

September 2, 2022

Welcome back to the Unfinished newsletter, where we explore the intersection of tech, ethics, and social impact.

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What we're looking forward to

You probably know that Unfinished Live is packed with over 75 different live and virtual sessions with top thought-leaders and builders, but did you know you can join an array of hands-on interactive workshops throughout the two-day event?

Workshops are an opportunity to engage more deeply and more creatively with some of the hot topics around our digital future, from a session on embodying your voice in a digital world, to a metaverse world-building exercise with game designers, to making tarot cards that predict our tech future (yep, you read that right. Tech. Future. Tarot cards). In this week's newsletter, we highlight a sampling of the diverse array of workshops.

☞ [Navigating Challenging Conversations: Is There a More Democratic Way to Build Consensus and Reduce Polarization?](#) on September 23rd, in partnership with RadicalxChange

Is there a better, fairer way to vote? In this workshop, [Paula Berman](#), [Jack Henderson](#), and [Alex Randaccio](#) of RadicalxChange – a nonprofit that focuses on collective decision-making online – will lead participants through an exercise that aims to curb polarization and foster consensus using a method called Plural Voting (AKA Quadratic Voting). This redesigned voting method reflects the intensity of people's preferences in collective decisions, mitigating tyranny-of-the-majority and factional control problems. Plural Voting is currently being used by the government of Taiwan, in local municipalities, DAOs, and now you

📱 **[A Letter of Adieu to Social Networks](#), on September 22nd, in partnership with La Plateforme**

How can we make sense of our fraught relationship with social media? Brought to you by **[Sylvia Andriantsimahavandy](#)** and **[Vytautas Jankauskas](#)** of La Plateforme, a school of digital and new technology based in Marseille, France, this workshop invites you to write break-up letters to the mainstream social media platform of your choice. You will write about what made you fall in love once, along with reasons and moments for which you believe the relationship is coming to an end. There will be group discussions and real mailing. Letter-writing materials and a postbox will be available throughout Unfinished Live so that you can stop by and write one at your leisure. This session is free and open to the public, as it happens in the context of **[Project Liberty Experience](#)** at Unfinished Live.

🏛️ **[Tracking U.S. Elections Through TikTok: A Conversation with Digital Public Library of America](#) on September 23rd, in partnership with Digital Public Library of America**

TikTok, with 50 million daily users in the U.S., has become the front page of the Internet, increasingly informing how we live our lives, how we think about community and, potentially, whether and how we vote. Researchers and journalists lack access to information about how video hosting services surface and share election-related information and the veracity of what they share. Join the Digital Public Library of America for an informal and engaging pop-up conversation led by Jennifer 8. Lee and John Bracken about what the research shows and how we can better understand the state of American democracy through TikTok. This session is free and open to the public, as it happens in the context of **[Project Liberty Experience](#)** at Unfinished Live.

📣 **[Your Voice Can Change the Score](#) on September 23rd, with Marshall Davis-Jones**

Social media ties the notion of our digital selves to text, videos, and images. Now, as new social audio platforms have entered the fold, the most intimate and honest part of ourselves is also being woven into online space: *our voice*. Inspired by the groundbreaking book “The Body Keeps The Score,” voice artist, coach, and spoken word poet, **[Marshall Davis Jones](#)** invites you to discover how your speaking voice can change the score for yourself as well as allow you to hold space to connect meaningfully with others.



A conversation with Wendy Hanamura of Internet Archive

Wendy Hanamura is the Director of Partnerships at the **Internet Archive**, one of the world's largest digital libraries. For 26 years, the Internet Archive has provided learners everywhere with free access to a vast collection of our cultural heritage, including billions of web pages, texts, films, videos, audio, and software.

Wendy will be at Unfinished Live to co-lead a **workshop** with indigenous technologists on how the decentralized web and indigenous wisdom can help us understand the water crisis in the U.S.

