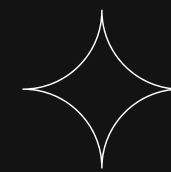
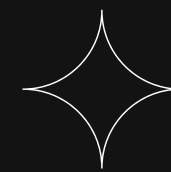


*The Open Source
Community Invites*
YOU *to ...*



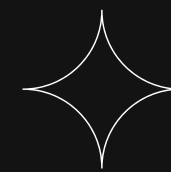
The Open Source Community Invites **YOU** *to ...*

- *Internships/Jobs/Freelancing*
- *Brand/Resume Building*
- *Code/Conferences/Community*
- *Networking Opportunities*



The Open Source Community Invites **YOU** *to ...*

- *Starred/Forked a public repository?*
- *Submitted a Pull Request to fix a bug?*
- *Made documentation/design contributions?*
- *Started a Forum Discussion or GitHub Issue?*



Quick Poll



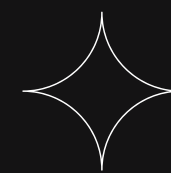
A person with a beard and glasses is seen from the side, looking at two computer monitors. The left monitor shows a file explorer with a list of files and folders. The right monitor shows a code editor with PHP code. A large white oval is superimposed over the center of the image, containing the text "Code looks familiar-ish... but also ???".

Code looks familiar-ish... but also ???

Daunting

*The Open Source
Community Invites*
YOU *to ...*

DARE GREATLY



**You don't need to know everything.
You just need to try — visibly.
ONE STEP AT A TIME**

Hello I'm Priya Pahwa

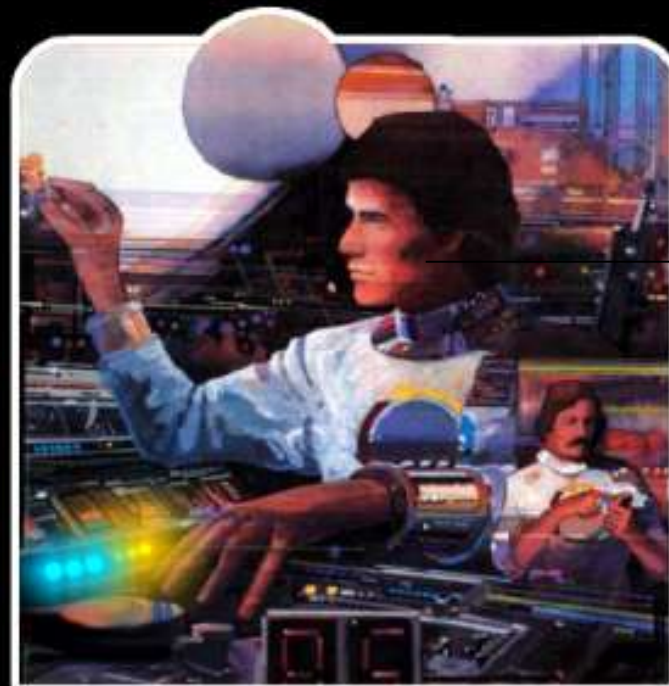
- Software Engineer (Backend & DevOps)
- Session Organizer @Djangonaut Space
- Co-Chair, Fundraising Working Group @DSF
- Member, Code of Conduct Working Group @DSF
- GitHub Campus Expert
- GitHub Octern



What is holding YOU back from
“Daring Greatly” with respect to
open-source?

Common *Pitfalls...*

THE TWO STATES OF EVERY PROGRAMMER



I AM A GOD.



