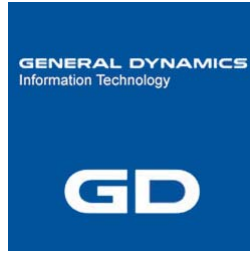




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Blavity Inc. Just Raised \$6.5 Million In Their First Official Round Of Funding

▶ **LOS ANGELES, CA // BDPA-LA //** — Founded by Morgan DeBaun, Aaron Samuels, Jonathan Jackson and Jeff Nelson, Blavity ultimately aims to be the digital lifestyle media company and voice for Black millennials. Their mission is to “economically and creatively support Black millennials across the African diaspora, so they can pursue the work they love, and change the world in the process.”

According to *TechCrunch*, Blavity recently closed a \$6.5 million **Series A** round led by GV with participation from Comcast Ventures, Plexo Capital and Baron Davis Enterprises. As part of the investment, GV Partner John Lyman is joining Blavity’s board of directors. Prior to this Series A, Blavity raised almost \$2 million from MACRO, New Media Ventures, Base Ventures, Cross Culture Ventures, Harlem Capital Partners, the Knight Enterprise Fund and others.

- **More resources:**
Blavity will make new investments in all of their brands which include **Blavity News**, **AfroTech**, **21Ninety**, **Shadow & Act** and **Travel Noire**
- **A new office in Atlanta:**
New ATL location will solely house Blavity’s growing engineering and data teams.

According to Blavity’s CEO, Morgan DeBaun, most of the funding will go toward opening a new office that is strictly focused on engineering and data. As part of that, Blavity intends to triple the size of its engineering team. The office, which will likely be in Atlanta, will be home to engineers on additional products and content creation tools to facilitate better storytelling. **bt**



— Sources and photo: *Blavity* and *TechCrunch*

President Signs Executive Order to establish the National Council for the American Worker

▶ **WASHINGTON // BDPA-DC //** — This week, the White House announced one of the initial areas of focus for their newly established **National Council for the American Worker** will be finding ways to increase access to available job data, including data on which regions offer the most opportunities. The nation’s current high-energy growth environment presents both a challenge and an opportunity. The challenge is that companies must find more workers with specific skill sets to fill an increasing number of open jobs. The opportunity is that with more affordable, relevant training, many American workers will now have the chance to move into better jobs, deliver bigger paychecks, and provide greater value to local economies.

Growing America’s workforce is an important goal. To help achieve it, the Council will develop a national campaign to raise awareness of workforce issues, such as the urgency of the skills crisis and the importance of STEM education. It will also create a plan for recognizing companies that demonstrate excellence in workplace education, retraining, and workforce investment. **bt**

— Sources and photo: *The White House*



▶ **MEMPHIS, TN** — DevOps, IoT, 5G, AR, VR, and AI. BDPA’s **Womens Hack-a-Thon Team** and other South Region members are all set! BDPA’s South Region and over 40 other BDPA Chapter cities will co-host this year’s **40th Annual National BDPA Technology Conference** from August 9th to August 11th, 2018, at the Hyatt Regency New Orleans. Register, Exhibit, and Partner today by visiting BDPA.org.

— Photo credit *Kareem Dasilva*



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Celebrating National BDPA's 40th Conference
and BDPA-DC's 40th Anniversary in 2018

Let's Define Your "BDPA" | Big Data & Predictive Analytics -or- Billion-Dollar Programs Available?

Founded in 1975 as *Black Data Processing Associates* by Earl A. Pace, Jr. and the late David Wimberly, National BDPA was created to bring underrepresented communities together whose members were employed in information technology, programming, operations, and related computer science fields for the purpose of professional development and academic enrichment. Today, BDPA remains an international organization with its diverse membership of professionals and students engaged at every level across all industry verticals. BDPA and its Mission Partners continue to develop community engagement programs in support of a stronger technical workforce for America's information and communications technology (ICT) pipelines.

Student Information Technology Education and Scholarship (SITES)

Throughout the year, local BDPA chapters conduct SITES training programs for youth in their communities. These programs are designed to expose students to new information technology (IT) and cybersecurity (CS) concepts of computer and data science giving them the expertise to develop applications. Several BDPA chapters will participate in regional competitions throughout the country to further prepare their students. BDPA chapters are able to send one (1) team of 3 to 5 students to the National BDPA Technology Conference to compete for scholarships and internships with teams from other BDPA chapter cities across the United States.

National High School Coding Competition (HSCC) and Mobile App Showcase

Our HSCC Program was founded in 1986 by Dr. Jesse Bemley, of Washington, D.C. What started as a two-team event between Washington, D.C. and Atlanta, GA has grown to over 20 teams of various high school students from local BDPA chapters throughout the nation. Local HSCC and Jr. Dev programs, such as our Mobile App Showcase, are uniquely designed to introduce our Youth to the field of Information Technology to encourage them to seek higher levels of education, and groom many of them to become our next generation of IT and Cyber professionals. Industry mission-partners provide funding and support.

Full Membership | \$100.00 per year

Professional BDPA Membership is open to anyone interested in supporting BDPA's mission, while embracing new trends in technology, telecommunications, cybersecurity, information technology (IT), or Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM). To apply, join, or renew, visit: BDPA.org

Student Membership | \$25.00 per year

Students from middle school, high school, community college, vocational training, any college or university may join by visiting BDPA.org or apply for sponsored complimentary memberships by simply emailing current resumes to: resumes@bdpadc.org

Advertising rates for channel Landing Pages and digital Publications range from \$400.00 to \$2500 per year

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