HOPE

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x.hope.net
Announcing Hackers On Planet Earth, or HOPE. Inspired by conferences like the Chaos Communication Congress in Germany and the Galactic Hacker Party in the Netherlands, HOPE was created in 1994 to give a voice to hackers and other curious, open-minded people. At HOPE, you’ll find a wide variety of especially interesting talks, cool projects, and workshops.

HOPE attendees are hackers, phreaks, activists, artists, whistleblowers, tinkerers, makers, and more. For the intersection of activism, hacking, and making, HOPE is the premiere destination to meet influential people and join or share cool projects.

History

HOPE X marks the 10th conference in our 20-year history, and the 30 year anniversary of 2600 Magazine - The Hacker Quarterly.

Many amazing speakers have joined us for enlightening and rousing talks, from Apple co-founder Steve Wozniak, Adam Savage of Mythbusters, and representatives from Wikileaks, to NSA whistleblower William Binney, and Jon Johansen of DeCSS fame (who testified on 2600’s behalf in the first DMCA lawsuit back in 2000).

We’ve featured major projects like OpenAMD, a real-time location-aware conference badge created to help attendees meet people with common interests. We’ve also seen Radio Statler, an in-conference radio station, a Hackerspace Village where you can learn how to solder and build your own electronic projects, and a Lockpicking Village, even a workshops on crafting Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests to „hack“ the U.S. government’s excessive secrecy.

„So you’re like Maker Faire?“ At HOPE, tinkering, technology, and hacking meet policy and philosophy. We do have workshops focused on teaching kids, and we also feature more political projects and deep technical discussions. We consider HOPE a melting pot of many cultures. But HOPE is more information-rich with approximately 100 speakers over three days.
"Ok, so you’re another hacker conference?"

While technology is important, we believe it is a tool that can enable freedom. Therefore we seek out topics and projects of a great diversity and controversy. Because HOPE is inspired by 2600 Magazine, we believe in giving a wide variety of people a public platform is an important part of free speech. While other hacker conferences may focus on technology and security exploits, we inject a lot of social elements and try to combine different worlds into something unique.

"What will I see at HOPE?"

In the past we’ve had huge hackerspace villages, film festivals, Segway rides, lock-picking villages, a wide variety of vendors, art installations, live video, vintage computers, robots, an amateur/ham radio station, electronics workshops, book signings, and the country’s biggest supply of Club-Mate. And you’ll meet lots of interesting people. Many have claimed that HOPE changed their life.

30 years of 2600, 20 years of HOPE

1971 John Draper, aka Captain Crunch, popularizes the “Captain Crunch” cereal box whistle that emits a tone at 2600 Hertz—the same frequency AT&T used for opening long-distance trunk lines.

1984 2600 Magazine created, borrowing the namesake from the Captain Crunch whistle.

1987 2600 Meetings started.

1990 Operation Sundevil: BBS raids which lead to the creation of the Electronic Frontier Foundation (EFF). Detailed in The Hacker Crackdown by Bruce Sterling.

13-14 August 1994 The first Hackers On Planet Earth Conference (HOPE), 10 year anniversary of 2600

15 February 1995 Kevin Mitnick arrested, resulting in the “Free Kevin” movement

8-10 August 1997 Beyond HOPE, the second HOPE conference. Held at the Puck building, thus the only HOPE conference not held at the Hotel Pennsylvania.

21 January 2000 Kevin Mitnick released from prison

14-15 July 2000 H2K, keynoted by Jello Biafra
17 July 2000  2600 and EFF join forces to fight DeCSS case

12-14 July 2002  H2K2, keynoted by Aaron McGruder and Siva Vaidhyanathan.

9-11 July 2004  The Fifth HOPE, celebrating 10 years of HOPE and 20 years of 2600, also 20 years of Cult of the Dead Cow, keynoted by Kevin Mitnick and Apple co-founder Steve Wozniak.

21-23 July 2006  HOPE Number Six, keynoted by Richard Stallman, founder of the Free Software Foundation. Speaker Steve Rambam arrested by the FBI on bogus charges that were later dropped.

18-20 July 2008  The Last HOPE, named due to pending (later cancelled) destruction of the Hotel Pennsylvania. Keynoted by author Steven Levy and Adam Savage from the TV show “Mythbusters.” Also featured the Attendee Meta-Data (AMD) project, a location-aware active RFID badge that tracked conference attendees’ movements.

16-18 July 2010  The Next HOPE, featuring keynote by then still relatively unknown Wikileaks, as well as Dan Kaminsky.

13-15 July 2012  HOPE Number Nine, featuring keynote by NSA analyst-turned-whistleblower William Binney, as well as the activist-prankster group Yes Men.
For all press inquiries, email: press@hope.net or follow us on twitter: @hopex

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