**I HAVE NO IDEA
WHAT I'M DOING.**

Brain Freeze

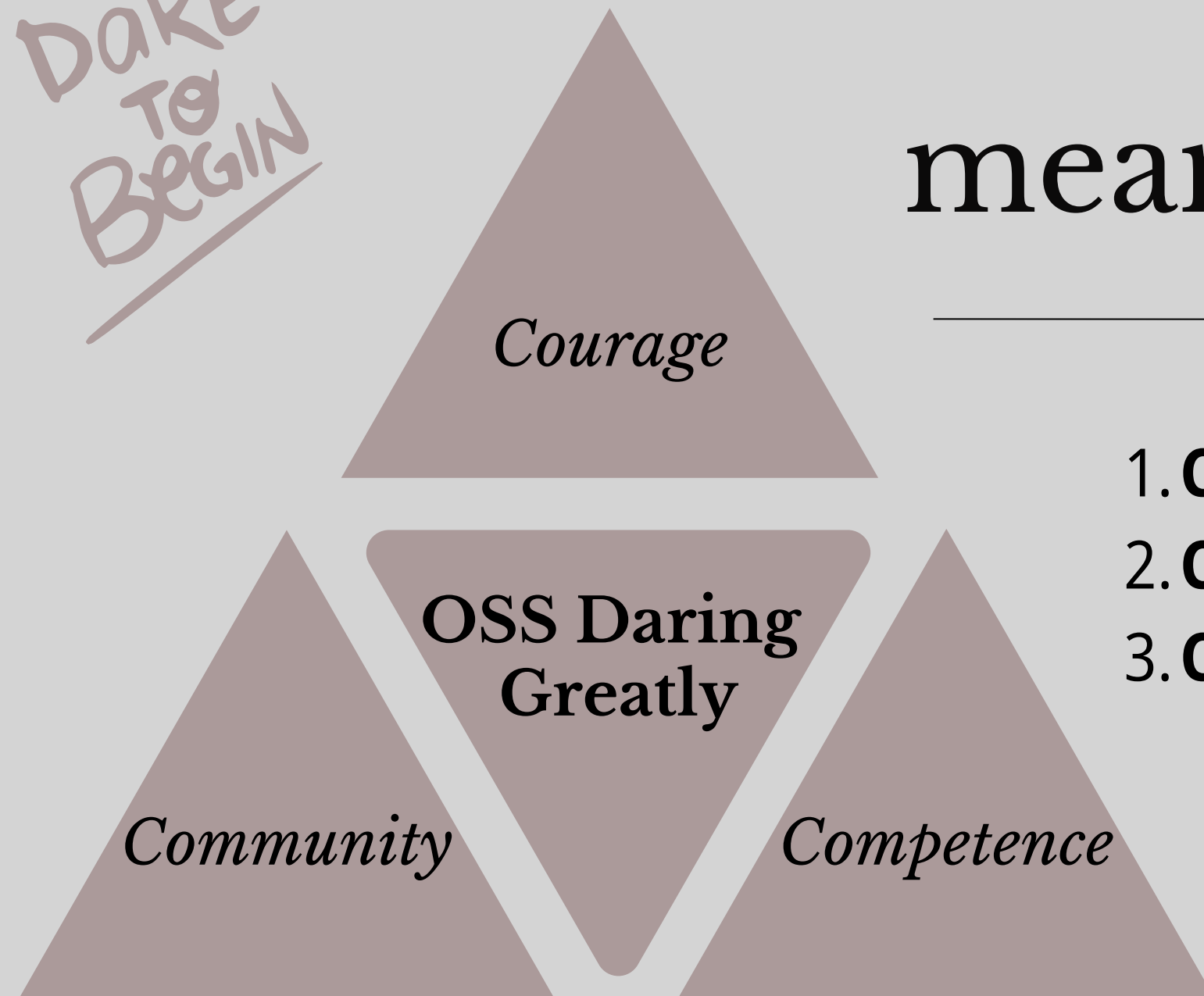
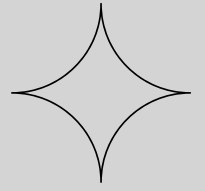
You don't stop because you can't contribute.
You stop because you think confusion equals not belonging.

“Perfect PR” Trap

Impression armour = procrastination in disguise.
Real contributors are people who accept imperfect first attempts.

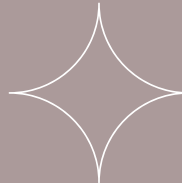
DARE
TO
BEGIN

What *Daring Greatly* means in open-source?



Triangle of Growth

1. **Courage:** Ask a question, make a PR, show presence
2. **Community:** Mentors, maintainers, shared learning
3. **Competence:** Understanding grows by participating



My journey in open-source *so far...*

I didn't start open-source with code...

I started with *college clubs*



- Designing posters at 1 AM
- Writing event descriptions no one reads
- Surprising with "Can you handle announcements?"
- Getting calls from seniors: "We need this in 20 minutes."

GitHub Campus Experts



Campus Experts are student leaders who strive to build diverse and inclusive spaces to learn skills, share their experiences, and build projects together.

