

Nominations Open for Nation's Top Honor in Public Interest Computing

The 2019 Tides Pizzigati Prize will award \$10,000 to an open source software developer whose work is helping nonprofit groups and activists survive and thrive.

October 15, 2018, San Francisco, Calif. – Nominations are now being accepted for the **13th annual Antonio Pizzigati Prize for Software in the Public Interest**, the nation's highest honor for software developers committed to the struggle for innovative social change.

Tides will be accepting nominations for this year's \$10,000 prize through December 15. The 2019 winner will be announced in March at the Nonprofit Technology Network annual conference in Portland, Oregon.

The Pizzigati Prize honors talented and creative computer programmers who develop open source software products that add impressive value to the nonprofit sector. Tides welcomes nominations from both developers and the nonprofits who work with them.

The LEAP Encryption Access Project led by the 2018 Pizzigati Prize winner, Andre Bianchi, is helping nonprofits and individual activists, journalists, and human rights defenders gain easy access to secure communications. With LEAP, activists can use their current email software and still have their "right to whisper" protected.

The winner of the 2017 Pizzigati Prize, Taylor Downs, lets non-technical users create data-integration workflows between key technologies in minutes. Organizations that used to expend countless hours manually moving data from one application to another can now cost-effectively shift information.

The 2016 Pizzigati Prize recipient, Cristina Lopes, has been the moving force behind OpenSimulator, the noncommercial software that has opened the 3D virtual world to nonprofits all across the globe.

"Pizzigati Prize winners are showing us all just how much programmers can contribute to social change efforts," notes Sonya Watson, coordinator of this year's prize competition. "Our winners are also inspiring young software talents the world over."

The Pizzigati Prize honors the brief life of Tony Pizzigati, an early champion of open source computing. Born in 1971, Tony spent his college years at MIT, where he helped work digital magic at the world-famous MIT Media Lab. Tony died in a 1995 auto accident on his way to work in Silicon Valley.

For full details on the Tides Pizzigati Prize, the nation's largest annual award in public interest computing, visit www.pizzigatiprize.org

Tides is a philanthropic partner and nonprofit accelerator dedicated to building a world of shared prosperity and social justice. Tides works at the nexus of funders, changemakers, and policy, with extensive impact solutions including philanthropic giving and grantmaking, impact investing, fiscal sponsorship for social ventures, collaborative workspaces, and policy initiatives. For more information on Tides visit www.tides.org

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