

WaffleHacks 2024

Information Packet

Welcome to WaffleHacks 4th annual hackathon

WaffleHacks - Get ready for the Waffle Games!

Thanks for being here! The WaffleHacks organizing committee is so excited and we can't wait for you to see what is in store for this year!

This year, we present WaffleHacks - The Waffle Games, a 48-hour hackathon aiming to inspire the next generation of tech enthusiasts in a virtual environment. We encourage you to develop and use your skills to explore projects and ideas that will have a lasting impact on any issue that you are passionate about. In the past, participants like you have created projects that dealt with student food insecurity, education, and community in meaningful and creative ways and we are so excited to see you take this new theme in your own unique direction.

If you're a beginner, we welcome you too! We know that attending hackathons can be intimidating at first, so we aim for WaffleHacks to be beginner-friendly by fostering a comfortable and safe environment for all highschool and undergraduate students through hosting various workshops and more.

Over the course of WaffleHacks, we hope that you meet new people, learn new skills, and most of all, have fun! As you begin to plan your projects, keep in mind that we encourage you to work with new programming languages, APIs, and frameworks. If you have any questions on the day of WaffleHacks, do not hesitate to ask any of the organizers for help on Discord. So, go forth and create!

Sincerely,

WaffleHacks Organizer Team



Swag Logistics

WaffleHacks Swag

WaffleHacks swag will be available in tiers:

- Tier 1: All participants who register and attend at least one workshop will be given access to our special virtual swag pack.
- Tier 2: All participants who register and attend at least three workshops (one of which is a career/networking workshop) will be given a super cool WaffleHacks 2024 sticker pack and keychain.

We will have contests (Team Photo Raffle, Waffle Drawing Contest, Tetris Tournament, Website Scavenger Hunt). For all contests, the winner will receive an additional swag[1].

We also have a raffle to encourage workshop/activity attendance. Each workshop/activity you attend during WaffleHacks will give you an extra entry into our raffle.

Hackathon Logistics

Date, Time, and Location

Held virtually via Discord from Friday, June 21st, 2024 5:00 PM to Sunday, June 23th, 2024 5:00 PM ET.

All the times listed in this document are in Eastern Time (ET).

Discord

Once you've been verified using the email address you applied with, you'll have access to the whole server. From there you can introduce yourself in

[1] CROWNFUL Mini Waffle Maker Machine for the winners of Tetris Tournament, Waffle Drawing Contest, and Team Photo Raffle.

#introductions, find teammates in #find-a-team, clarify questions in #event-questions or #technical-questions, or just chat in #general. There's also a channel for each event under the Workshop/Activities category for updates and discussion. To join an workshop, please find the events tab located on the top left of the discord server.

Project Submissions

Submission for your hackathon project on Devpost must be done before **Sunday - June 23rd at 12:00 PM ET**. Your submission must include a link to a video where you are demoing or explaining your project, as we will not be doing live judging. A video of **3 minutes maximum** (judges will not watch past the 3 min mark) must be submitted to Devpost with a full description of your project. This should include your inspiration, design process, and the final product, among other details.

A Github link to your source code is required for all prize-winning tracks unless otherwise specified. If you are submitting a project for the Best UI/UX Hack, you may include a link to the working prototype and do not need a github link.

We expect all projects to be created solely within the time period of WaffleHacks. There is also no cross-submission allowed with other hackathons. Your team will be disqualified if you violate any of these conditions.

Late submissions will not be accepted. If you have any issues submitting, talk to an organizer on Discord.

*You may enter in **1 MAIN TRACK** & multiple subcategories and you can choose not to enter in any categories for judging. You will only be judged for the categories that you enter in.

Judging

After submission for hackathon projects closes, the judges will review your project demo videos.

There will be judges for the following categories:

Best Hack for Student Food Insecurity

Innovative solutions are needed to end student food insecurity! By utilizing technology to connect students with resources, we can revamp campus dining and create sustainable food assistance programs. There are endless possibilities, and we're ready to help college and university students find affordable, nutritious meals.



