at least one Runpod Serverless GPU endpoint using Flash and demonstrates real functionality. Bonus for clear documentation showing how to deploy and run.	**1st Place:** $5,090 **2nd Place:** $4,090. **3rd Place:** $3,090
Elastic	Best end-to-end Agentic system on Elasticsearch	Depth and creativity of the Elasticsearch implementation Use of JINA for embeddings Use of Elastic Agent Builder and Workflows Use of Elastic Cloud	**1st Place:** $2,000 (split across team members) **2nd Place:** $1,000 (split across team members)
Cloudflare	Best Use of Cloudflare Developer Platform	You might know Cloudflare from just stopping the bad guys with DDoS protection, security, and global scale. But there's much more than that. There is an entire developer platform, including primitives that you can use to build whatever you build during this hackathon. Show us what you got!	$250K Cloudflare credits + Cloudflare swag bag for each team member.
HeyGen	Best creation with HeyGen Avatar API	The goal of this challenge is to push the boundaries of real-time streaming and AI-driven video. Use the HeyGen Avatar API to create a seamless, low-latency interface that brings a digital persona to life. We are looking for clever integrations that combine HeyGen's high-fidelity "A-roll" video with LLMs, unique UI/UX, or third-party data sources	4 Airpod Pros 3, 1 year of HeyGen Creator license, guaranteed onsite interviews for FTE or intern roles
The Interaction Company of California	Build with Poke	Challenges: 1. Most Useful 2. Most Technically Impressive 3. Most Viral	Challenge 1: iPhone Air for everyone in the team Challenge 2: iPhone 17 Pro for everyone in the team Challenge 3: iPhone Air for everyone in the team Bonus: up to $100k in

			cash
Decagon	Best Conversation Assistant	At Decagon, we build AI agents that can hold natural, useful conversations- so for this challenge, we're looking for the most impressive conversational assistant experience. Create an assistant that feels humanlike and conversational, showcasing its ability to take turns, understand context, and provide meaningful help to its user(s) whether it's answering questions, guiding a task, or improving someone's workflow.	Nintendo Switch 2 Mario Kart World Bundle Guaranteed onsite interviews for internship
Browserbase	Best Web Automation with Stagehand	Use Stagehand, an AI browser automation framework built by Browserbase, to automate anything on the web.	$1,000
Zingage	Best Voice AI for Healthcare	Healthcare runs on phone calls–but too often, critical information gets lost, delayed, or mishandled. A single live call can signal a missed visit, a sudden health concern, or a scheduling conflict that requires immediate action. Build a real-time Voice AI for Healthcare that listens during live calls, extracts clinically and operationally relevant information, and takes action. Your system might detect safety or medication red flags, generate structured clinical summaries, initiate automated care-repair workflows... the sky is your limit.	Airpods Max + fast-track to superday with Zingage
Graphite	Most Likely to get Acquired by a Sponsor	Graphite 🤝 Cursor. Sometimes the best ideas don't just win prizes — they win buyers. This challenge is about building something with real, tangible value for companies: a product, workflow, system, or prototype that clearly solves a meaningful problem and could plausibly live inside an existing business. Think less "weekend demo," more "this would actually move metrics." Bonus points if your project improves developer productivity or collaboration.	OB–4 black bluetooth speaker
Warp	Best Use of Warp Agents		Keychron Mechanical Keyboard for each team member
Suno	Best Musical Hack	Suno invites participants to build an innovative, music-driven project that expands how music is created, experienced, or integrated into technology.	**1st Place:** Guaranteed onsite/ final interview for an internship or part/full time position with Suno

		Submissions may explore new creative tools, AI-powered collaboration, interactive or adaptive sound experiences, music-enabled applications, or entirely new formats for musical expression. Any project in which music plays a meaningful and central role is eligible. Participants will have access to the Suno API, which enables integration of advanced generative music capabilities into your project. While use of the API is encouraged, it is not required for eligibility. Projects will be evaluated based on: ● Creativity & Originality ● Technical Execution ● Product Vision & User Experience ● Innovative Use of the Suno API (if applicable)	+ 1 year Suno Premier subscription. **2nd Place:** Guaranteed onsite/ final interview for an internship or part/full time position with Suno + 1 year Suno Pro subscription.
Bright Data	Bright Data: Best AI-Powered Web Data Hack		Bright Data: Best AI-Powered Web Data Hack ($500 Cash + $1.5k Credits [1st] & $350 Cash + $1K Credits [2nd] & $250 Cash + $500 Credits [3rd]) $1,100 in cash, $3,000 in credits For 3 winners
Vercel	Best Use of Vercel/Best Deployed on Vercel	Awarded to the team that best leverages Vercel to build, deploy, and scale a production-ready web application. Judges will consider performance, developer experience, and creative use of the Vercel platform.	2k cash prize + $2.4k in Pro-level access credits ($100/month for 4 winners, access for 6 months.)
Perplexity	Best Use of Perplexity's Sonar API	Build something extraordinary with Perplexity's Sonar API — the most powerful research and reasoning engine behind Perplexity. We're looking for the most the project that best demonstrates innovative use, technical excellence, and clear real-world value.	$250 per team member and trip to Perplexity office

More coming soon....			