Year of the Mentor

Mentorship projects gear up for matchmaking *By Rikki Kite*

In our September issue, I wrote about mentors – specifically, how someone could find one [1]. Since then, I've learned about some new mentoring opportunities and some programs that are being updated. Instead of the usual "Year of Linux on the Desktop," 2011 is shaping up to be the "Year of the Mentor."

Debian Women

The Debian Women project is breathing new life into their mentorship program [2]. Currently, they are looking for potential mentors and "mentees." Visit their site to see the list of mentors and their areas of interest.

LOPSA

LOPSA (the League of Professional System Administrators) announced a new mentor program in September. "In fulfillment of LOPSA's mission to support the practice of system administration, LOPSA's sys admin members volunteer as mentors and as program coordinators," the announcement says. "Anyone can join the program as a protégé; membership in LOPSA is not required. This is truly a community service." LOPSA is looking for both mentors and protégés, so visit their site for some professional matchmaking [3].

Gnome Outreach

The Gnome Project has ramped up their Outreach Program for Women [4]. Visit their website to learn more about the program or to contribute, volunteer to mentor, or sponsor work on specific projects. The deadline for the 2010 Outreach internships was in October, and internships start on December 3 [5].

InfoSec Mentors

The Mentors Workshop at SOURCE Boston 2010 inspired the new InfoSec Mentors program [6]. The site says, "Whether you are a seasoned veteran researching your millionth exploit, a network guru gone freelance consultant, or a CS grad looking for your big break, there's something for everyone in the mentorship program." Visit the site to sign up to be a mentor or find a mentor.

Do you know of other GNU/Linux/open source mentorship projects I've left off this list? Please send me an email with the details to: rkite@linuxnewmedia.com.

Training

Our parent company, Linux New Media AG, recently announced a new English language Linux Professional Institute (LPI) training portal [7]. If you're interested in preparing for the LPI certification exams and would like some economical instruction, this video training might be the solution for you. Find out more on our website [8]. ■■■

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LIKEABLE LINKS

[1] Cache – Meet a Geek: *http://www.linux-magazine.com/Issues/2010/118/NEIGHBORS-AND-MENTORS*

[2] Debian Women Project mentoring program: *http://women.debian.org/mentoring/*

[3] LOPSA mentoring program: *http://www.lopsa.org/mentor*

[4] Gnome Outreach: *http://projects.gnome.org/outreach/women/*

[5] Gnome internship: *http://live.gnome.org/GnomeWomen/OutreachProgram2010*

[6] InfoSec Mentors: *http://site.infosecmentors.com/Home.html*

[7] LPI training portal: *http://www.linuxpromagazine.com/Online/News/LPItrainingportal*

[8] Linux Magazine Academy: *http://academy.linux-magazine.com/*