They can be found across the globe, leading in-person and online conferences, meetups, and hackathons, and maintaining open source projects.



Who can *apply* to the program?

- Have the GitHub Student Developer Pack.
- Be 18 years of age or older.
- Be enrolled in a formal higher education institution.
- Have at least one full year left before graduating.
- Have had a GitHub account for at least six months.

Next Application Round: July 2026 @ githubcampus.expert



Why you should *apply* to the program?

- Extensive GitHub Campus Experts Training
- Lead community
- Grow opportunity
- Organize hackathons
- Connect diversity

Next Application Round: July 2026 @ githubcampus.expert



GitHub Campus Experts Organizing GitHub Octernships event (Mar 2023)

GitHub Octernships

From Community to Code



About program

GitHub Octernships

- Work with global companies
- Receive mentorship
- Enhance job prospects
- Get a good student stipend

Next Application Round: NOT ACTIVE ANYMORE



???

Finding the *right organization*

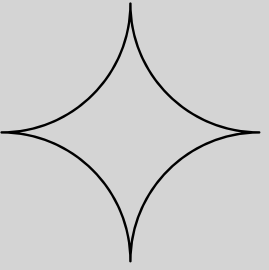


- Match Interest, Not Reputation
- Check Activity & Mentorship Opportunity
- Read the Project Culture, Not Just the Code
- Start Small to Test the Fit

Open Source isn't a linear
roadmap. It's more like a
BINGO CARD!

*You discover, try, fail, learn, and
connect, all in your own sequence.*

Bingo Time! *The journey continues as long as curiosity does.*

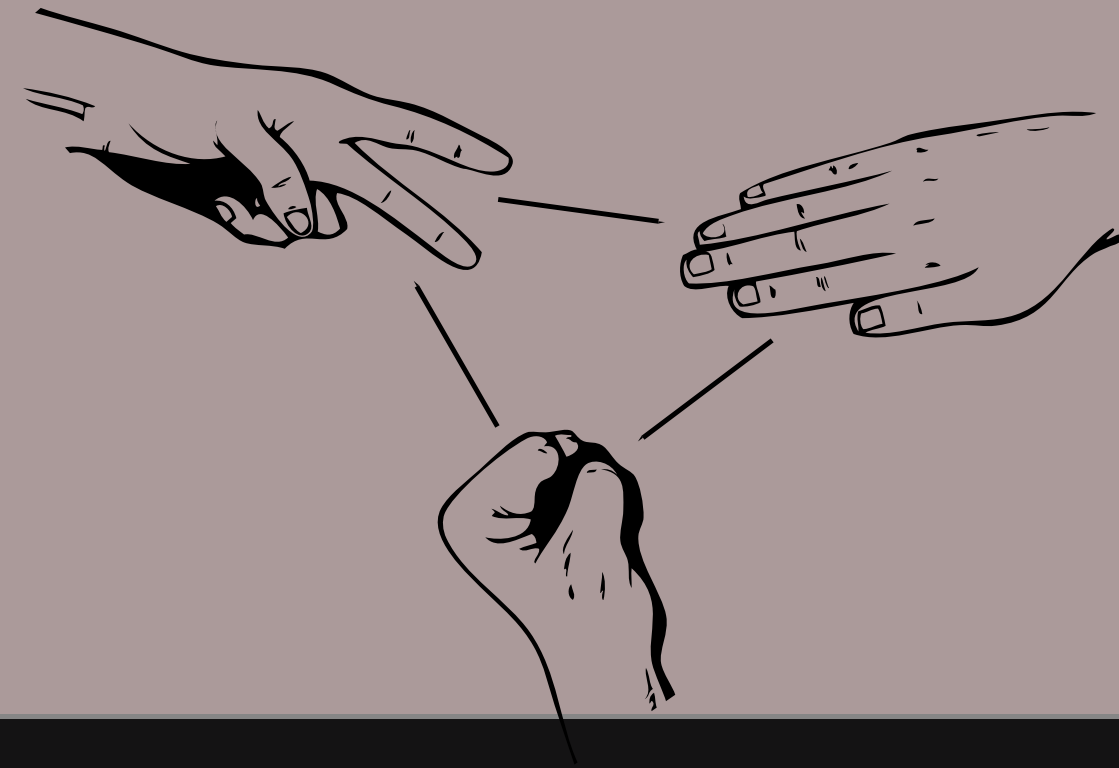


Know Git and GitHub	Understand how CLI tools work e.g. linters, formatters, testing	Write technical documentation	Initiate Forum / GitHub Discussions
Build in public e.g. blogs, TIL, socials	Learn a programming language	Solve a “good first issue”	Pick a framework
Open a Pull Request	Attend conferences	Be a part of open-source community	Review someone else’s PR
Reading CI logs to figure out why the PR failed	Make your first commit	Publish a package at PyPI or npm	Not giving up after your first PR is closed without being merged

