

## Miami Tech &amp; Startup News

Proudly Supported By



## Scenes from Miami Hack Week: And the winning hack is out of this world

Search

## RECENT NEWS

Broward's Institute of Financial Wellness is making the consumer finance industry less confusing  
January 31, 2022

Inside a Miami Hack Week House: Shrimp House  
January 30, 2022

Scenes from Miami Hack Week: And the winning hack is out of this world  
January 28, 2022

5 questions with crypto legal expert Dara Tarkowski  
January 28, 2022

ThriveDX secures additional funding from Prytek, bringing total investment to more than \$100M  
January 27, 2022

## ARCHIVES

- [January 2022](#)
- [December 2021](#)
- [November 2021](#)
- [October 2021](#)
- [September 2021](#)
- [August 2021](#)
- [July 2021](#)



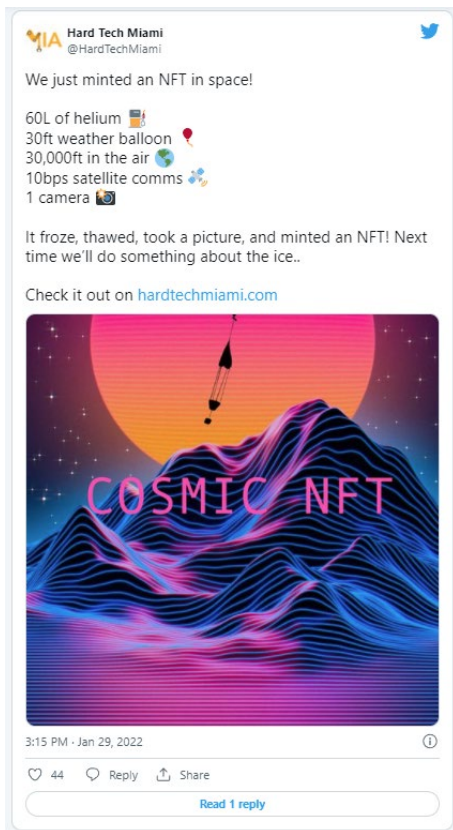
Nancy Dahlberg  
January 28, 2022



What a fitting finale for the 2022 Miami Hack Week: The winner was Cosmic NFT, a team from the Hard Tech House that launched a weather balloon into space and minted the world's first NFT in space.

The group of hackers (some of them shown above) at the Hard Tech Miami House gave a voice to the growing, ambitious population of Miami engineers and founders building tech companies that involve more than pure software, said Channing Pear, founder of Hard Tech Miami.

“They launched weather balloons with a geospatial satellite communication system to space in order to mint an NFT,” Channing said. “They built an industrial robotic arm and computer vision system to harvest mycelium. They built brain sensing glasses that help you stay productive. In teams of wide ranging skillsets, they hacked day and night to get to expo and show what can be built in Miami.”



Hard Tech Miami ([hardtechmiami.com](https://hardtechmiami.com)) is a community of ambitious founders, engineers, investors, advisors, and the surrounding ecosystem of people enthusiastic about solving frontier technology problems, he said. They started mid 2021 and have grown to 200 members, all working in industries like robotics, manufacturing, biotech, and even quantum computing. They're on a mission to develop Miami into a hub for this type of innovation, and their presence in Miami Hack Week is just one piece of the puzzle. Pear says if you'd like to get involved, follow @HardTechMiami on Twitter and look at their website, [hardtechmiami.com](https://hardtechmiami.com).

- [June 2021](#)
- [May 2021](#)
- [April 2021](#)
- [March 2021](#)
- [February 2021](#)
- [January 2021](#)
- [December 2020](#)
- [November 2020](#)
- [October 2020](#)
- [September 2020](#)
- [August 2020](#)
- [July 2020](#)
- [June 2020](#)
- [May 2020](#)
- [April 2020](#)
- [March 2020](#)
- [February 2020](#)
- [January 2020](#)
- [December 2019](#)
- [November 2019](#)
- [October 2019](#)
- [September 2019](#)
- [August 2019](#)
- [July 2019](#)
- [June 2019](#)
- [May 2019](#)
- [April 2019](#)
- [March 2019](#)
- [February 2019](#)
- [January 2019](#)
- [December 2018](#)
- [November 2018](#)
- [October 2018](#)

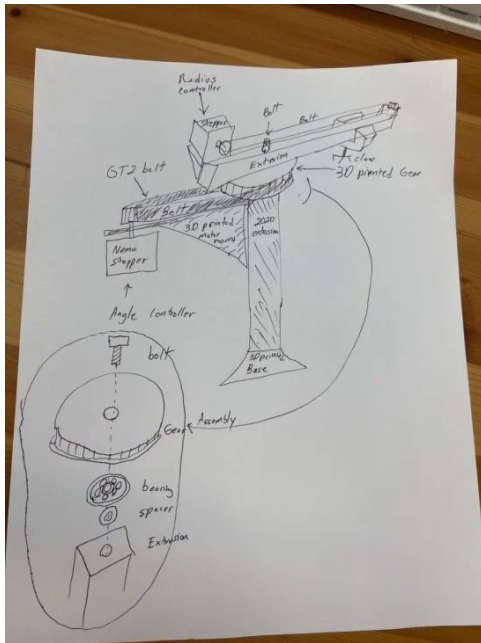
#### RECENT DISCUSSIONS

- [Topic Guidelines and Rules](#)



Scenes from the Hard Tech House. Yea, this looks hard.





