VizAthon 2021: Code of Conduct and Rules

The following rules and code of conduct are meant to ensure a positive experience for all VizAthon participants. By participating in the event, you agree to follow the rules and code of conduct. Failure to follow them may result in disqualification and expulsion from the event. If you have questions or concerns related to the code of conduct, please contact Dr. Larissa Calancie (larissa.calancie@tufts.edu).

Who is eligible:

1) Any current Tufts student is eligible and welcome to enter. Participation is limited to current Tufts students.
2) Each participant may be a member of only one team.
3) We encourage forming teams with diverse skill sets. There is no maximum or minimum team size; however, the same prize amount will be awarded to a team regardless of team size (subject to the per-person limits), so larger teams will end up splitting a prize more ways.

Following the event timeline:

1) You may discuss and exchange ideas about the VizAthon before the start of the event, but you should not begin creating visualizations or coding before the start time: 1pm EST, January 8, 2021.
2) All materials must be submitted (following the submission guidelines) by 1pm EST, January 14, 2021.

Using and citing resources:

1) Your visualization submission must clearly document the source of any datasets you used.
2) All the data that you use must be freely available to the public.
3) You may use the following kinds of tools to create your visualization:
   a. Tools that are free and open source (e.g. R, Python, open source libraries and packages like matplotlib, D3, Shiny...)
   b. Software that is accessible to any current Tufts student at no cost (e.g. MATLAB, Tableau, Stata, ArcGIS, Excel (see https://access.tufts.edu/software for information about access to software)
4) You should not use paid tools that other groups might not be able to access.
5) As part of your submission, you will cite the sources you used and give a brief description of how you used them. This list should include:
   a. existing visualizations from which you drew significant inspiration, or on which you modeled part or all of your visualization
   b. existing code that you used or adapted for your project (if applicable). You need not include short snippets (e.g. two lines from a stackoverflow answer about how to perform a common task would not need to be cited), but do need to cite longer chunks of code that you used or adapted (e.g. if you made a nice looking map in your visualization by editing someone else’s code for a similar map, you should cite their work). Existing open source libraries that you use should be cited. Please also cite such sources with an inline comment within the relevant portion of your code.
6) You are welcome to discuss your project with people outside your team. In the spirit of documenting your process, you must list in your submission the name of who you consulted and the nature of any input they gave if you discussed your project with anyone outside your team. This could include, for example, asking a friend outside your team to test out the user interface for your visualization, or a helpful idea for a new direction that came out of a conversation.
during the event office hours. **No one outside of your team may make a visualization for your project or write code for your project.**

7) If you are unsure of whether to include a source in your list of citations, include it. We expect you will be learning from many sources as you build your project. The underlying principle here is not to pass other people’s work off as your own. It’s fine if there is a part of your project that you did not create yourself, but the original author/creator should be clearly cited.

**Intellectual Property Information:**
The work you produce here can make a difference going forward. With that in mind, here is the legalese that allows us to use your creations to help our community led initiatives and research; "By participating in this event, I agree to grant, and hereby grant, Trustees of Tufts College (aka Tufts University) a worldwide, fully paid-up, royalty-free, perpetual, irrevocable, sub-licensable through multiple tiers, and transferable non-exclusive license to use any software, coding, copyright, or any other intellectual property that I develop in the course of the event (the “Event IP”) for non-profit, educational, research, and clinical purposes in any manner or medium now known or hereafter developed. I understand that I will not receive any additional compensation for this use by Tufts University. I understand, and Tufts University agrees, that I retain my ownership interest in any Event IP that I develop."

In a nutshell, you can use your work, we can use your work, only you can make money off of your work and if/when we use your work, we will credit you.

**Code of conduct:**
Participants are expected to follow the [Tufts Student Code of Conduct](#). Participants are expected to uphold the Tufts community standards of integrity, community, social justice, respect, and responsibility throughout the event and in all related communication. Participants are expected to act in a respectful, welcoming, and inclusive manner in all interactions related to the event.