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Event
Name:

Release Party F37 São Paulo Brazil

Date:

Location:

Approximate number of
attendees:

10/22/2022

São Carlos/SP, Brazil

40

High-level
summary and
highlights in
brief:

The event consisted of talks by Brazilian open-source contributors and an Installfest. It was hosted in the Luiz Antonio Favaro auditorium at ICMC-USP. Around 40 people came to see the lectures and discussions, most of them, students from the campus. We noticed that most of them were willing to contribute to open-source, but didn't know how to do it. In the organizers' opinion, the event was a success, considering that the attendees were more enlightened on how to start being involved with open-source. Moreover, the foundations of Fedora were presented to them, so as the website <https://whatcanidoforfedora.org/> and the Fedora Join SIG.

Historical
Background
(have we been
at this event
before, how did
we participate):

The last Release Party hosted in Brazil happened in 2016 for the Release of Fedora 24. So, there's been a while since a Release Party wasn't hosted in Brazil. Moreover, it is the first time a Release Party is hosted at a University of São Paulo campus.

Overall Event
Summary
(what you
attended, what
you presented,
who you
connected
with):

I believe the event connected to the students from the campus who are excited about free software and want to start contributing. I feel that they felt inspired by the talks to start contributing to open source. The talk description and schedule are above.

Booth Traffic
Summary (how
many visitors,
how did people
react to swag) :

About 40 people traffic around the talks all day. People were very happy to get swag! Some people were amazed by the swag! The attendees' favorites were the mug and the lanyard. The Four Foundation bandana was also a hit! As there were fewer mugs than people, we decided to make a drawing for them. Between the talks, we draw 2 mugs for the audience at each break. The rest of the swag was freely available at the booth.

Side Note: I delivered some swag at XDC 2022 also (I attended the conference at Minneapolis).

Strengths
(what went well)

- The Talks: The talks were spectacular! We had: Geraldo sharing all his knowledge on the Fedora project, Melissa sharing her professional experience on the Linux Kernel, Bruno sharing his first contributions and his career at Red Hat, Máira sharing his experience on GSoC and Igalia CE, and Carlos sharing his experience on the Debian project.
- The Place: ICMC provides a great infrastructure for events. All the technical equipment was working and the room was great.
- Swag: Everyone just loves swag! It is great to walk around the campus and see people with Fedora bottoms on their backpacks and Fedora stickers on their laptops.
- The People: It was great to meet the community and share ideas on free software. We gathered contributors from different projects and even beginners, who are willing to make their first contribution.

Opportunities
(how can we improve for next time)

- Create a livestream of the event: Brazil is a continent size country, so many Fedora enthusiasts (that are Brazilian Portuguese speakers) would like to watch the talks. The staff was small so we were not able to provide a safe and stable livestream this time. The need for the livestream was reported in the Fedora Brasil and GNOME Brasil communities.
- Create a subscription form: As it was the first Fedora event that the team hosted, we didn't have much experience. It would be nice to have a subscription form before the event to have a better estimation of how many people would attend.
- Make the event in São Paulo: São Carlos is a small city in the São Paulo state with a population of about 500,000. São Paulo and Campinas are larger cities with great universities as well. He could host a Release Party there to approach more Fedora enthusiasts.
- Schedule the event for the 15 days after the proposed release of the current Fedora cycle: Another beginner's mistake! As I have spoke to Geraldo Simião recently, it is common that the Fedora release doesn't happen on the Final Target date #1. We planned the event considering the Final Target date #1 and we host the party without F37 available.

Content
Summary
(i.e. session,
keynote, social
event
summary):

- 10 am: Start Session by the GELOS team
 - Guilherme presented a small overview on what is the GELOS team, what they work on the USP campus and how to join them. Finally, he presented an overview of the event to come.
- 10:30 am: The Release Cycle of Fedora Linux by Geraldo Simião
 - Geraldo Simião presented the four foundations of the Fedora project, the organization of the Fedora project, how the releases are managed, explained the Fedora 37 schedule, and how the test weeks work. He shared his experience on the QA team with us, explaining more about Blocker Bugs, Freeze Exceptions, and the Fedora Infrastructure (Koji, Bodhi).
- 11:30 am: Is it hard to contribute to the Linux Kernel? by Melissa Wen
 - Melissa Wen shared with us her experience on the Linux Kernel, exposing some of the challenges to overcome and some of the fun stuff to be a kernel developer.
- 2 pm: My First Contribution by Bruno Larsen
 - Bruno Larsen shared his experience working on the GDB project and explained how to make a first contribution to an open-source project. He explained that the first contribution doesn't have to be a complicated feature, but it can be a bug report or a documentation fix.
- 3 pm: How to start a career on free software? by Maíra Canal
 - Maíra Canal shared her experience with mentorship programs as a way to start a career on free software. She explained the process of getting into Google Summer of Code, Outreachy, and Igalia Coding Experience, as she was part of GSoC and Igalia CE.
- 4 pm: Coffee Break sponsored by Fedora Budget
- 4:30 pm: Debian and my contributions by Carlos Melara
 - Carlos Melara shared his experience on the Debian project and explained some differences between contributing to the Debian project and the Fedora project. As Carlos and Maíra are packagers in the Debian project and the Fedora project respectively, a great discussion over licensing and packaging was held.
- 5:30 pm: Finishing Session by Maíra Canal
 - Maíra invited the attendees to join the Fedora project by visiting <https://whatcanidoforfedora.org/> and the Fedora Join SIG.

Interesting
things you saw
or heard (not
directly related
to your project
or purpose for
attending):

During Coffee Break, I talked to many attendees that didn't know about mentorship projects. It was interesting to see that many people don't know that they have an opportunity to have mentors on their favorite open-source projects. Moreover, it was nice to see people joining in the discussion about packaging on Fedora vs. Debian. Many attendees had questions on this topic.

If you have previously attended, what are your thoughts on how this event compared to prior events:

I never had attended any Fedora Release Party.

Recommendations for the next event

Sponsorship	Participation levels	Other

Additional Resources

Link to Event Agenda	Links to Presentations	Links to your event presentations
• https://gelos.club/2022/10/10/fedora-release-party.html (Brazilian Portuguese) • https://fedoraproject.org/wiki/Release_Party_F37_S%C3%A3o_Paulo_Brazil (English)		• https://www.dropbox.com/sh/vojku8mtvpe1o16/AAAHNqsklj3fnpK3Lqj1c3PCa?dl=0 (Images)