Why should you host a Coding Contest?

What's in it for you and what do you have to do?

Catalysts is expanding Europe's biggest Coding Contest to a worldwide level. On April 27th, 2018, coders from around the world will compete in a challenge that lasts for 4 hours. Same as last year there will be two tracks, the already well-known Coding Contest (CC) as well as the School Coding Contest. The School Coding Contest is organized only in selected venues on the same day, with an example for pupils (up to the age of 19 years), lasting only for two hours. In the past many pupils also attended the main CC right after participating in the school CC. A lot of them could easily keep up with students or practitioners.

We are organising Classic Coding Contests since 2007 and have grown it since then. Around 5000 participants from more than 35 cities all over the world took part in the Coding Contest in 2017. Coders can attend at selected locations but also remotely (online). The aim of the contest is to leverage the visibility of coders around the world, open up job opportunities and promote hosts and their venue. A single local "champion" can gain worldwide reach and recognition in the community. Every contest will attract more talents which everyone will benefit of.

What we are looking for are motivated partners/hosts that take up this opportunity. By inviting local businesses to sponsor and support the event (infrastructure, prizes, buffet...) as a host you would gain even more exposure. By hosting a contest we are sure you will increase your visibility for top coding talents. No matter if you want to host a contest for 20, 50 or more than 100 participants, we will support you. Our advice: Start small!

Still not convinced? Here are some more reasons

We strive to find new hosts

Get on board with us!

- The contest draws the attention of the local coder community to your organisation
- Get in contact with students and practitioners
- Connect with companies, hence create partnerships or collaborations for future projects
- Bring companies and participants together
- See your local coder community perform and benchmark themselves against other pupils, students and practitioners around the world
- Give your participants the opportunity to shine amongst the world's top coders
- Use the contest as an innovative way for helping participants to find good internships
- Use the contest to invite your partners and stay in touch with them
- Huge benefits for participants
    - Get in contact with companies
    - Networking
    - Internships
    - And of course: Prizes
- It does not cost you any money

What we will provide

You do not have to reinvent the wheel

We support you with…

- The actual game (each contest has a unique game that is kept as a secret until the event starts,
- participants can try to solve previous games here)
- The contest platform, where participants register and participate
- Live support from our game experts during the event
- A local hall of fame and a global hall of fame (online ranking)
- Certificates
- Posters and flyers
- Slides as a presentation for the end of the contest
- An answer to any questions you might have via dedicated Skype channel and email
- FAQ section

How to make the contest a success

We have the experience

Let's move on together

- Find a location (e.g. a room at your organisation)
- Check if Wifi or LAN internet connection is available and stable enough for the maximum
- number of participants (for 100 participants an internet connection with 100MBit (75 down & 25
- up) should be provided)
- Check if every seat has access to at least one electricity socket to charge the laptops of the
- participants during the contest
- Check if a beamer and audio speakers are available in the room to show a presentation and the
- rankings after the contest for the prize ceremony
- Find local sponsors that will pay for tombola prizes for the participants (this is not required for the smaller events)
- Find a speaker/moderator that will be able to speak a few words before and after the contest
- Find someone who will take pictures during the event

How to spread the word

Market the event in your host city

We will support you in every way we can

- Spread the word among your IT community. As everywhere, personal contacts are the fastest way to find participants for any event. Ask all of your colleagues if they know anyone who works in IT or studies IT, so they can be invited personally.
- Take care of the distribution of the provided flyers and posters to advertise your contest
- Contact student organizations and ask them to distribute the flyers and post on social media
- Find local Facebook pages, IT-groups, etc. and make sure people know about your contest +
- location
- Contact local schools and universities. Ask teachers and professors directly if it's fine to send
- some flyers and posters so they can hand them over to their students or pupils (we recommend you to set up a plan who you already contacted, who hasn't registered and who still needs to be contacted).
- Get in touch with local sponsors and try to make the event attractive for them
- Many people that are already employed in IT are interested in participating at the Coding Contest. Therefore, you can contact companies that might have IT personnel and inform them about the competition, tell them to spread the word and/or compete.
- Follow us on all our social media platforms (see the next page) and share our posts
- Send email campaigns to all potentially interested contacts

Social media channels

 Facebook

 Instagram

 Twitter

 YouTube

You need more information?

Let's get in touch today

In a case of any questions, please contact: team@codingcontest.org
Or visit our webiste: codingcontest.org