From: Eric Jackson <ejackson@ashevillenc.gov>
Sent: 11/28/2017 6:03:04 PM
To: Jesse Michel <code4asheville@gmail.com>
Cc: amber@techtalentsouth.com
Subject: Re: [#91836] Re: StoryTell Asheville Update

Hi, Amber,

My apologies for not replying earlier ... it's been crazy days.

I'm the current captain of Code for Asheville (and, as Jesse noted, both he and Patrick are former captains). We would definitely love to support you by offering speakers as well as welcoming your students as part of Code for Asheville. Both Jesse and Patrick would be awesome for this and I'm happy to make time as well (I work for IT at the City of Asheville as a digital services architect and web developer).

Warm regards,

Eric
--
Eric Jackson
Digital Services Architect
City of Asheville: IT Services
Email: ejackson@ashevillenc.gov
Office: 828-259-5722

On Tue, Nov 28, 2017 at 3:41 PM, Jesse Michel <code4asheville@gmail.com> wrote:

Hi Amber,

Thanks for your message! My name is Jesse Michel. I am the lead developer on StoryTell, the community stories platform.

My business partner, Patrick and I have both done multiple presentations to tech talent south (in the past we've done these at Base Camp AVL, a local co-working space, along with some other venues). Patrick and I are both developers who have served as co-captains of Code for Asheville in the past, and our company dedicates 20% of our time to community projects.

Typically we touch on some high-level philosophies in terms of becoming a web-development professional, as well as discussing the tools we use and our community work.

I know that Patrick goes OOO for the holidays after the 18th, so it would be great to set something up before then if we are shooting for December.

If not, we're always happy to pay a visit to the TTS students and present next year.

There are, of course, other members in Code for Asheville whom I am sure would be willing to present. If you'd like, I can put the call out for members who may be interested in presenting in December. I can send any takers your contact info. If it doesn't work out for December, you could have some contacts for the next go-round as well.

Thanks!

Jesse Michel
PRC Application
jesse@prcapps.com

On Mon, 27 Nov at 1:23 PM , Amber Williams <amber@techtalentsouth.com> wrote:

Hello,

I am writing to extend a Thank You for providing such great content in your newsletter and for the work you do in our community!

Do Code for Asheville members/organizers ever present at schools or learning institutions?

I work with Tech Talent South, a local coding bootcamp that has been hosting classes in Asheville for a few years now. I recently came on board as the Community Organizer for the school in Asheville after completing the Code Immersion course this Summer. I am working to help connect our students to the local developer community as well as provide opportunities for them to engage with meaningful projects locally.

We currently have a couple openings for special guest speakers to come present to our class this December. Do you know anyone in the Code for Asheville network who may be interested in connecting with us in this way? The students are in a Full Time immersive course and thus don't have a lot of time to attend Meetups outside of class time. I am sure that a simple presentation would help spur them to become involved in the Brigade once they finish their course in January.

Thanks again for your work and I look forward to speaking with you further.

Best,

Amber Victoria Williams **239.728.7507**
Asheville & Winston Salem Community Organizer

Tech Talent South
e: amber@techtalentsouth.com
w: techtalentsouth.com

On Wed, Nov 22, 2017 at 10:02 AM, Code for Asheville <code4asheville@gmail.com> wrote:

News, updates, and announcements from Code for Asheville

View this email in your browser

Code for NC Meeting 12/9/2017
Are you interested in helping shape the ways that North Carolina brigades collaborate and support both each other and communities without brigades?

Representatives from brigades across the state will gather in Greensboro on Saturday, December 9, from 10am to 3pm. I will be going and would love to have other Code for Asheville members accompany me. I'm happy to share transportation. If interested, email me at Eric.Jackson@DemocracyApps.org.

StoryTell Asheville - Latest Update

We first outlined the idea behind our new stories collection platform in our September 26 newsletter. Since then Jesse Michel has built a minimal version of the project that we can try out for our first couple projects.

The project, which we are tentatively calling *StoryTell Asheville,* is an experimental one, and we are still exploring how we can use the platform for ourselves and or other communities.

StoryTell Asheville is a site for collections of stories about and by communities, with a focus on the voices of those who have traditionally not been heard and of those who are working to empower them. Our hope is that it will serve as a platform for celebrating Asheville's delightful diversity, bringing attention and action to community needs, and helping break down the walls that separate us from one another.

The structure of the site is quite simple, consisting of stories and projects, presented in a professional, presentation-ready format.

A story is a narrative contribution to a project from a single person in the form of text or video, just like a Facebook or blog post. No registration is required to post a story, but every story will be reviewed before posting to ensure that it aligns with the purpose of the project and obeys our community code of conduct.

A project is a set of stories that is collected by a community or organization for some purpose, represented by a call to action on the main project page. Projects may be used for a variety of purposes - we are deliberately leaving this open for now to allow exploration. Our only requirement is that projects align with the basic principles above. Here are a few examples that illustrate the range of possible uses:

- Collect interviews with local homeless individuals to put human faces on an otherwise abstract problem
- Prepare for a hackathon to introduce participants to the stories of people they will be helping.
- Capture stories from participants from an event like a hackathon or a protest.
- Collect stories from two distinct communities in conflict as a way of humanizing one another.
- Use stories as a way for a community to collectively come to an understanding of the issues they face.

To test out the platform before making it available to other communities, we will use it to collect and display stories about Code for Asheville participants. Our plan is to feature them on the Code for Asheville website to give potential new members and partners a sense of who we are and how they might fit in. Please join us at our December 14 Community Night to start collecting stories.

– –
Eric Jackson
Digital Services Architect
City of Asheville, IT Services
Email: ejackson@ashevillenc.gov
Office: 828-259-5722

News From the Network

Datapalooza Winner - CivicRise

NC Datapalooza is a competition designed to catalyze positive community and economic impact through the use of open data. This year's competition kicked off at

CityCampNC in September, where Code for Asheville members contributed to that day's prizewinner project, *Are We Represented?* That project made it to the final round on November 13, but was edged out by *CivicRise*, a smartphone app that supports collective civic action.

Check out the details of the competition finale here.

And if you are interested in helping with ongoing work with the *Are We Represented?*, a project to shed light on how well local and state elected bodies reflect the demographics of the communities they represent, reach out to Eric - a cross-brigade team will be continuing the project after the holiday.

Have a Story to Share?

We'd love to have your contribution. You can write something up about a Code for Asheville event or share something else going on in the civic tech world. Email us at code4asheville@gmail.com.

Upcoming events

12/14 Monthly Community Meetup

Our next Community Night will be on Thursday, December 14, 2017 at 5:30pm. We'll be working on StoryTell Asheville. The meeting will probably be at the Dr. Wesley Grant Sr. Center, but we still have to confirm that. Details will be in the next newsletter and on meetup.

Community nights occur on the second Thursday of each month. The location rotates among different Asheville community centers.

12/12 Brigade Planning Meeting

Our next regular planning meeting will take place on Tuesday, December 12 at 5:30pm at the Battery Park Book Exchange. RSVP here or just stop by.

Sign up for this newsletter

Join the CfA Discussion on Slack

(It may take a moment for the form to load)

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You signed up on our site or on Facebook.

Our mailing address is:

Code for Asheville
PO Box 17391
Asheville, NC 28816

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