Non-Profit FOSS Institute

Free open source software for non-profits from students and professionals
Bridging Digital Divides

The Non-Profit FOSS Institute (NPFI) creates collaborative learning teams to build open source software for non-profits.

**Classes and Instructors**
Develop open source software to meet non-profit needs

**Non-Profit Clients**
Collaborate with classes, providing requirements and interactions

**IT/Software Firms**
Deploy software products, and provide ongoing maintenance

**NPFI**
Creates triads and provides resources to support success
## Benefits for Participants

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<th>Classes and Instructors</th>
<th>Non-Profit</th>
<th>IT/Software Organization</th>
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<td>• Unique practical learning experience.</td>
<td>• Receives software tool that directly supports its mission.</td>
<td>• Provides an immediate recruiting pipeline for interns or entry-level developers</td>
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<td>• Builds communication and team skills critical for professional success.</td>
<td>• Software lasts beyond the class, through a reasonable contract with a software firm.</td>
<td>• Establishes a new client for support services</td>
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<td>• Supports student, instructor, and school community service values and goals.</td>
<td>• Offers a good news story for donor base.</td>
<td>• Helps meet community service goals and values</td>
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<td>• Positive press and visibility.</td>
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Success Stories

• In 2008, 2011, 2013, and 2015 Bowdoin and Whitman College classes built and customized volunteer scheduling software that is now used by two Ronald McDonald Houses in Maine and one in Rhode Island.

• In 2012, Bowdoin College classes built a database and mobile app that a South Carolina non-profit uses to track food donations. A software firm supports the app.

• In 2015, Whitman College class built inventory tracking and reporting system, used by a non-profit food bank in Washington and supported by a local software firm.
NPFI In Action

Spring 2015: Whitman College class presents its prototype and discusses project with non-profit staff
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<th>Students report that the NPFI experience was their most valuable class, building real-life skills</th>
<th>Non-profits pleased with customized sustainable tools supporting unique mission needs</th>
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<td>Yes, these non-profits could just buy software tools..... Why NPFI?</td>
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<td>Local software firms have hired talented students with NPFI experience</td>
<td>NPFI brings triads together to collaborate, learn and grow.</td>
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NPFI: Current Priorities

- Building Resource Base for Instructors/Classes
- Recruiting New Instructors and Classes
- Recruiting Software Firms to Support Sustainable Operations
- Identifying Sustainable Funding Sources to Fund Instructor and Non-Profit Grants
The Institute Vision

• Computer science graduates who are fluent in user communication and software development.

• Non-profit organizations that actively participate in building technology to serve their clients.

• IT/software companies connected through service to non-profits.

• A vibrant Institute that connects and educates: serving those who serve.

The Bowdoin College class team that developed a volunteer scheduling tool for the Ronald McDonald House in Portland, Maine in 2008.