„Fit for Future“ teacher support app wins SHack Vienna

50 young coders, designers and social innovators travelled from ten European countries to attend the Social Hackathon at Austria’s Federal Computing Centre. Within two days, new applications with social impact were created.

The "SHack - Social Hackathon" is a newly created format combining the popular coding marathons with a positive social purpose. The participants - women equalling the number of men – arrived from the Czech Republic, Poland, Hungary, Germany, Austria and Macedonia to use synergies in mixed teams of programmers, product designers and business students. The project "Fit for Future" – an online training platform for teachers, created by Austrian, German and Hungarian participants, was chosen as the winner!

Winners may join an international program

“Fit for Future is a web application that supports teachers to foster 21st century skills development of their students.”, Tobias Feitkenhauer, member of the winning team and systemic coach by profession, explains the application. “Our solution provides teachers with rituals, methods and assignments they can easily implement in their lessons to grow competencies such as ‘Collaboration’ or ‘Leadership & Responsibility’ of their students. All methods are scientifically proven and are designed to increase the effectiveness of the teaching.”

One of the benefits winning SHack Vienna is being supported by the international EYA community. Tobias and his colleagues are invited to attend a training course on Social Impact Measurement in Tunisia as well as pitch in front of the AWS First Jury to win a 20,000 Euro seed-funding. The team aims to develop the app to a marketable product.

Expertise and support

To achieve the best results, the young changemakers were supported by twenty international coaches with various expertise. “Compared to other Hackathons I attended, the continuous support of coaches was special. They were always around and eager to jump in, give new perspectives and push our idea further.” explains Tobias Feitkenhauer the relevance of the coaches from all fields of the digital business.

“My motivation for participating at the hackathon was mainly to explore a place out of my comfort zone, going all in to make a difference in something.” Eda Mushe, who travelled from Skopje to Vienna just to attend the event explicates, “this was my second coding event, but the first out of my country, with people from a lot of different places and different cultures which brings a whole bunch of interesting ideas!”

Initiator, Peter A. Bruck, explains the central motivation to organize this event and the all-European EYA initiative: “The challenge of our time is to use digital technologies respectfully and for the benefit of people and communities, but not for data theft or a surveillance state. Young people in Europe have the necessary competence and creativity to do so. The European Youth Award serves them as a unique international network and shows that this is ‘Europe at its best’! The projects developed in the Social Hackathon provide the proof and I congratulate all participants!”
About SHack Vienna #code4impact

SHack Vienna - the Social Hackathon was organized by the European Youth Award (EYA), the second edition of the event format will take place in June at the “European Youth Capital 2019” Novi Sad, Serbia. EYA is a Europe-wide competition for young people, social entrepreneurs and start-up founders who create digital projects with value for the society.

Learn more about the projects developed during SHack Vienna: https://eu-youthaward.org/shack-vienna-2019-over/

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About the European Youth Award (#EYA)

Called to life by Prof. Dr. Peter A. Bruck, Honorary Chairman of the International Center for New Media in 2012, the EYA is an initiative for young innovators who never stop learning, questioning and improving the world we live in. EYA organizes several activities and events throughout the year: its flagship initiatives, the EYA contest and the Festival (Winners Event), coding events (e.g. SHacks (Social Hackathons), Game Jams), the Youth for Innovation programs, mentorship programs and more.

ICNM is financed in part by the European Union Europe for Citizens programme.

The next event: SHack Novi Sad from June 26 – 30, 2019

Apply online for the EYA contest: April 1 – July 15, 2019

Website: eu-youthaward.org