In this Q+A, Wendy shares her recent experience as the organizer of last week's **DWeb Camp**, a five-day gathering in the redwoods near the Mendocino coast of California. DWeb Camp is for builders and dreamers to gather in nature to tackle the real world challenges facing the web and to co-create the decentralized technologies of the future.

What is one insight or “aha” moment that you haven’t been able to stop thinking about? How might we be able to explore this insight at Unfinished Live?

At DWeb Camp, all the best conversations happen while you are brushing your teeth. That happened for me when the woman at the next sink said, “In my discussion group, someone asked, ‘What is this DWeb really about, anyway?’ And a developer answered, ‘It’s about hope. I’ve been a San Francisco coder bro for a decade now and I had lost hope of finding anyone else who shares my values in this space. DWeb Camp has given me hope that we can build something better together.’” At Unfinished Live we have the opportunity to continue shining a light on people of aligned values, all working together to create a multiracial democracy and more just economy. People need to know that they are not alone...that change is possible.

What is one idea that was seeded at DWeb Camp that you would be excited to see happen?

One of the highlights of DWeb Camp was a stargazing night, where Peter Wang, a CEO and Angel Funder, volunteered to narrate the story of the stars. He was amazing! Astronomy is his passion, and he was able to explain the way the Greeks from the time of Pythagoras came to understand our solar system. Afterwards, campers from Asia and Latin America proposed creating a **TerraStories** map of the night sky, where we can post media not only about Western myths of the stars, but also the cosmologies of other peoples. I love this coming together of technology, history, and culture, through a multi-cultural, global lens.

What is a topic that you heard that will become bigger in the next months or years?


Decentralized Identity: the ability of all of us to have control over our own identity data. Companies such as [Jolocom](#), based in Berlin, are on the brink of a huge opportunity. By 2024, every EU citizen will be required to have a digital wallet. What kind of identity will EU citizens carry in those wallets? Will it be a self-sovereign identity like the type that Jolocom is so ethically creating? Or will it be yet another way for corporations to control our data? We have about 18-24 months to bend that arc.


What is something new that you learned that everyone in the world should learn too?


At DWeb Camp, I learned from Makasa Looking Horse that only 4% of her 6 Nations Grand River tribe have access to clean drinking water. Four percent – in a location just 60 miles from Toronto. Through the [Ohneganos Project](#), the Haudenosaunee people are working with the technologists of [Digital Democracy](#) to document their water crisis. They need our support and through their open source tools, they need our developer cycles to improve and expand this vital work.




Other notable headlines

 Whistleblowing has always been a symbol of moral honor. But in 2010, the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act introduced a financial incentive to whistleblow: if the SEC hands down monetary sanctions, whistleblowers receive cash rewards. Now, as [Ian Bogost reports in The Atlantic](#), whistleblowing has become big business, with recent whistleblowers from Meta and Twitter standing not only to gain moral honor, but also to receive financial remuneration.

 Web2 business models have built enormous wealth for major tech platforms, but often left the millions of users and creators who are generating the content without a share of the upside. In Magic Mirror, [Liz Hagelthorn outlines the 13 principles](#) of internet ownership as a way to rebalance power and promote the decentralization of wealth-building in the digital age.

 Tech firms are increasingly being held accountable for the ways they design and moderate their platforms, an expansion of liability beyond the current protections they receive under Section 230. [Tech Policy Press](#) reports how two new legal rulings are a step in the direction of greater accountability for the ways large tech platforms enable exploitation and harm on their sites.

 Facebook has finally [settled the class action lawsuit](#) related to user privacy where Facebook illegally shared user-data with Cambridge Analytica. Cambridge Analytica accessed data from over 50 million Facebook users to build psychographic profiles for clients like Trump's 2016 campaign.

There's not much time left to [register](#) for Unfinished Live. Not in New York? No problem! You can participate virtually for free!

Thank you for reading.

Follow Unfinished ([@byUnfinished](#)) on Twitter for ongoing chitchat on the changing web.

Have a great, restful weekend.

The Unfinished team

Project Liberty, 888 Seventh Avenue, 16th Floor, New York, New York 10106

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