Hands-On Learning: From AI Ideas to Real-World Applications

The afternoon WEOP Builder Labs move beyond discussion and into demonstration and hands-on learning. During these sessions, participants will sit at small tables with industry professionals who are actively building with AI, open source tools, and cloud technologies. Each lab leader will provide a short demonstration showing how AI and technology tools can be applied to solve real business situations.

Builder Lab Demonstrations & Discussion Topics

Exploring Open Source: From User to Builder
This discussion introduces business owners to the possibilities of open-source tools that can be used even without a technical background. Using WEOP's Builder Plan App as a real-world example, participants will explore the key steps and tools involved in developing applications within an open-source environment. Attendees will learn how platforms such as *GitHub* and *GitHub Spark* enable entrepreneurs to collaborate, experiment, and begin creating digital solutions. The conversation highlights how business owners can move beyond simply using technology to builders, designing tools and applications that support innovation, efficiency, and new revenue opportunities.
Facilitator: **Natina Marie Hill,** AI STEAM Lab, Founder

The Power of Microsoft Copilot for Business Owners
This discussion explores how entrepreneurs and business owners can leverage Microsoft Copilot as a powerful productivity and decision-support tool. Participants learn how Copilot is integrated into familiar business platforms such as Microsoft Excel, Microsoft Teams, Microsoft Outlook, Microsoft PowerPoint, and Microsoft Dynamics 365, making it possible to work smarter without having to learn entirely new systems. The session will highlight practical ways Copilot can read and understand the context of documents, help automate routine business tasks to save time and increase efficiency.
Facilitator: *Savneet Singh*, Emory University Adjunct and a Learning Experience Architect for Google's Trust and Safety team in Atlanta.

AI Tools for Women Entrepreneurs – NotebookLM & Canva
This discussion introduces participants to two powerful AI tools designed to help entrepreneurs work more efficiently and strategically. The session highlights how **NotebookLM**, an AI-powered tool from Google, can help business owners organize information, analyze documents, and generate insights using their own business materials. Participants will explore how AI tools can assist with research, clarifying ideas, and turning notes and documents into useful content.
Facilitator: **Jimica Tchamako, MBA, MPH**, Business Unit Director, Public Health Informatics Institute (PHII), The Task Force for Global Health, Founder & Principal, JT Insights LLC

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Real-World App Innovation and Geofencing
In this session, participants will hear insights from an experienced entrepreneur and app developer who will share how a custom app serves as a real-world business case example. The discussion will include a demonstration of an app as a business case example. Participants will also be introduced to the concept of **Geofencing**, and the value of app development for nonprofits and business owners seeking innovative ways to engage their audiences.
Facilitator: **Jessica M. Young, M.ED, CEO & Executive Producer, Jessica Young Films, LLC**

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