

# Software Philanthropy for Everyone

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# First: Thanks

- Andrew Paprocki, who inspired this effort
- Henry Kleynhans, who keeps me on task and runs events in London
- Bradley Kuhn, who prodded me into talking about this project
- Jeff King (peff), for being willing to let us experiment with his time and energy
- Bloomberg's Philanthropy team, for being open-minded and supportive about software volunteerism
- Kyle Kingsbury (aphyr), for a starting point for using Amazon Web Services for these events

# Git, New York (our first event)



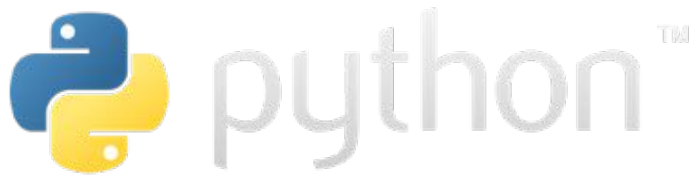
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# Eclipse, London



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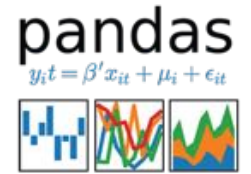
# Python, New York



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# Scientific Python, New York & London



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# Git, London



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# Outline

- Motivations
- Challenges
- Rewards

# Motivations

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**It's Fun! (do we need any other reason?)**

# Employee Engagement

Bloomberg has an extensive global program to engage its employees in volunteer activities.

In 2017:

- More than **12,000** volunteers
- Over **145,000** volunteer hours
- **2,300** partner organizations

Volunteer activities cover many areas, including the Arts, Education, Human Services and Sustainability.

# Giving back to the community



# Creating new contributors

Every project benefits from new contributors, and learning how to contribute in a group environment can be very positive and encouraging.

Project leaders get first-hand knowledge of the ‘new contributor’ experience (for good or bad).

Getting a ‘jumpstart’ from a pre-built environment allows contributors to focus on code (or documentation, or any other component) immediately.

# Challenges

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**‘Fun’... for the organizers!**

# The 'easy' stuff

- Venue (space, desks/chairs, power, Internet access)
- Catering (programmers are easy to feed and water)
- Internal advertising

# The 'moderate' stuff

- Dates... dates, dates  
(conflicts and constraints everywhere)
- Mentors/leaders  
(interest, availability, travel)
- External advertising  
(many projects have no single place to advertise events)

# The 'hard' stuff

- Selecting projects  
(do what you're good at, not what's shiny)
- Attendees will **not** be prepared  
(but you can help)
- List of newbie-friendly issues/features/tasks  
(rely on mentors/leaders)
- Follow-up  
(tracking results can be difficult)

# Rewards

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Plenty to go around

# Patches

Patches.

Patches.

Patches.

Patches.

Patches. (some even get merged during the event!)

# Other rewards

- Internal networking
- External networking
- Student engagement

# Thanks!

If you're interested in learning more about how we do this, please reach out. I can be found in many ways:

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- Twitter: @realkpflaming
- GitHub: kpflaming
- LinkedIn: [linked.com/in/kpflaming](https://www.linkedin.com/in/kpflaming)
- AWS 'hackathon cluster' tools:  
[github.com/bloomberg/hackathon-aws-cluster](https://github.com/bloomberg/hackathon-aws-cluster)