The Hard Tech House was just one of two dozen around the city that opened up to hacker groups, in addition to co-working spaces, Hacker HQ and Hack@Campus.

“It’s unbelievable to see Miami Hack Week come to life! I’ve met developers who flew in from all over the world to build something together with complete strangers. The level of innovation, skill, optimism, and collaboration is something unique to Miami. Building down here for a week whether it’s a part of Miami Hack Week or not is something I highly recommend for developers everywhere to do at least once. You’ll never get the full understanding from an article or blog post. You absolutely have to experience it to understand it,” said Michelle Bakels, who gave a talk on developer health at CIC and helped organize the Shrimp Society women’s brunch.

Over at Hack@Campus, for Miami Dade College and FIU students, Kennashka DeSilva’s team of four was building on the polygon blockchain.

The team created an application that provides blockchain rewards for students who complete community service hours, and included the API from the City of Miami 311 database to create a student initiative in community clean-up and governance, said DeSilva, an MDC student who is VP of the Tech Society Club. “Students can receive rewards when they complete a community service project through our token: MDC Coin. The Miami Dade College Coin is an ERC-20 token that represents proof of participation and is deployed on the polygon blockchain. All projects go through a governance process and are certified on the blockchain,” she said.



Kennashka DeSilva, right, with teammates Cassandra de la Cruz-Munoz, Adrian Valdés Díaz and Genesis Guardado,



And over at Polygon House, hackers listened to a talk by Connor O'Hara on Zero Knowledge (ZK) Rollups.



But hacking at the Tiki Hut was pretty nice too.



“There’s something special about coming together at a hacker house and working on code for hours on end while making friends left and right. It’s an exciting time to be building here in Miami with the constant flow of the new ideas and the latest technologies as we build the future,” said Jared McCluskey, a stealth crypto metaverse founder at the Polygon House.

Of course this being Miami, there were plenty of parties too. Ja’dan Johnson and his Miami Hack Week team created the platform for techies to connect, and groups and organizations helped fill out the calendar with events and parties, Sleep, who needs it?

 **Ja'dan Johnson**  
@jdanjohnson

We transformed our HQ tonight!  
Much ❤️ to @JeanineSuah @SirvenJose and Shakyra for  
throwing the dopest celebration of our Black Hackers &  
Tech Community — BLACK @ MHW 😎



10:19 PM · Jan 27, 2022

37   Reply   Share

[Explore what's happening on Twitter](#)

**Don't miss** the Miami Tech Pod's drop on Monday with an on-site podcast from Casa de Quicknode and more!



Cesar Fernandez, left, and Maria Derchi, right, with the Miami Tech Pod at Quiknode, with CTO and co-founder Auston Bunson, plus Michelle Abbs and Esteban Dalel.

**READ MORE ABOUT MIAMI HACK WEEK ON REFRESH MIAMI:**


- [Scenes from Miami Hack Week: Our students are on the frontlines of the future of tech](#)
- [Get ready for Miami Hack Week: Here's the latest on top events and initiatives](#)
- [Miami Hack Week going big, with help from SoftBank, Atomic and major crypto players](#)
- [Scenes from the inaugural Miami Hack Week \(2021\): Parties, yes, but much more than that](#)

Maria Derchi Russo contributed to this report.

Follow Nancy Dahlberg on Twitter [@ndahlberg](#) and email her at [ndahlbergbiz@gmail.com](mailto:ndahlbergbiz@gmail.com)

Author   Recent Posts

---



**Nancy Dahlberg**

I am a writer and editor with extensive media experience and a passion for journalism and serving the community. Most of my career has been spent with the Miami Herald in business news. I am now writing about tech and entrepreneurs. I love hosting this blog for Refresh Miami and we aim to provide South Florida startup and tech news, features and views. Have news? Contact me at [ndahlbergbiz@gmail.com](mailto:ndahlbergbiz@gmail.com) for reading!

---

[f](#) [t](#) [in](#) [✉](#)

---

📁 Categories: [Crypto/Blockchain/NFTs](#), [Ecosystem News](#), [Tech & Startup News](#)

🏷 Tagged: [Hack@Campus](#), [Hard Tech House](#), [Hard Tech Miami](#), [Miami Hack Week](#), [Polygon House](#), [W](#)

Original site: <https://www.refreshmiami.com/scenes-from-miami-hack-week-and-the-winning-hack-is-out-of-this-world/>