HACKTX INFO

We hope you are as excited about HACKTX as we are! Here are some things you should know before you hack with us this weekend:

Content provided in this info packet:
- General Information
- Code of Conduct
- Schedule
- Liability Forms
- Bus Information

GENERAL INFORMATION:

What should I do before I come to the event?

Download the app to our event right now! (Go to iOS or Android), that way you can register faster and smoother! You can also look through it if you would like. We also would suggest getting together with some friends and just doing some fun mini hacks and/or brainstorming your HackTX hack! (no starting on it until the hacking portion starts though)

If I am taking a bus to and from HackTX when and where will it pick-up, drop-off and depart? Who can I contact if I have trouble finding/making the bus?

Please go to the bottom of this information packet for all of the bus information. All other information regarding bus riders can also be found in this section.

I'm going to be hungry from the bus ride, do I have to wait until lunch to get food?

Nope! We will give everyone on each bus snacks upon arrival!

What should I bring?

- Yourself
- Your valid university ID (or driver's license if you are in high school)
- Your computer and a charger
- Any other equipment you deem necessary for your hack.
- A change of clothes
- Toiletries (toothbrush, face wash, etc.)
- A blanket and/or sweatshirt (it might be cold and you might want to nap).
- Most of all, bring energy, ideas, and a great attitude so you can have tons of fun!

**(Firearms, weapons, alcohol, illegal drugs, or power tools are not allowed.)

When and where do I check-in?

- Check-in begins at 9:30am and will continue until the opening ceremony at 12pm.
- Late check-in will last until hacking begins at 1pm.
- The check-in desk will be located on the second-floor of the SAC. It will be in front of the ballroom, which is one floor up from the food court area.
- Head to the check-in table as soon as you arrive.
- If you arrive after these aforementioned times, please head to the check-in desk and we will do our best to help you get started.

What do I need to check-in?

You will need your student ID. We will provide you with a wristband after you check-in.

What do I do after I check-in and get my wristband?

Head to the opening ceremony!
Keep your wristband on during the entire event. Without your wristband, you can't get food, hardware, etc. You also cannot compete in HackTX without your wristband.

When can I hack?

Hacking will begin at 1pm on Saturday and last until 11am on Sunday. Please do not hack at other times (while at HackTX) as it will disqualify you from the judging rounds. This however, does not mean that what you hack during HackTX cannot be the start of a bigger project to complete with your group, the hacker community, or on your own.

How do I submit my hack?

All hack's will be submitted through devpost at the end of the event. We will let you know 1 hour, 30 minutes, and then lastly 15 minutes before all projects are due. We will provide more details towards the end of the event when it is more pertinent.

How do teams work?

Teams can be up to 5 members. If you don't have a team, check out our Facebook group for attendees. You can also join a team at the beginning of HackTX. Joining a team of new friends is the best part of a hackathon. Hackathons are all about meeting new people and getting involved in the hacker community- so put yourself out there!

What can I work on?

You can work on anything that uses tech. Whatever you are interested in, whether that be education, healthcare, business, design, etc. you can use tech to build something awesome! Build an mobile or web app, build some hardware (we will be providing a lot of cool hardware for you to use for free). Create a game, make a virtual world. The point is whatever you feel like building- do it! Learn something new! We will have lots of resources and mentors to help you get started! If you don't have any ideas, you can always check out our challenge page!

What hardware will y'all have?

We will have all of this cool stuff:

6x Arduino
3x Firephone
10x Leap
3x Muse
12x Oculus
20x Pebble
10x Sparkcore
19x Myo
Much much More!

It's my first time, what should I expect?

First and foremost, you should expect to have fun! Expect to learn, meet new friends, and enjoy a great environment and community driven to helping each other! We will also provide you with

your hardware needs during the event (shown above), food(see schedule for details), and space to work on your awesome project with your team if you choose to have one!

How will communication work at HackTX?

We will be using slack, a group messaging system that has individual channels (subgroups) for specific topics and 1:1 direct messaging. It's like facebook messenger that allows you to create groups inside of groups. You will be emailed an invite link to the HackTX slack.

How do I get help from a mentor?

You will use slack to notify a mentor that you would like help. You just type /mentor [what you need help with] into the slack text bar and voila, a mentor will be pinged and you and that mentor will be put into a private message on slack and they can come help you! Mentors will also be walking around to help with labels indicating that they are mentors and what they can help you with.

What if I have a question that wasn't answered from above?

If you have a question before the event, please message us via the slack you have joined, on our facebook page, on our twitter, or email us directly at hello@hacktx.com.
If you have a question during the event, a help desk will be located in the same place as the check-in tables. Otherwise, you can find an organizer or director who will be wearing a blue colored shirt and they will answer your question or direct you to someone who can.

CODE OF CONDUCT:

Please review the MLH Code of Conduct here. We want to keep HackTX welcoming, fun, and safe and therefore take following the Code of Conduct very seriously. Any actions that result in a breaking of this conduct will not be tolerated. If there are any incidents that you see, please report them immediately to an organizer or MLH personnel and we will take care of it.

