TeenHacks LI: High School Students Putting Programming Around the Clock

Syosset, NY - TeenHacks LI is Long Island's premier and only active 24-hour hackathon, founded by students, for students. On September 29-30, high school students from across the tri-state area will get together to learn, create, and share at The Coder School Syosset.

Founded by Jeffrey Yu and Wesley Pergament, the mission of TeenHacks LI is to build a community of student programmers on Long Island through hackathons. A hackathon is a sprint-like event where innovative students come together to engage in "collaborative coding" and create a project from beginning to end. Projects can range from websites, to mobile apps, to robots, addressing real world problems. Examples of innovative projects built at hackathons include route planning software for emergency evacuations, an image based language translation app, and a data visualization program for US diplomatic relations, all created by high school students.

So what exactly happens at a hackathon? Well, when students first arrive at TeenHacks LI, they'll have the opportunity to form teams and start brainstorming. Once they find a problem to solve, they start on their project. They may not necessarily know how to build the project, but that's okay. A large part of what makes a hackathon so great is what one learns. There will be workshops throughout the event, along with mentors walking around. There will also be various guests including CEOs of local technology companies and local politicians to speak about technology. Sleeping is optional as some students will work very hard to make sure their project is complete. At the very end, there will be judging from those established in the field, and the team with the best "hack" will receive prizes.

The main benefit of hackathons is the ability to concentrate time and energy on a specific project for a focused amount of time -- leading to a potentially superior solution vs. working on multiple projects for longer durations. This is important because the nature of innovation has changed and today is distinguished by speed, flexibility and openness. Hackathons have boomed in popularity at the corporate and college level to encourage innovation, but now they are making their way into the high school world as well.

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Hackathons are special because they create a unique environment that fosters innovation and entrepreneurship. TeenHacks LI is free to all, and when students are given the venue to express their creativity through code, they are able to create awesome projects that are simply not replicable in the classroom. TeenHacks LI is excited to bring the exhilarating experience of working around the clock to Long Island.

High school students can apply now at http://teenhacksli.com/.

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If you would like more information about this event, please contact:

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