

{OPENBRACKET DELAWARE LAUNCHED

National Online Code Competition **October 15th** Finals in Wilmington, Delaware **November 5th \$50,000+** in Prizes

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A world-class code competition with more than \$50,000 in prizes, **{OpenBracket Delaware** formally launches today, with title sponsor **Chatham Financial**. The inaugural event has two phases:

- 1. **National online trials Oct. 15, 2016** on <u>HackerRank.com</u>, the global leader in online code assessments.
- 2. **Finals, November 5, live in Wilmington, Delaware,** hosted in partnership with <u>Technical.ly</u>, the network of local tech news sites. Kickoff November 4 in the evening.

10,000+ software developers are expected to compete online, and **more than \$50,000** will be distributed to winners, including travel stipends for online finalists.

{OpenBracket Delaware is a nonprofit formed with support from **Zip Code Wilmington** and **First State Innovation (FSI)**, with the mission of bringing world-class developers to Wilmington and highlighting Delaware's growing tech business climate. {OpenBracket Delaware will be one of the largest coding championships in the United States.

Registration for the online competition is open to anyone, but in order to qualify for prizes, participants need to be 18 or over and residents of the United States. The in-person event will be open to technologists who have proven their skills in the online competition, as well as those vetted by {OpenBracket partners.

Registration: http://hackerrank.com/openbracket

This inaugural event is part of a growing effort to celebrate Wilmington, Delaware and its thriving tech community, which has come about due to its position as a business center, its relative affordability, and its ideal location, within a two-hour train or car ride of Baltimore, New York City, Washington, DC, and only 30 minutes from Philadelphia (not to mention Delaware's beautiful and popular beaches).

"We are honored to host this event, and show how great a community Wilmington, Delaware is for coders," said Ben duPont, Board President of {OpenBracket Delaware.

"With the democratization of technology, tech hubs are growing all over the nation. We're excited to partner with {OpenBracket Delaware to help create more opportunities for developers in Delaware," said Vivek Ravisankar, CEO & cofounder of HackerRank.

"FSI is pleased to support this endeavor. It is consistent with our role to help grow the entrepreneurial economy," said Ernie Dianastasis, Board Chairman of First State Innovation.

"We are proud to employ more than 3,000 technologists here in Delaware and believe it is critical to continue to build the technology talent pipeline here," said Mike Zbranak, managing director of JPMorgan Chase & Co. and head of the firm's Delaware Technology Center. "Events like this celebrate technology as well as the community, and we're thrilled to be a part of it."

OpenBracket Delaware is created and managed by:











Sponsors

{OpenBracket Delaware's sponsors are a perfect demonstration of Delaware's strengths in financial tech and cybersecurity, and they include Chatham Financial, JPMorgan Chase, Christiana Care Health System, Capital One, M&T Bank, WSFS Bank, First State Innovation (FSI), and Microsoft.

"Chatham is a proud member and supporter of the Greater Wilmington technology community. As we celebrate our 25th year in this community, we are incredibly excited to be sponsoring this event."

Tim Savery, Director of Engineering, Chatham Financial

"Through the collaboration of programmers and health care providers, the potential for technology to improve the health of our community has never been greater. The Health & Technology Innovation Center at Christiana Care supports our local tech community, and we are excited to sponsor Open Bracket."

Catherine Burch, Manager, Health & Technology Innovation Center at Christiana Care Health System

"Technology is changing our world and our work, and Wilmington is experiencing a groundswell of innovative, digital talent. With the goal of helping people develop skills for the jobs of today and tomorrow, Capital One is proud to support this event that seamlessly aligns with Wilmington's emerging role in the digital economy."

Joe Westcott, Market President, Capital One

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Leadership/Operations

Kirsten Wolfington, {OpenBracket Director Christopher Wink, Technical.ly Zach Phillips, the Kitchen

OpenBracket Partner Organizations

Zip Code Wilmington, one of the first nonprofit coding schools in the country, gives students an experience that fast-tracks them to a great career at a great salary in under a year. Zip Code's teachers have years of experience as professional coders, ensuring graduates are ready to succeed on any software development team. Through alliances with area companies, some of which are household names, Zip Code has created a world-class curriculum that mirrors the real world. For more information, visit zipcodewilmington.com.

The **HackerRank** team is on a mission to flatten the world by restructuring the DNA of every company on the planet. HackerRank ranks programmers based on their coding skills, helping companies source great talent and reduce the time to hire. The HackerRank platform is the destination for developers to improve their coding skills and companies to find top engineers. Over 1,000 companies partner with HackerRank to build and grow their engineering teams. For more information, visit hackerrank.com/ work.

Launched in 2006, **First State Innovation (FSI)** is a privately-led initiative that focuses on increasing Delaware's entrepreneurial capacity. FSI has accomplished this by helping technology-based and early stage businesses find traditional seed capital, alternative funding, skilled human capital, commercialization assistance, intellectual capital, and other entrepreneurial resources.

the Kitchen is a magical place on a train platform mostly known for its subsidiary film production company, Short Order Production House. Visit <u>thekitchen.co.</u>

Technical.ly is a local tech news and events network, serving technologists, entrepreneurs, and people who care about technology's local impact. Founded in 2009 and published by Technically Media, Technical.ly produces major events including *Delaware Innovation Week*, which takes place for the second time November 11-19, 2016.

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