

Media Contact:
Sarah Pendley
Sarah Theresa Communications for Capsule
sarah@sarahtheresa.com

For Immediate Release: July 25, 2019

Capsule to Host World's Largest Hackathon in 2020

Four thousand hackers gather in Austin, Texas to solve challenges in climate change and break a Guinness World Record.



Austin, TX (July 25, 2019) - Experimental Civics announced today a new event called <u>Capsule</u>, a record-breaking hackathon that kicks off in June 2020.

For two days approximately 4,000 hackers will gather from fields that include software development, climate science, environmental law, urban planning, medicine and more. Participants will have a 48-hour window to generate community-driven solutions that address complex climate problems impacting our planet.

Image Credit: The Earth Hacks Foundation

Event organizers plan to stage the largest hackathon to date and officially break the Guinness World Record. The current record for Most Participants in a Hackathon is 2,950, achieved by the Saudi Federation for Cybersecurity, Programming and Drones in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, on Aug. 2, 2018.

"A hackathon at this scale will break the existing record and set a new precedent," explained Sarah Sharif, Founder of Experimental Civics. "Hackathons are action-oriented design sprints where people bring ideas to life. Capsule will energize solutions for our climate crisis from artificial intelligence projects to water sanitation to carbon cycle education."

The hackathon was organized in response to a recent report released by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, a group of 1,300 independent scientific experts brought together by the United Nations. The panel concluded there is greater than 95 percent probability that human activities over the past 50 years have warmed our planet. The goal of Capsule is to address this issue and reduce extreme weather catastrophes.

"You don't have to be a climate scientist to participate at Capsule," Sharif said. "We need minds from across industries that include art, food, energy, city planning, health and education. This is not a drill, it's time to act."

The hackathon is scheduled for June 2020 in Austin, Texas. Tickets will go on sale in January 2020. Those interested in participating, sponsoring or volunteering can sign up at capsulehack.io.

Notable sponsors and partners include The Earth Hacks Foundation and TechTogether.

Video available here and images available upon request.

About Experimental Civics, LLC

Experimental Civics was founded by Sarah Sharif after years of extracting profitable business ideas and solutions from organizations for the human bottom line. Through Experimental Civics, she has launched over 10 unique design thinking workshops to support ideation and has run over 25 hackathons across the country supporting innovation in every industry from agriculture to public health to biotechnology. Sarah served as the Director of ATX Hack for Change the past four years and has been dedicated to bringing fresh human-centered projects to the city of Austin. Clients of Experimental Civics include Red Bull, Google Fiber, the City of Austin, and more.

###