

Bots for Messenger Developer Challenge winners announced

CAIRO, Egypt: The Bots for Messenger Challenge was launched 15 February 2017 in 64 countries across the wider Middle East and Africa to recognise and reward developers who were able to create the most innovative new bots on Facebook Messenger.



Erneka Afigbo, Facebook's head of platform partnerships for the Middle East and Africa.

Facebook selected three winners from the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) from 60 finalists as part of the first-ever [Bots for Messenger Developer Challenge](#). The three winners won a prize of \$20,000 and three months of Facebook mentorship.



Bots for Messenger Developer Challenge finalists announced

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In addition from the Middle East and North Africa, three runner-up teams won \$10,000 and three months of Facebook mentorship. The announcement was made via Facebook Live by Ime Archibong, Facebook's vice president of platform partnerships, this week.

The winning teams are:

Gaming and entertainment

Winner: Trivox from Morocco, winner of gaming and entertainment category, is a bot that allows one or a group of friends test their trivia on sports, science, and cities in three languages: Arabic, French, and English.

Runner-up: Mastermind Games Bot from Egypt is a collection of five interactive games to solve codes based on various combinations of logic and memory. Every time a user guesses the correct code, a cave safe will open to obtain a diamond. Users can share games with their friends as they vie for the top scores.

Productivity and utility

Winner: Mr. Ink from Egypt - users can either type a book name, or snap a photo of the book cover, to obtain information about the book including its author, rating, and book description.

Runner-up: Evii from Jordan helps customers order and pick up food via its bot. Evii seize the opportunity to expand by building more end-to-end customers tools.

Social good

Winner: MathHook from Egypt brings math into everyone's life by helping users to solve complex math problems and search for math courses on YouTube across 3000 math videos. There's also a chat function to connect users with teachers or other students to solve math problems. MathHook is also a student submission to this Challenge.

Runner-up: Adam (9 months) from Egypt aims to create community for pregnant women via tools and guidance, and safe communication channels between community members. Adam utilises additional features such as location services to let users search for nearby pregnancy care, baby or maternity places. It also has an analytics tool to log user actions in custom events with custom parameters to better understand community perspectives.

Says Emeka Afigbo, Facebook's head of platform partnerships for the Middle East and Africa: "We were incredibly impressed with the bot submissions we received and the commitment to excellence that all the contestants have demonstrated, since the launch of the contest. We look forward to seeing these bots continue to evolve into strong services for their communities."

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