An evening at the Women for WomenWorkshop

And why you should keep tabs on what comes next

The WFW community was created to make it easier for women to share their skills and knowledge among their female friends. If you want to deepen your IT knowledge but feel too awkward/ shy to ask the opposite gender for help, consider this group to be your starter-kit for the future. AWESOME DAYS are coming ahead!

Year 2019 started rolling and and so have things with the WFW community. The 26th of April marked the beginning of a fruitful coding journey dedicated to *exploring the different emerging paths of IT* and *setting a personal goal* depending on the subject that comes closest to one's heart. Hence, this year's series is called "**Choose your coding path**" and we just passed round 1 of it.

The topic of the first workshop was **Algorithmic Thinking**. The scope of this event was to give the participants an insight on how a computer works and the way the user should interact with it. And since the whole experience was gamified, the only materials needed to bring the concept to life were pen, paper, a whiteboard and great atmosphere (and there was plenty of it there).

The warm-up exercise consisted of one of the mentors acting as a computer that receives input for drawing a human face. In this part the whiteboard (in case you were wondering before what it was used for) came in very handy. This practical case was an excellent opportunity for attendees to learn how for solving a problem one needs to split the resolving stages from start until end in very small chunks that the computer can understand and afterwards perform, unlike the thinking process of humans for everyday tasks.

The second round was a bit more intense. Participants were split and distributed to several tables where together

with a mentor they would solve programming exercises aimed at giving an understanding of what a *variable* is, what *functions* are and their scope, understanding the *if* statement and the *for* and *while* loops (to quote some of the tasks).

The last round was built around using the prior learned concepts of programming for the purpose of building a recommendation algorithm of a platform, such as Netflix or Spotify. Participants had to analyse how the streaming service of their choice works and build with pseudocode an algorithm that would learn what users like and might want to watch or hear.

And to cool down the minds and warm up the spirits, the end of the event was channeled around the motivational talk of Gina, who shared her story about changing careers and working on her break through to the Tech side. The speaker focused on sharing her own learning sources and alternatives for further development in IT(cause let's be honest, nobody becomes a programmer from just one class or Youtube course).

Let's make learning great again!

Coming next...

Since this was just the beginning of a workshop series, of course, there is more to come. Plans were brought to life and things started taking shape in the following areas: app, game, software, front-end/ backend development and more. Dates were not defined yet but for now it's a known fact that the events will take place once a month, so participants have enough time to prepare themselves for the trainings to come.

Many thanks to Women@EIT and to the WFW team for their hard work to make this Workshop possible. And don't forget to follow them on Facebook (link–> https://www.facebook.com/WfWworkshopFinland/) and on EIT page (link–>https://women.eitalumni.eu/page-1/blog/) for more updates on the coming workshops and their blog stories!

See you at the next rounds! :)