# Hack Chicago 2019

## The Problem

We are in the midst of a digital revolution. Tech is the fastest-growing industry in the country, with hundreds of thousands of unfilled jobs and employers desperate for talented students. However, while technology is rapidly expanding on the coasts, **students in Chicago are being left behind**. Though one of the US's largest cities, local tech opportunities for high schoolers in the city are few & far between. In 2018 alone, more than 150 hackathons for US high schoolers ran with thousands of students in attendance. The entire Midwest had six, the largest of which we hosted.

Computer science classes in schools should be inspiring students; instead, they are failing to engage students, with a shrinking body of students showing interest in CS careers. Chicago's students are **missing out on a whole new world of opportunities**.

Approaching 3 million people, Chicago already has the resources it needs to become a major player in tech, and it's up to students to be at the forefront of this revolution. But as long as tech opportunities continue to be lacking for talented and motivated students, **Chicago will remain untapped potential**. The best way to **revitalize the city** with technical literacy and provide avenues to a **new world of opportunity** is to expose students to the exciting world of CS — **starting with Hack Chicago**.

# The Solution

On June 22nd in Chicago, IL, we are hosting **Hack Chicago 2019**. In a weekend full of collaboration & creativity, 300 attendees (projected) will **bring their ideas to reality**, developing skills far beyond just technology. Hack Chicago is especially committed to empowering women, underrepresented minorities, and LGBTQ+ students, who are traditionally discouraged from partaking in the wonderful world of tech. With help from experienced Chicagoans, industry professionals, and engaging workshops, students will transform from **passive digital consumers into active creators**. The city's future is full of innovation — let's make all students know.

# Where You Come In

Your sponsorship is critical to Hack Chicago living up to inspiring hundreds of underserved students to engage with the field of technology. It will cost upwards of $20,000 — we need your help.

We're seeking sponsorship to buy food, supplies, venue, prizes, and everything else needed to run the event. By sponsoring Hack Chicago 2019, you will play a direct role in the student-led movement to revitalize Chicago's tech industry.

# How You Can Help

**Donate money.** This is the easiest and most low-friction way to support us. You'll get a suite of benefits based on your donation (details below), and we'll use the money where it's needed most.

| | STARTUP $500 | BRONZE $1,000 | SILVER $2,500 | GOLD $5,000 | DIAMOND $8,000 | TITLE $15,000 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Distribute swag | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Logo on website, t-shirt, & slides | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Run a branded prize | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Outreach table at the event | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Press release mention | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Speak during keynotes | | | | 2m opening | 4m opening 2m closing | ✓ |
| Run a workshop | | | | | ✓ | ✓ |
| Send email to all attendees | | | | | | ✓ |
| "Co-hosted by…" on all materials | | | | | | ✓ |

**Send company representatives & mentors.** This allows you to directly interact with our students, enabling you to leave a strong, lasting impression on the incoming talent of the next generation.

**Provide tools.** Hackers at our event will use design, development, testing, hosting, deployment, domain registration, and other kinds of tools to create their projects. Providing your company's tools will put them in the hands of future creators, makers, and developers.

**Sponsor a meal.** We need to provide two lunches, a dinner, nighttime snack, breakfast, and assorted snacks throughout the event for attendees. This is one of the most expensive components of running an event, and we'll take any help we can get.