Up to 4 team members will receive:
• Anker Power Bank
• 1-year subscription to Wolfram|One Personal Edition
• 1-year subscription to Wolfram|Alpha Pro

This prize is kindly sponsored by our tiered sponsor Wolfram Language

Best Hack For Wellness

Mental and physical health is a huge aspect of student life. This award will be given to the hack that best supports student wellness. This category is very broad and open to hacks of all different forms, including software, hardware, and design. Teams can choose to create solutions for areas such as healthcare, accessibility, stress and productivity, awareness for different causes, and more! Projects will be evaluated on impact, innovation, and usability.



Up to 4 team members will receive:
• JBL Wireless Earbuds
• 1-year subscription to Wolfram|One Personal Edition

• 1-year subscription to Wolfram|Alpha Pro

This prize is kindly sponsored by our tiered sponsor Wolfram Language

Best Hack for Diversity & Inclusion

The Diversity and Inclusion track encourages attendees to come together and work on projects that promote diversity, equity, and inclusion in the tech industry and beyond.

Teams in this track have the chance to develop solutions that address issues of diversity and inclusion, such as creating tools to promote equal access to education and employment opportunities for people of all cultures and backgrounds, or designing platforms that amplify underrepresented voices and perspectives.



Up to 4 team members will receive:
• Computer condenser microphone
• 1-year subscription to Wolfram|One Personal Edition
• 1-year subscription to Wolfram|Alpha Pro

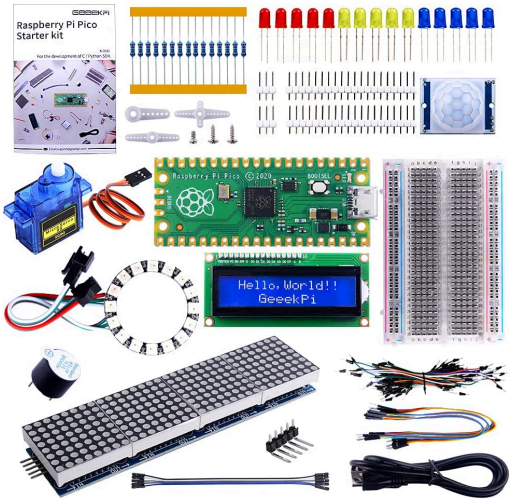
This prize is kindly sponsored by our tiered sponsor Wolfram Language

Best Hack for Community

In this track, we're looking for the most creative and impactful hacks that bring communities together. Whether it's a virtual platform for neighbors to connect, an app that promotes local business, or an initiative that encourages volunteerism, we want to see your innovative ideas for fostering community engagement!

Up to 4 team members will receive:
• Raspberry Pi Pico Starter Kit
• 1-year subscription to Wolfram|One Personal Edition
• 1-year subscription to Wolfram|Alpha Pro

This prize is kindly sponsored by our tiered sponsor Wolfram Language



Best Beginner Hack

Your first time attending a hackathon or creating a hack? Then this track is for you! To be applicable for this track, at least half of your team must be first-time hackers. Any theme, any project, any proposal, or any design can be considered for this track.

Projects will be evaluated based on creativity, usability, and technical complexity. Create your first project and learn while you're here!

Up to 4 team members will receive:
• LEGO Paris Skyline
• 1-year subscription to Wolfram|One Personal Edition
• 1-year subscription to Wolfram|Alpha Pro



This prize is kindly sponsored by our tiered sponsors BlueProton & Wolfram Language

Best UI/UX Hack

Get ready to flex your design muscles and create the ultimate user-centered software product! Whether you're a seasoned designer or just starting out, this category is for anyone who is passionate about creating intuitive and engaging user experiences.



Just make sure to consider factors like usability, aesthetics, and overall user satisfaction as you brainstorm and design. This category is open to designers, developers, and anyone else who is excited about UI/UX.

Up to 4 team members will receive:
• Waterproof Polaroid Camera
• 1-year subscription to Wolfram|One Personal Edition
• 1-year subscription to Wolfram|Alpha Pro

This prize is kindly sponsored by our tiered sponsors Wolfram Language

Best Use of AI

While we're all still wrapping our heads around the marvelous AI products that have come around in the last few years (months? weeks? days?), you can get started out actually building using them! You're free to use ChatGPT, DALL-E, GPT-3, Watson, or any other platform that you find interesting. This category is for people on their way to honing our newfound superpowers to make useful and fun products.