From Exploration → To

Belonging & Guidance

- You've tried things.
- You've built some skills.
- Now you're ready to jump into a *particular orbit*.



How to become a Djangonaut? #15

Closed

Answered by RachellCalhoun

priyapahwa asked this question in Q&A



priyapahwa on Jun 30, 2023

...

Hey there, I am super amazed by the program thus I'd like to know the details of how and when to join the upcoming cohort.

1



Answered by RachellCalhoun on Aug 3, 2023

Hi @priyapahwa, I wanted to follow up with you as we are planning out the future sessions! Although we are still finalizing the details for the next program session, like the dates and application process, but if you'd like to get an email when it's ready to go please fill out this google form: <https://forms.gle/4vNuqQwEK6o48WqHtA> and we'll reach out again before we start our next session. Hope to hear from you soon :)

[View full answer](#) ↓

3 comments · 1 reply

Oldest

Newest

Top



tim-schilling on Jul 1, 2023

Maintainer

...

Hi @priyapahwa, thanks for asking. I'm thrilled that you're interested in joining. We're still figuring out the logistics of the program, including the application process. We will share those details when they are available, but it may be some time. Our pilot program is slated to end in October, so the next cohort would be after that at least.

1



0 replies

Write a reply



priyapahwa on Jul 1, 2023

Author

edited

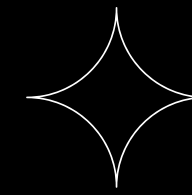
...

Alright, thanks for the heads-up @tim-schilling. Eagerly looking forward to it 🙌
P.S. Let me know if I can contribute anywhere in building up the program, I'd be more than happy.

