

HackRPI 2015 is Almost Here!

HackRPI 2015 is less than a week away! We can't wait to see you on **November 14th and 15th**.

The following is important event information; please read it carefully.

General

Upon arrival at HackRPI, you will be directed to check-in with our volunteers wearing blue shirts. You will be given a wristband. You must wear this wristband for the entirety of the event. It will allow you to get food and come and go from the event as needed.

Don't forget to check out our [Facebook event](#) to get updates, talk to other hackers, and ask us questions.

Media

Release Form

If you are under 18, you must print this release form and have it signed by your parental guardian(s) before the event. **Everyone must complete the release and it will expedite the check-in process if you bring this with you.**

[Media Release Form](#)

Schedule

Saturday, November 14	11:30 AM	Buses Arrive
	12:00 PM	Opening Ceremonies
	12:30 PM	Hacking Begins, Team Formation
	1:00 PM	Lunch
	2:00 PM	Tech Talk 1: TripAdvisor
	3:00 PM	Sponsor Scavenger Hunt
	3:00 PM	Tech Talk 2: Microsoft
	4:00 PM	Pitch Competition
	5:00 PM	Tech Talk 3: Tata Consultancy
	6:00 PM	High School Hacker Meetup
	7:30 PM	Tech Talk 4: TripAdvisor
	8:00 PM	Dinner
	12:00 AM	Midnight Snack
Sunday, November 15	7:30 AM	Breakfast
	11:45 AM	Lunch
	12:30 PM	Hacking Ends
	12:45 AM	Expo A
	2:00 PM	Expo B
	3:30 PM	Closing Ceremonies
	4:30 PM	Buses Depart

What Should I Bring?

You should bring whatever you think you will need for a weekend of hacking. We suggest you bring a toothbrush, toothpaste, sleeping bag/pillow, computer, phone, and necessary chargers.

We do not allow alcohol or weapons at HackRPI. RPI is a tobacco-free campus.

We will do our best to provide great internet during the event. If you have an ethernet cable, you should bring it as we will have many ethernet ports available; it will greatly balance the load with the WiFi connections.

Travel

We have selected the best form of travel we can offer based on the information you gave us during registration. If you have been assigned a bus, it is completely free. **Today you will receive more information about your specific bus along with contact information for your bus captain.**

If you have been approved for reimbursement, **keep your receipts!** We will not be able to reimburse you without one. They can be for gas, tolls, parking, bus tickets, cab fair, or plane tickets. You will only be reimbursed up to what is listed on your status board page.

If you are driving to HackRPI, we have free parking available on RPI's campus in North Lot. From North Lot, walk south towards campus. We will have volunteers in the area to guide you to the venue. Look [here](#) for a map of campus.

HackRPI will take place in the Darrin Communications Center and the Low Center for Industrial Innovation at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute.

Team Formation

Right after the opening ceremonies, there will be an opportunity to form teams if you don't have one yet or pick up another person if your team is looking for some more help. You can also use our Facebook event to find teammates. **We recommend that teams are 2-4 people. Teams may not have more than 5 people to qualify for prizes.** Some may be limited to 4 people.

Sponsor Scavenger Hunt

The Sponsor Scavenger Hunt is an excuse for you to talk to all of our wonderful sponsors! We have collected a fun fact from each participating sponsor and you will have to match the fun fact with the corresponding company. Complete the scavenger hunt for some really awesome HackRPI swag!

Prize Categories

There will be 5 main prize categories:

- Web
- Data Science
- Hardware
- Humanitarian
- Mobile

These prizes are a secret for now! We will announce them at the event.

In addition, we have some great sponsor prizes!

- **3am LLC:** Amazon Echo to each member for most innovative use of audio/music
- **Apprenda:** Hoverboard
- **Bloomberg:** TBA
- **Bose:** SoundTouch 10 speakers for the team which makes the most creative use of the SoundTouch API
- **GCOM Software:** Amazon gift cards
- **Goldman Sachs:** Amazon Echoes
- **Johnson & Johnson:** Amazon Echoes to team that best achieves this: Develop an Amazon Web Services (AWS) chat-ops Alexa skill that allows an Echo to execute certain Lambda functions and read the results to the user. Examples would be reading from Dynamo DB, provision resources, etc. Teams will be provided an AWS account and Echo for the duration of the Hackathon.
- **Microsoft:** 4 Asus Vivo Tabs for the best Microsoft hack that uses one or more of the following: Microsoft API, Kinect (loaners available), Microsoft Azure (free credit available), or create a Microsoft Universal App.
- **MITRE:** Quad copters and MITRE sweaters for the team that demonstrates the most creative misappropriation of a piece of technology.
- **Rensselaer Severino Center:** A TBA prize for the most commercially viable tech solution
- **Tallan:** 4x Pebble - Smartwatch 33mm Plastic - Black Silicone
- **The Blackstone Group:** 4 Raspberry Pi sets (Rpi 2 (ARM v7/1GB RAM), camera, 3" TFT touchscreen, and starter kit) for a "Finance for Good Category"
- **TripAdvisor:** Trip to Boston office awarded to each member of the winning team for best use of the TripAdvisor API

This information will be reiterated and further explained during the opening ceremonies of the event. If you have further questions about a Sponsor Prize, definitely speak with the company representatives at the event!

HACK(RPI);

Event Information For Students

www.hackrpi.com | gohackrpi@gmail.com



3AM LLC



Partners



Status Board

[Status Board](#) is an application built in-house to run HackRPI. In fact, you've already used it to register for HackRPI! The best part of Status Board is its ability to track projects being built at the event. As soon as your team has created a repository (hopefully on Github), you can add it to the Status Board in your user profile. Note that this is not necessary by any means to qualify for judging or prizes, it's just awesome.

In addition, we have built a fantastic Mentoring System into Status Board. Better yet, we will have tons of brilliant mentors to help you all throughout the event. If you ever need to request a mentor, you can do so at status.hackrpi.com/mentor.

We will also use Status Board to push announcements of the goings-on during the event.

Pitch Competition

Want to show off your entrepreneurial skills and pitch your great idea? HackRPI will be hosting a pitch competition with the Rensselaer Severino Center at 4:00pm on Saturday. Your pitch will be judged by an Angel Investor and the winners will receive a prize for the most commercially viable tech solution. Better start practicing that pitch!

Hardware

We are excited to say that we will have lots of hardware for you to borrow and hack on for the weekend! There will also be an area specifically for hardware projects near the hardware booth; that way you can feed off one another and we can concentrate our mentoring powers!

All borrowed hardware must be returned after the awards ceremony. Any lost or damaged items must be reimbursed. We will be collecting an ID from those who borrow hardware.

In Closing

Thanks for reading all that information! Don't worry we will repeat much of this information during opening ceremonies. Hopefully by now you're as excited as we are for HackRPI. Don't forget to follow us on Twitter [@gohackrpi](https://twitter.com/gohackrpi) and tweet at us your experiences and pictures. Prepare yourself for an epic weekend!

If you still have questions about this weekend, shoot us an email.

Happy Hacking,
The HackRPI Team