LIABILITY FORMS:

Please have liability forms filled out before checking in.

Liability forms will be available on the my.hacktx.com dashboard for non-UT students. UT students do not need to complete this form.

FULL SCHEDULE:

9/26:
930am: check-in starts
12:00pm: opening ceremony
1:00pm: hacking starts
1:30pm: lunch
4:15pm: snacks
8:00pm: dinner

9/27:
12:00am: midnight surprise
4:00am: snacks
9:45am: breakfast
11:00am: hacking is done, lunch
12:00pm: expo
2:00pm: closing ceremony
4:00pm: buses arrive
4:30pm: buses depart

BUS INFORMATION:

Bus captains have a list of who is assigned to each bus. Only students from schools to which the bus is for may ride that bus. IDs will be checked.

1. Dallas
UT Dallas (Primary contact)
Contact: Jake Welsh - 210-860-7552
jacob.walsh@utdallas.edu
SMU (Secondary contact)
Contact: Jorge Armando Valdez 972-825-6347
javaldez@smu.edu
Bus Operator: Wynne Motorcoach
Driver Information: Dan Canterburry (972) 977-8929
Bus pick-up address: 800 W Campbell Rd, Richardson, TX 75080
Instructions: The bus driver should come into campus and park in Lot J. Here is a map:http://www.utdallas.edu/services/download/Parking_Map.pdf
From Campbell Rd, turn onto University Pkwy towards the giant UTD sign. Continue up to the traffic circle. Take the second exit out of the circle towards the visitor center building and a large parking lot. Park in that parking lot and call me (Jake) if they get lost. There should be no special access to campus needed.
Bus pick-up time: 6:30am
Bus departure time: 7am

2. Houston

Rice University

Contact: Krishna Thiagarajan (281)-865-3546

riceucsclub@gmail.com

Bus pick-up address: 6100 Main, Houston, TX

Instructions: The bus driver should park at Founders Court, which is the big grass field that you see when you come through the main entrance on Main and Sunset

Bus pick-up time: 7:30-7:45am

Bus departure time: 8am

**University of Houston attendees can also board this bus

3. Brownsville

UT RGV -Brownsville

Contact: Mike Chaires (956) 543-7737

miguel.chaires01@utrgv.edu

Bus Operator: Valley Transit

Driver Information: Manuel Reyna (956) 893-3416

Bus Pick-up address: 1 W University Blvd, Brownsville TX, 78520

Instructions: None received at this time.

Bus pick-up time at UTRGV Brownsville: 3:30am

Bus departure time: 4am

4. Edinburg

UTRGV - Edinburgh

Contact: Alejandro Huerta (956) 341-8831

alejandro.huerta02@utrgv.edu

Bus Operator: Valley Transit

Driver Information: Yvette Tovar (956) 564-0871

Bus pick-up Address: 1201 W University Dr, Edinburg, TX, 78539

Instructions: The building is called the Visitor's Center and has a driveway perfect for a bus, in fact it is where the bus stopped last year.

Bus pick-up time at UTRGV Edinburg: 3:30am

Bus departure time: 4am

5. College Station

Texas A&M

Contact: Rafa Moreno (832) 217-4918

rmoreno.cesar@gmail.com

Bus pick-up Address: 188 Bizzel Street, College Station, TX 77843

Instructions: The specific building the bus driver is going to be getting us at is called Wisenbaker. There is a bus stop right in front of that building on Bizzel Street. He won't need any special access if he goes onto Bizzel Street from University Drive.

Bus pick-up time: 8:30-8:45am
Bus departure time: 9am

Upon arrival in Austin, the drop-off location is:
The University of Texas at Austin
Bus drop-off Address: 200 W. 21st St. Austin, TX 78712
Instructions: This is at the intersection of University Ave. and W. 21st St. This is a UT football game day and there will be congestion in the area. UTPD has requested for buses not to drive on Martin Luther King Blvd (MLK) due to construction and congestion. No buses will be allowed access directly on campus. This drop-off point it in front of the Littlefield Fountain, facing the UT Tower. It is not considered to be on campus.

RETURN BUS TRIPS, Sunday, September 27
The return is much simpler.
Bus pick-up location: 200 W. 21st St. Austin, TX 78712
Instructions: This is at the intersection of University Ave. and W. 21st St. This is a UT football game day and there will be congestion in the area. UTPD has requested for buses not to drive on Martin Luther King Blvd (MLK) due to construction and congestion. No buses will be allowed access directly on campus. This drop-off point it in front of the Littlefield Fountain, facing the UT Tower. It is not considered to be on campus.
Bus pick-up time: 4pm
Bus departure time**: 4:30pm**

If you have further questions please contact your bus captain
Also note that times may change by 30 minutes in either direction

WE ARE SO EXCITED FOR THIS WEEKEND! SEE Y'ALL THERE!
<3 THE HACKTX TEAM