1



System S

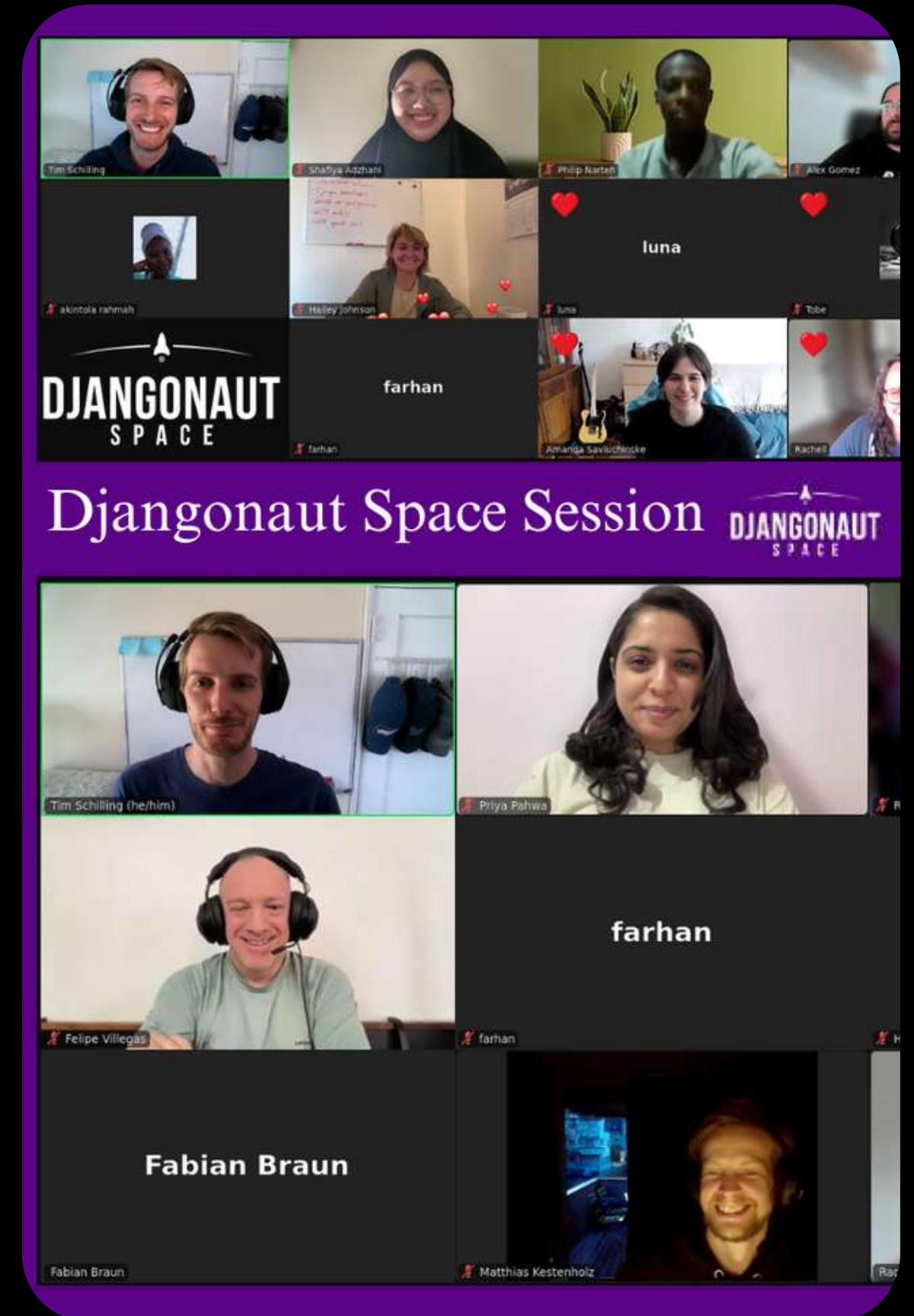


DJANGONAUT SPACE

@djangonaut.space

Djangonaut Space is an 8-week group mentoring program where individuals work self-paced in a semi-structured learning environment.

Djangonauts are members of the community who wish to level up their current Django code contributions and potentially take on leadership roles in Django in the future.



Djangonaut Space program structure

- Djangonauts
- Navigators
- Captains
- Stars
- Astronomers
- Organizers, Admins, Advisors

More Details @ djangonaut.space



How do we *Dare Greatly?*

- Accountability
- Connection
- Sponsorship
- Inclusivity

More Details @ djangonaut.space



“What you *start caring* about
slowly becomes your *competence*.”



Working Groups

Find your niche

Theories from the Trenches

Key takeaways from engagement with open-source communities and learning from peers in public spaces.

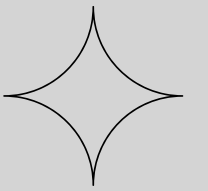
Velocity vs. Visibility Paradox

- **The Observation:** Increasing visibility (great documentation, public mentorship, sharing progress) often drives *more sustained code velocity* than pure developer effort alone.
- Focus on the **signal**, not just the engine



The Strength of Weak Ties (The Bingo Card Effect)

- **The Theory:** The most significant breakthroughs and surprising collaborations often emerge from “**weak ties**”.
- Embrace the randomness and unexpected connections.



- [illegible]

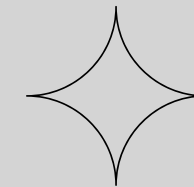


Community Health

*“How we treat each other is
part of the infrastructure.”*



Principles of Community Health



1. **From Structure to Culture:** While working groups or mentorship guidelines define the contribution structure, Community Health is the ***vital culture*** that sustains every project.
2. **The Foundation:** Community health ensures long-term ***project sustainability***. Its success is measured by human quality, not just code quality.
3. **Health Enables Courage:** It provides the ***psychological safety*** that encourages everyone to "***Dare Greatly***"—to submit work and ideas without fear of harsh judgment.
4. **A Core Objective:** Cultivating a healthy environment is essential for retaining contributors and fostering a robust ecosystem.

Daring greatly is not about being
bold. It is about being willing to be
seen while still learning.

Contribution begins there.

*The Open Source
Community Invites*
YOU *to ...*

Ask Questions NOW ✨



**You don't need to know everything.
You just need to try — visibly.
ONE STEP AT A TIME**