Up to 4 team members will receive:
• ESP-EYE Microcontroller
• 1-year subscription to Wolfram|One Personal Edition
• 1-year subscription to Wolfram|Alpha Pro

This prize is kindly sponsored by our tiered sponsors Wolfram Language

** All prizes are subject to change.

*** Please note that teams are officially capped at four people

Code of Conduct

To ensure a safe and comfortable environment, here are the general rules of the hackathon. These rules apply to everyone who will be attending the event, including attendees, volunteers, and mentors.

1. ***Respect everyone around you.***
   Respect everyone's boundaries and be considerate. Please be cautious of having a negative attitude towards other attendees. Treat others the way you want to be treated. Let this community be a safe and inclusive environment for all.

   a. **Remember that many other attendees may not be as experienced as you.**

Do not put down other people for not knowing something that you know. It may make them feel unqualified to be here when that is totally not the case. If someone does not know something, you can offer to teach them about it or ask a mentor to help.

b. **Do not be a sore loser or sore winner.**
Do not belittle others for their efforts. WaffleHacks aims to be as stress-free an environment as possible. As long as they are learning and having fun, that is all it matters!

2. ***No inappropriate language***

a. The use of profanity should be kept to a minimum. However, any derogatory language towards any user is prohibited.

3. ***No spamming***

a. Do not send a lot of small irrelevant/offensive messages consecutively and continuously. Do not disrupt the chat by spamming.

4. ***No NSFW material***

a. This is a community server and not meant to share this kind of material. We want to provide a safe and comfortable space for all.

5. ***No offensive names and profile pictures***

a. You will be asked to change your name or picture if the staff and volunteers deem them inappropriate.

6. ***No direct and/or indirect threats***

a. Threats to other users of DDoS, Death, DoX, abuse, and other malicious threats are absolutely prohibited.

7. ***Follow the Discord Community Guidelines***

a. You can find them here.

8. ***Do not share Zoom links with people outside WaffleHacks.***

a. Our Zoom links are only for those attending and participating in WaffleHacks. Our Zoom meetings should be a safe environment, not to mention the fact that our presenters took time out of their busy

schedules to lead the workshop/activity. If we encounter anyone violating the rules above in a Zoom meeting, we will remove you from the event and you will be disqualified.

By attending WaffleHacks, you agree to abide by all these rules. If you violate these rules, WaffleHacks organizers or volunteers will give you a warning. If you continue to violate them, you will be disqualified and removed from the Discord server.

If you experience any issues, harassment, or discrimination; if anyone is doing anything to make you or others uncomfortable; if you fear for your safety or the safety of someone else, please do not hesitate to tell us. If you feel mistreated, DM a WaffleHacks organizer, and we will resolve the issue. Don't think that you just have to put up with it.

And if you hear or see anyone doing something against the rules, or disrespecting/negatively affecting others, don't be afraid to report it or speak up. In many cases, especially if it's subtle, they may not know that they are doing something wrong. If they become confrontational, we will provide assistance. Please help us make WaffleHacks a good experience for everyone.

If you have any questions or concerns at any time, feel free to reach out to a WaffleHacks Organizer. We will be happy to help.

WaffleHacks Schedule

All links to virtual events will be on Discord. To view the most up-to-date schedule please refer to the website at wafflehacks.org

WaffleHacks Sponsors

Thank you to all the WaffleHacks Sponsors for your support!

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	Balsamiq Transform your ideas into interactive wireframes effortlessly. Balsamiq's intuitive drag-and-drop interface helps you create low-fidelity mockups quickly, allowing you to focus on structure and functionality without getting bogged down in design details. Learn more about Balsamiq here: https://balsamiq.com/

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Silver	
NordVPN	**NordVPN** Secure your online activities with military-grade encryption. NordVPN offers a fast, private, and unrestricted internet experience, allowing you to access content from anywhere while keeping your data safe from prying eyes. Learn more about NordVPN here: https://nordvpn.com/
NordPass	**NordPass** Simplify your digital life with secure password management. NordPass stores and organizes your passwords, credit card details, and sensitive information in an encrypted vault, accessible across all your devices.

	Learn more about NordPass here: https://nordpass.com/
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